

Tennessee Scenic Rivers Association
Board Meeting
August 26, 2010

Time & Place: 7:00 p.m., Radnor Lake Visitor Center, Nashville

Present: D. Boone, J.Clapper, T. Ganstine, C. Grissom, R. Karwedsky, G. Levine, J. Lyle, L. McCarter, J. McCool, D. Pelren, M. Quarles, D. Safer, and P. Shultz

Absent: S. Davis, E. Fisher, S. Logan, H. Stacy, B. Williams, C. Wilkerson and F.Worthington

Guests: Lucy Garrabrants, Willie Stern, Scott Strausbaugh, and Steve Walsh

President Trent Ganstine called the meeting to order.

MINUTES:

The May minutes were approved as submitted. The July minutes have not yet been distributed so these will be reviewed next month (September) with the August minutes.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

We ended July with a deficit of \$3,015.00 and a deficit of \$5,451.00 for the year. We received \$4,765.00 from Community Shares, as well as revenue from Canoe/Kayak School, Swift Water Rescue and reimbursement from TWRA for one of our clean-up grants. Expenses included our Dragon Boat registration fee, school expenses, newsletter printing and \$6,180.00 for the Duck River Opportunity Project (for which we should be reimbursed by TWRA eventually).

The financial report was approved as submitted.

LOST LOON RACE:

Willie Stern provided a brief presentation about the Lost Loon Race, which is this weekend, August 29th, at Long Hunter State Park. It is an annual event that includes biking, paddling and running for families. TSRA members are encouraged to volunteer as support for the boaters. Next year, the proceeds from the event (usually around \$15,000) will go to benefit TSRA. Willie presented TSRA with a check for

\$1,000.00, however, this evening. At least four or five TSRA members will be volunteering this weekend.

CONSERVATION:

Steve Walsh from Tennessee Parks and Greenways Foundation gave a brief presentation concerning Cummins Falls in Jackson County, just north of Cookeville. TPGF has an option to purchase the 186 acres adjacent to Cummins Falls and Blackburn Fork River, a designated state scenic river, by June 16, 2011. The state has committed \$200,000.00 to the project and others have made smaller pledges. If successful, TPGF plans to turn it over to the state for management as a state natural area. TPGF is asking TSRA for a donation of \$5,686.00, the price for one acre. The total cost of the project is approximately \$1.34 million. Daniel Boone proposed that we support the purchase of one acre. Some discussion ensued concerning how much we should commit and when to make an actual payment (2010 v. 2011). The money would come out of our special conservation fund. There was also some discussion about whether the total purchase was justified and whether the state should be burdened with more land to maintain. A motion was made to contribute the \$5,686.00 to TPGF for one acre. The motion passed with one vote in opposition.

Donnie reported that the American Great Outdoors Forum will be held August 27, 2010 in Nashville. This will be a listening session, attended by both of Tennessee's U.S. Senators on Obama's American Great Outdoors Initiative. Members are encouraged to attend.

Mark reported that TDEC has approved the permit for the Roberta Landfill in Scott County with two stipulations: 1) that an ARAP must be approved for the project; and 2) the operator must supply \$6 million in financial assurance. TSRA had previously submitted written comments opposing the landfill, since it would require the filling of a perennial stream and there was a possibility coal ash might be disposed there. TDEC has indicated that if coal ash is to be placed there as a monofill, that would require a major modification to the permit. But Mark pointed out that that leaves open the possibility that coal ash might still be disposed of there as long as it is included with other solid waste.

ACCESS PROJECTS:

Patty reported that everything is on track for the access point at the Bellevue site and they hope to start on it this fall. We are still working with the ADA groups to try to accommodate their interests on access points that are on Metro land.

Jack reported that Councilman Tygart wants a canoe trip on the Harpeth to promote it in Bellevue and the councilman is looking for TSRA to assist on this. He is looking at a date in late September.

COMMUNITY SHARES:

Lisa reported that we currently have accrued 80 of our required 100 points for the year, but we only have

26 points towards access/fundraising (we are required to have 40% points in that category). Consequently, we may still have to have our holiday party be a fundraiser for Community Shares.

SWIFT WATER RESCUE CLINIC:

Jim McCool reported that there were 17 students in the first class and 18 in the second class. Although there is demand for a third clinic, we do not have a certified instructor available. An OEM representative advised Jim that TSRA's SWR class was superior to the TARS school.

The Basic River Rescue class will be held September 18-19 on the Hiwassee. The sign up form is online.

DRAGON BOAT RACES:

Trent reported that 38 teams participated. Daniel pointed out that we need to find out if CRC has event insurance, since a flood occurred the following week, which was our original date for the event. Trent is pushing CRC to move up the timelines for organizing next year's event. The date for next year is August 20, 2011. We have no information yet on revenue from this year's event.

ANNUAL MEETING:

Sherry Beard will be chairing this event and it is scheduled for Thursday, October 21, 2010, from 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at the East Park Community Center in East Nashville. Board nominees will be posted by the weekend before this event with a cut-off of October 19th. Voting will be online again with voting at the meeting also.

WEB SITE PAYMENT OPTION:

Trent reported that we have gotten some pricing options from InsBank and others. These are being reviewed.

HATCHIE RIVER CLEAN-UP:

This is rescheduled now for September 18, 2010, and Connor Franklin is chairing it again. He has really gotten some good press for TSRA and will be written up soon in the Tennessee Conservation magazine.

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.