

# Donegal TU Board Minutes April 11, 2018

Meeting called to order at 7:05 by President Joy McMaster

**PRESENT:** Joy McMaster, Mark McMaster, Tom Hall, Ned Bushong, Barry Witmer, Fran McElhinny, Dan Van Buskirk,

**ABSENT** Bill Henry, Bob Kutz, Greg Wilson, Wayne Boggs, Derek Eberly, Jenna Mitchell, Bill Nolan, Mike Burcin, Jim Wellendorf

**SECRETARY'S REPORT** Approved as submitted and amended

**TREASURER'S REPORT** Approved as submitted

**CONSERVATION REPORT** Greg Wilson reported:

The Earth Day week is the launch for the CBF tree planting initiative. CBF is donating 700 trees and shrubs for the Fishing Creek watershed projects. There will be a tree planting on the 25<sup>th</sup> with some students from Thaddeus Stevens. There will also be a tree planting at Camp Andrews on the 28<sup>th</sup> which will involve 2 scout troops, as well as TU volunteers and Friends of Fishing Creek.

Barry Witmer reported that he will be submitting a proposal to DCNR for a \$50,000 grant that will fund the planting of 3,200 native trees and shrubs along 3 tributaries of Fishing Creek in Drumore Twp. This watershed drains into the Chesapeake Bay and this money is part of a \$632,000 grant from the federal government. Part of the requirements for filing a grant request involve attaching a resolution to be approved and accepted by the board. The resolution is as follows:

## **Resolved**

**The Donegal Chapter of Trout Unlimited approves the submission of a grant application for \$50,000, as listed by PA DCNR, to participate in the planting of a riparian buffer along 3 tributaries of Fishing Creek in Drumore Township, said planting to be completed over a 3 year period Beginning in the fall of 2018. This project is recommended by DTU's Conservation Committee.**

Greg Wilson also reported:

The Lancaster County Conservancy is trying to resolve an issue with Drumore Twp. regarding 3 miles of the Fishing Creek South preserve that has become a destination for off-roaders. As work is done on projects working downstream toward the area, it is hoped that restoration can be done to preserve the pristine nature of

this preserve. Lydia Martin from the Conservancy is working with Drumore Twp. and Friends of Fishing Creek to work toward that goal.

As far as the Conowingo watershed, work is to start in mid-June on the Kelly Woy Project. Also waiting for Rettew to give us an estimate on a very large project on the Simean Esh property.

We have DEP approval for phase one of dam removal on Hammer Creek

There are also projects pending on Bowery Run and Beaver Creek

**COMMUNICATION** - Mark McMaster reported:

**Calendar of Events-Approved**

**Newsletter** -Seeing slightly higher number of downloads for the April issue.

**Website-** Usage is rising rapidly. Almost 1,000 users in March.

**EDUCATION-** Ned Bushong reported:

Ned discussed with the board the low survival rate of the trout among the 18 schools that are currently in the TIC program. We will try to figure out how to improve their efficiency. New participants in interested in next year are Janus School, Cocalico HS, Linden Hall, Reynolds, and a Boy Scout Troop with their own building in Lampeter Strasburg.

**INITIATIVES-**

**Youth Activities- Rivers Camp**

Ben Rothman and Andrew Gusavage were accepted to the camp and we sent a check for tuition. There is some question as to whether Ben can attend due to scheduling. DTU always donates 32 hats to the camp for the students and they have been sent to Clark Hall.

**Veterans Activities - Bill Nolan**

Bill has his Veterans fly fishing kickoff set for Saturday April 14<sup>th</sup> at Millport.

**MEMBERSHIP** -Fran McElhinny reported 797 members, an all-time high.

## Activities

Chiques Creek Watershed Expo -Garry Longenecker received a request for DTU to participate during Water Week on June 6<sup>th</sup>. The event will be held from 6 to 8 PM at the Manheim Farmshow Building. Gary will be attending.

Introduction to Fly Fishing- Derek Eberly will be holding a class at Millport on May 12<sup>th</sup>. The class will run from 11-3 and the class size is limited to 12.

## Misc. -

Tom Hall is still looking for volunteers for the Fly on the Run event on May 10<sup>th</sup>. Stocking will be done on May 8<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 AM. Stream guides for the day of the event, which is May 10<sup>th</sup> at Millport.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 PM by President Joy McMaster

Respectfully submitted by Tom Hall/ for Bill Henry