

Zane Grey Chapter of Trout Unlimited

Board Meeting Minutes May 6, 2021 at 7 p.m.

Location: Teams

The meeting was called to order at 7:00. President Alan Davis presiding.

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

Guest: Paul Lescault

A quorum was present.

Committee Reports:

Secretary Report: April Board minutes reviewed.

Tom Osterday moved to approve, seconded by Jim Walker – motion passed.

Treasurer Report:

Financial report presented by Michael Hachey> Moved to approve by Tom Osterday, seconded by Tom Goodwin – motion passed

Michael Hachey provided an overview of new annual budget. Was agreed budget would be reviewed, discussed and voted on a next month's Board meeting.

Discuss was held on various ways we could develop additional revenue sources in the next years. Ideas included:

- Have AZ Fly Shop sell RIM Fishing guide books. ZGTU to split profit with AZ Fly Shop. Allen Davis will discuss with AZ Fly Shop.
- Hold an online auction in an effort to raise additional funds. Agreed to investigate further.

Old Business:

1. Alan Davis indicated that AZ Fish & Game will allow us to modify our original Desert Fish Habitat grant request so it can be reconsidered.
2. Tom Goodwin reported that the photo contest is wrapping up on May 15th. Winner will be selected and prizes awarded shortly afterward.

New Business:

- AZ Fly Shop donated \$1,500 to AZ TU Council to be used for Fish Camp and Conservation.
- Orvis Giveback Days are under way. Give a \$10 donation to Orvis for conservation and receive a \$10 Orvis store credit.

Membership & Outreach:

- The “Rise of the Gila Trout” meeting was postponed. Mike Russell interested in holding it in conjunction with a “pint night”.
- Discuss was held regarding holding an in-person membership event. Discuss will continue. Most likely to be held in the fall.
- Allen Davis working with AZ Fly Shop to have some ZGTU T-shirts made up.

Diversity and Inclusion:

1. Fish Camp – we have 23 volunteers lined up. Camp will be held only on the 1st and 3rd week (May 30th and June 19th).
2. Boys & Girls Club Fishing Day was held on May 1st. ZGTU 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 20th.

Public Policy Committee:

1. Tom Osterday indicated that AZFG released their watershed priorities and they align with our ZGTU priorities.
2. Tom Osterday indicated he would be reaching out to Nate Rees to insure they are aligned with legislative priorities.

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 April 29th Salt River Saturday was cancelled so that ZGTU could participate in the opening events for AZ Fly Shop. The AZ Fly Shop opening was well attended. AS Fly Shop donated \$1,200 to our Fish Camp and Conservation efforts.
2. 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. Doesn't appear that enough Browns are being taken from the river to meet USFG goals.
3. Tonto Forest Plan – no update
4. 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.

Communication Committee:

1. Continuing work to expand ZGTU presence on social media.

Strategic Planning:

No updates provided.

State Council Report:

1. AZ Native Trout Conference was held virtually on April 22nd. Conference was held over 5 nights. There were 20-40 participants in each of the presentation. The presentations remain available online and it appears they are getting a large number of views.
2. Jim Walker indicated that Nate Rees did an excellent job of facilitating the Conference.

TU Friends Report:

1. AZ Flycasters is moving to in person meeting starting in May.
2. Desert Flycasters has just wrapped up their membership drive and 75 members have joined or renewed to date. Desert Flycasters monthly meeting remain on a virtual basis. They have a scheduled May trip to Lee's Ferry
3. White Mountains Lakes Foundation indicated that the are concerned with the potential of very low water conditions this summer.

