

Zane Grey Chapter, Trout Unlimited

Board Meeting – Meeting Minutes October 1, 2020

Alan Davis, Gabriella Rich, Glen Knight, John Doss, Michael Hachey, Tom Osterday, , Doyle Gaines **Guests:** Nate Rees, Randy Messersmith, Dennis Johnson, Rod Buchanan

1. **Introductions** Meeting called to order with introductions given
2. **Secretary Report**
 - a. Approved September 2020 minutes as published.
3. **Treasurer & Finance Report (Hachey)**
 - a. \$2047.90 in Checking, \$25879.07 in Savings.
 - b. Approved Treasurer's report.
 - c. Status of Bank Change of from BMO Harris to Desert Financial; Michael scheduled to visit bank on 10/2 to close all open items for new account. Plan to complete all pending transactions prior to shifting funds to new account, targeting November 1st. Once transfers complete will close old account.
4. **Old Business:**
 - a. Mini Storage rental – it was reported that Susan and Jim organized unit and have additional storage available if needed. Note ZGTU also shares unit with Trout in the Classroom.
 - b. R-C Pond update – Davis
 - \$2500 Embrace a Stream Grant received. Plan to pursue a 'go fund me' program sponsored by Orvis.
 - Natural Channel design plans to complete an onsite visit in the next month to initiate the evaluation phase of the project. They will not bill until the phase is completed.
 - \$18k in grants and donations thus far; plan to submit a matching fund grant request to AZ Sportsmen for Wildlife Conservation license plate fund.
 - c. Youth Projects Funding (Fish Camp) - Davis
 - \$5000 AZGFD Local Sportsmen's Group fund awarded for Fish Camp next year.
 - Fish Camp for 2021 scheduled for May 30th-June 19th, 3 one-week sessions.
 - d. Photo Contest – Rod sent to 1st place winner was lost in the mail, claim submitted to USPS. A replacement rod was sent to the winner.
5. **New Business:**
 - a. Neil Warner has resigned effectively immediately from ZGTU, he will support AZTU till the end of the year. Dan Worth resigned due to other business obligations. David Mayl has stepped down as secretary, but will remain as a Board Member.

Zane Grey Chapter, Trout Unlimited

- b. Nomination of new board members Doyle Gaines and Rod Buchanan was approved. Rod is interested supporting the conservation program.
- 6. Membership & Outreach (Davis)**
- a. Quarterly member meetings around the valley – Bone Haus was scheduled for the end of September; they have outside seating available that would accommodate a public gathering. Concern raised that we will not get a good turnout due to Covid. If we proceed, restaurant responsible for complying with safety mandates. TU National guidance for TU events is that we are only required to comply with state and local guidelines. Alan to discuss with Bone Haus and communicate decision if we will hold the event and the specific date.
- 7. Diversity and Inclusion Committee (Davis)**
- a. Diversity and Youth subcommittee met earlier this week to review progress and plans; Alan to publish minutes.
 - b. Women’s Initiative – Lees Ferry Trip completed. Book club planned for November.
 - c. Boys and Girls Club – activity on hold due to not being able to transport kids in a van due to the social distancing requirements. Phoenix and East Valley Boys and Girls Clubs merged. Previous contacts are no longer with new organization. Glen working with new person on plans.
 - d. Fish Camp – will need to start early to get volunteers identified and engaged.
 - e. ASU Fly Fishing Club – Nate sent Gabby info on TUs 5 Rivers college program.
 - f. Stream Keepers – Initiative was rebranded from Stream Girls and will focus beyond youth. Currently looking for a person to lead this effort.
 - g. Veteran Services Program – Project Healing Waters addresses and supports effectively, no need to replicate and will not pursue effort.
- 8. Public Policy Committee (Osterday)**
- a. Sarah Porter presented background and information on the water adjudication in Arizona. Recommend reviewing material distributed.
 - b. Due to the Legislation not being in session, the last several PPC meetings have focused on education.
 - c. During Q4, the PPC plans to prepare for January summit – refine strategy, focus on surface water and water sheds.
 - d. Friends of the Verde River received \$1.2M to help fund water savings projects such as repairing sprinkler irrigation.
 - e. Sen McSally, Rep O’Halloran and other state political leaders signed a letter to the US Forest Service to accelerate the need for action on the 4FRI initiative to help reduce wildfire risk.
 - f. BLM Director Pendley ask to leave position by Federal Judge
 - g. President Trump issued an executive order to accelerate domestic mining of critical minerals. This might affect the uranium mining near the Grand Canyon.

