

# Zane Grey Chapter of Trout Unlimited

Board Meeting Minutes April 1, 2021 at 7 p.m.

Location: Teams

**The meeting was called to order at 7:10. President Alan Davis presiding.**

Board members in attendance: Rod Buchanan, Alan Davis, Susan Greer, Michael Hachey, Jim Walker, Tom Osterday, Ron Stearns, Glen Knight

TU: Nate Rees

A quorum was present.

## **Committee Reports:**

**Secretary Report:** Not given as report was not available.

## **Treasurer Report:**

1. Due to technical difficulties Alan Davis provided an overview of the financial report
2. Michael Hachey indicated we will need to work on reporting volunteering hours to TU National. Need to distinguish volunteer hours between Chapter and Council. Jim Walker indicated that hours worked on Trout in the Classroom should be allocated to ZG Chapter.

Jim Walker moved to approve; Tom Osterday seconded.

Passed

## **Old Business:**

1. Alan Davis indicated that additional grants have been submitted to Arizona Fish & Game. We are awaiting response. These funds are for AZSFWC project – phases 1 & 2. Total project cost estimated at \$220,000.
2. Tom Goodwin reported that the photo contest is receiving submissions in all categories. Number of submissions is not as high as last year but still getting some nice photos. Photo contest will run through the end of April.

## **New Business:**

1. Tom Goodwin was nominated to be new Board Secretary. Ron Stearns was nominated to be new Member at Large. Tom Osterday moved to approve; John Doss seconded. Passed

**Membership & Outreach:**

1. Quarterly member meetings will be going virtual. Second virtual meeting planned for April 29<sup>th</sup>, 7-9p.m. with Mike Russell hosting. Theme of the meeting to be "Rise of the Gila Trout".
2. John Doss had dropped off new ZGTU merchandise. Alan Davis thanked John for helping with this effort.

**Diversity and Inclusion:**

1. Fish Camp – we have lots of volunteers to work at fish camp. We are still looking for additional youth participants. Teenagers 13 and older are the target audience.  
Fish camp is open to scouts and non-scouts. Youth from outside AZ are welcome. Scholarships are available to help offset costs.
2. Boys & Girls Club Fishing Day is scheduled for May 1<sup>st</sup>. ZGTU has teamed up with the Diamond Back Boys and Girls Club and Phoenix Kiwanis Club. Will be held at the Tempe Kiwanis Park. Volunteers are needed – talk to Glen Knight and Susan Geer.
3. Trout in the Classroom is continuing. Three teachers have recently contacted Jim Walker. Two expressed interest in having the program continued for next year. One teacher indicated they were retiring and would no longer be participating.
4. Women's initiative – Book club is continuing. Meeting again on May 20<sup>th</sup>.

**Public Policy Committee:**

1. Tom Osterday reported that he would be meeting with AZ Fish & Game to provide ZGTU position on protecting Apache Trout in AZ.
2. AZ Fish & Game has released a statement regarding prioritizing sport fishing watersheds. We will be providing input to AZ Fish & Game on this prioritization.
3. Nate Rees indicated that the Legislator is winding down. There is hope that the AZ Heritage Funding will be approved. This provides \$10 million in funding for AZ outdoor recreation.

**Education Committee:**

1. Orvis Fly Fishing 101 & 202 continues to be on hold. Orvis fly tying class has gone to a virtual basis.

### **Conservation Committee:**

1. The last Salt River Saturday cleanup was hosted by Tom Osterday. He indicated that 29 people attended. All expressed a good deal of interest in the work being done by TU. Tom noted we will need to get Park permits for our signage for future events.
2. We will be continuing the Salt River Saturday program through April as we learned that AZ Fish & Game will continue their stocking program through April. Dates scheduled are April 10<sup>th</sup> and April 24<sup>th</sup>.
3. Alan Davis indicated he had spoken to Joe Miller about the 2021 Rim County fishing books. Alan has ordered a box (112 books) to be sold by the ZGTU. Cost is \$2 per.
4. Lee's Ferry brown trout bounty program continues. National Park and AZ Fish & Game have increased bounty amount. Local guides seem to have little interest in support this program.
5. Tonto Forest Plan – no update
6. Four Forest Restoration initiative – There is a great deal of interest in getting the contracting awarded. There is controversy in some areas regarding potential thinning should occur in old growth areas.
7. Uranium Mining in AZ – Nate Ress reported that a bill has been authored by Senators Kelly and Sinema to prohibit uranium mining in the Grand Canyon area. It is expected that activity regarding this bill will pick up as we move into the fall.

### **Communication Committee:**

1. Moving toward utilizing Microsoft Teams for virtual meetings.
2. Looking to expand ZGTU presence on social media.

### **Strategic Planning:**

1. Education – Rod Buchanan reported that committee had identified 13 to 14 items that ZGTU was currently involved in. Defined goals & objectives and started a discussion concerning what are the obstacles to completing.
  - a. Want to reestablish Trout in the Classroom and non-profit Speaker Network.
  - b. Group will be getting together to finish discussion.
2. Conservation – Michael Hachey reported that the group felt they should work on the following:
  - a. Publish a listing of TU projects.
  - b. Provide information to volunteers/public beyond using email.
  - c. Provide more lead time for upcoming projects.

3. Communication – Nate Rees reported the following:
  - a. Desire to increase communication between ZGTU committees.
  - b. Looking into establishing Instagram account. Need constant feed of information to be effective/capture audience.
  - c. Looking into developing a method to use text messages to provide notification/reminder regarding upcoming events.
  - d. Committee members agreed to make personal phone calls to talk explain ZGTU work and mission. Encourage increased membership and involvement.

**AZ State Council Report:**

1. AZ Native Trout Conference will be held virtually this year on April 22<sup>nd</sup>. Conference will include 12-15 presentations. These presentations will be available on the AZ Council website on an ongoing basis.

**TU Friends Report:**

1. AZ Flycasters will have Cinda Howard as a speaker at their April meeting. Meeting continues on a virtual basis. The education committee will be hosting a discussion of the differences/virtues of vest vs packs.
2. Desert Flycasters next meeting April 14<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. AZ Fish & Game will be making a presentation of two fisheries. Meeting continues on a virtual basis. They have an outing scheduled for April 17<sup>th</sup> to the E Verde River. They have a scheduled May trip to Lee's Ferry
3. AZ Fly shop is scheduled to open on April 24<sup>th</sup>. John Doss encouraged everyone to stop by and see the progress in getting the shop ready for opening. John also indicated that the shop would be providing ZGTU shop t-shirts at their cost for Fish Camp.