

## VCTU Executive Committee Meeting Notes – January 9, 2023

### Attendees:

Jim Wilson, Burr Tupper, Bill Pierce, Scott Allen, Tony Hill, Mike Makufka, Deidra Stultz, Amy Orr, Tom Benzing, Bradley Striebig, Jeff Deering

### Agenda:

1. VA Fly Fishing and Wine Festival 2023 Booth Preparation (January 14-15)
2. SE Regional Rendezvous in Asheville NC (March 10-12)
3. Secretary Position—filled by Scott Allen—confirm during next Council meeting
4. Annual Meeting Minutes draft review and action items.
5. Wildlife Corridor Action Plan—January 5, 2023, Testimony to State Budget Committee
6. Treasurer
7. TIC Coordinator Report—funding and coordination with national TU
8. Agenda items for February 25th meeting in Salem VA
9. Priority Waters Program Status and Next Steps
10. In-state Council Grant Program

Meeting started at 7:30 p.m.

Meeting ended at 8:30 p.m.

1. VA Fly Fishing and Wine Festival 2023 Booth Preparation (January 14-15)

(Jim)

- We will be manning a booth along with TU National
- On Saturday of the festival a meeting scheduled to discuss VA Capital Chapter (VCC) rejuvenation (Burr)
- Email sent out to VCC members with 35 respondents showing interest and some having and interest in leading the effort
- Booth manning schedule:
  - Saturday: Jim, Burr, Eric, Tony, and Beverly Smith (National)
  - Sunday: Scott, Eric, & Mike Taggert

2. SE Regional Rendezvous in Asheville NC (March 10-12)

(Jim)

- Lots of local interest in attending
- Jim coordinating climate change activities (news to him)
- Interested in the status of Priority Waters initiative (Tom)
- Tom and Dr. Ami Riscassi will be presenting

3. Secretary Position—filled by Scott Allen—confirm during next Council meeting

(Jim) Notified attendees

4. Annual Meeting Minutes draft review and action items.

(Jim) Minutes were sent out—If there are any comments or edits, please let him know

5. Wildlife Corridor Action Plan—January 5, 2023, Testimony to State Budget Committee

(Jim) Tom and Jim testified during the meeting

(Tom) With only 3 minutes to testify he left a lasting impression with “Road Pizza” & “Fish Sticks” metaphor

#### 6. Treasurer

(Jim)

- Balance: \$55,592 (\$16,670 restricted and \$35,922 unrestricted)  
Change from \$49,700 from September meeting
- Activity: Received \$9,483 from National for member rebates  
Sent \$3,766 to Chapters for member rebates
- Skyline Chapter (in process of de-charter) has not sent a check or letter for transfer of funds, yet.

(All)

- Discussed the assignment of at-large membership to chapters
  - Default assignment is by Zip code, unless membership form identifies chapter by number
  - Members can ask to be reassigned to a chapter of choice by contacting National
  - Jim and Burr will talk with Beverly Smith during VA W&FF Festival about how to proceed

(Jim) Asked about policy for reimbursement for attendees of the SE Regional

- (Bill) No previous precedent other than he was reimbursed as the Council Chair in the past

#### 7. TIC Coordinator Report—funding and coordination with national TU

(Mike)

- He has linked up with T.I.C representatives at National
- There are 196 programs in the state
- He has not heard from the Mountain Empire Chapter – Heather’s emails have bounced)
- He is talking to the state about additional approved stream release locations
- He is attending the February Council meeting and would like 5 minutes to talk T.I.C.

#### 8. Agenda items for February 25th meeting in Salem VA

(Jim)

- Proposed the following topics:
  - Priority Waters Status
    - Investigate Regional Vice Presidents to lead multi-chapter efforts
  - Restart a Council newsletter
  - Engage the survey respondents
  - Provide grant funding to Chapters

#### 9. Priority Waters Program Status and Next Steps

- Topic for February Council meeting
- Looking to hear more at SE Regional

#### 10. In-state Council Grant Program

- Topic for the February Council meeting

#### Other Topics of Discussion

(Tom) He has donation rods and equipment available for use by chapters. Contact him if interested.

(Brad) May 13<sup>th</sup> Council meeting will be in Harrisonburg and lunch/picnic will be off-site about 20 minutes away at Beaver Creek where a tour of the restoration work will be offered.

(Deidra)

- Suggested establishing a Newsletter
- Suggested putting a committee together to look at a website refresh and Facebook postings
- Burr stated that David Juth (webmaster) is on-board with the refresh and other communication efforts

(All)

- Status of Tri-State Youth Camp
  - Current leadership is looking to transfer responsibility
  - (Stan Ikonen – via email) The only thing to report regarding the camp is that Paul, George Gaines (Natl Capitol Chapter) and I are in search of new volunteers for the camp. Search is not going well.
  - The impression is that Paul Kearney received a good deal of positive responses to his request for assistance, but there are still a lot of questions
  - (Bill) Mentioned that the Camp Director is paid \$10K per year.
  - ACTION: Scott will talk with Paul Kearney to set up a meeting with key players