Zane Grey Chapter, Trout Unlimited

9. Education Committee

- a. Orvis not able to conduct in person Fly Fishing 101 & 201, although have had virtual sessions with limited participation.
- b. Received a \$1520 donation from the Orvis Giveback Days.

10. Conservation Committee

- a. Messersmith is collecting information on current conservation projects underway or planned by the various AZ TU Chapters, compiling reference material detailing federal and state projects, as well as creating a glossary of terms. Goal is to enable easy access to information and where we should focus effort.
- b. Two cleanup projects scheduled (includes fishing): trip to Woods Canyon Lake, October 24, and Willow Springs Lake, November 7.
- c. Lees Ferry Recreational Trout Fishery Management. Doss reported harvesting of browns, catch and turn-in for \$35 program should have started or will start soon.
- d. Tonto Forest Plan. Rees updated waiting draft EIS, may get pushed to next year, but not official yet from the Forest Service.
- e. Four Forests Restoration Initiative (4FRI). Forest Service has evaluated proposals and selected the ones that are feasible, now working details to those plans. Targeting one done in December, more done in March.
- f. Uranium Mining in Arizona. Need to continue to express our support for the Protection Act. A TU website has been created that will mail a personalized postcard to our AZ Senators. Nate to send link to AZTU distribution.
- g. Gila Trout. AZGFD scheduled to stock Oct 16th, 400 in Frye Creek, 250 in Marjilda Creek. Volunteer spots are filled.
- h. Christopher Creek & R-C Pond. Alan provided a press release to daily/regional newspapers.

11. Communications Committee

- a. Social Media: Facebook and Websites. Alan adding information and Susan updating sites.
- b. Need plan for Zoom account that would allow subcommittees access to use. Currently Alan has an account and if possible, will add Tom as a second host. Current ZGTU cost is \$114.12 annually, good until next September.

12. Strategic Planning

- a. Membership has been planning focus, but will be put on hold until TU National rolls-out strategic planning at annual meeting scheduled for October 25th.
- b. If interested in attending TU National meeting, must sign up on TU website. Attendance is limited.

13. Arizona State Council Report

- a. No additional items to report.

Zane Grey Chapter, Trout Unlimited

14. TU Friends Reports

- Arizona Flycasters Club – Recognized for Excellence in supporting Project Healing Waters. Zoom has doubled membership attendance. Finished Lees Ferry Trip; scheduled for San Juan Trip.
- Arizona Sportsmen For Wildlife Conservation – Raffle for Ford Rapture.
- Arizona Wildlife Federation – Business alliance established to promote 'Get Outdoors'. 45 businesses currently involved, plan to film social media commercials.
- Backcountry Hunters and Anglers- Round table with Sinema concerning climate change policy work.
- Desert Fly Casters Club – conducting Zoom meetings; outings planned, details included in their newsletter.
- Orvis No report
- Sun Lakes Fly Fishing Club No Report
- Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership No Report
- Western Rivers Action Network
- White Mountain Lakes Foundation White Mountain Lake – Tribe has open lakes; will not have an event with DFC this year.

15. Reminders:

- Board Meetings: 1st Thursday monthly at 7p.m. online, Click [here](#). Meeting ID: 862 8257 4742; Password: ZGTU2020 or, see invitation for call-in options (Next meeting, Thursday, November 5, 2020)
- Trout Unlimited Virtual Annual Meeting – October 25th
- Quarterly membership pint night TBD, Bone Haus, Fountain. Hills – Alan to communicate plans.
- Two cleanup projects scheduled (includes fishing): trip to Woods Canyon Lake, October 24, and Willow Springs Lake, November 7.

ZANE GREY
TROUT
UNLIMITED