

**Tennessee Scenic Rivers Association
Board Meeting
March 26, 2009**

Present: Ambrose, Beard, Boone, Clapper, Ganstine, Hart, Karwedsky, Koonce, Logan, Lyle, Shultz, Wilkerson

Absent: Boord, Davis, Fisher, Kelsey, McCarter, Spencer, Strausbaugh, Williams

Guests: Lucy Garrabrants, Shirley Amitrano

President Jim Clapper called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. at the Radnor Lake Visitors Center, Nashville, Tennessee.

Minutes. Sherry Beard presented the February minutes, which had been sent to Board members in advance, for approval. Minutes were approved as amended.

Financial Report. Lucy Garrabrants presented the February financials in the absence of Sam Davis. Daniel Boone commented on the investment funds position saying that we have always taken the conservative path and he is grateful for that at this time. The financials were approved as presented.

Dragon Boat. Jim and Henry gave an overview of TSRA's involvement in the two races and what is going on for 2009. Our alternatives are 1) get out there and get boars and make the event work or 2) walk away from the event.

The Board discussed the situation in depth. We don't want to leave CRC in the lurch but will not participate in losses brought about by their poor choices. We will provide volunteers; will recruit boats. We would like a flat fee for website maintenance and to receive a flat fee per boat. The Board approved a motion for Jim, Shirley, Daniel, and Henry will set a meeting with CRC to negotiate our involvement with Dragon Boat.

Conservation Committee. Daniel reported that SB0632, the wet weather conveyance bill was passed out of committee. Committee Chair Sutherland had assured Daniel that it would not be passed out of committee. Jackson said that a vote would not be made because it is in the Senate Ways and Means Committee and comes with a fiscal bill attached to it. This means it may not make it any further.

Mill Creek clean-up is on May 2nd. TSRA is partnered with Metro Beautification and the Nashville Zoo who are developing an exhibit on the Nashville crayfish. Meet at Ezell Park. The clean-up is from 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.

We have an opportunity to set up a table at Legislative Plaza. We can bring a laptop and play a DVD and hand out brochures. Does anyone have time to do this – not on March 31st or April 1st.

Rob Karwedsky reports that we have received a formal request from Tennessee Parks and Greenways Foundation for \$5000 for Mound Bottom.

The Forest Service is considering a decision in ORV areas. Areas will be closed to access except for regular vehicular access roads. Rob will write a letter in favor of the closing and asking that they temporarily close the areas now until a decision is made.

Charlie Wilkerson reported on a letter from TDEC regarding the safety of the Ocoee for sediment releases. No danger remains.

River Access. Patty reported on the Bellevue access site. Marcus Hardeman of Metro Parks met with Public Works and the driveway can be moved and will start paving. Gossett Park will be in April.

At the last Access Committee meeting, Dennis Crumby and Frank Fiss announced that the first Park and Float is official. It will be at Conasauga River on SR 33.

She had drafted a letter to Gerald Nicely and asked Dennis and Frank for their input. She will redo the letter with their recommendations and send it.

Roll School. Jack Lyle said that Roll School won't make a lot of money but it will make some. The Director of the TSU facility is rolling. The Director would like for TSRA to come out and do a presentation to the wilderness experience class and bring some boats. Jack thought maybe April 9th would work. There was a suggestion to offer one or two scholarships to them for Intro School. This was approved by the Board.

Instructor Seminar. Eric reported that Instructor seminar will be held April 3-5 at Camp Ocoee. There is still room for 8 more people.

Canoe and Kayak School. The write-up needs to be given to Shirley. The form will be turned on in May.

Rendezvous. Shirley Amitrano reported that 34 people had signed up. Registration was going smoothly and she was sending them to Jim. Jack said that we need more trips.

Strategic Plan. Jim and Trent divided up objectives to evaluate.

Trent reported:

1. River access points increased by 4. He spoke with Patty. He has gotten an invitation from Boy Scout leaders in Hickman, Dickson, and Humphries area to give a talk on safety and will talk about access as an Eagle project.
2. Hands on conservation projects. Mill Creek clean-up. Duck River clean-up. Bledsoe Creek proposal submitted.
3. 20 new instructors. Eric wasn't sure how many new ones coming on board.
4. Flat water trips/white water trips increased. Well on the way to meeting this goal.
5. Source for teaching materials. He has had conversations with several folks and will also talk with Sam and Scott to come up with outlines for classes.
6. Rendezvous attendance increased by 20%. Committee has worked on getting the word out. Have contacted retailers in the state and surrounding areas, outfitters, paddling and outdoor clubs and associations, websites.
7. TSRA info out outfitters and sporting goods stores. Newsletters are being mailed.
8. 10 new links on the webpage.

Jim reported:

1. Conservation. Find \$10,000 to fund conservation efforts. Start another watershed group.
2. Schools increased. Will probably make this goal with Winter Paddling, Swiftwater, and Self-rescue.

3. Branch of club in other parts of state. Already 2 paddling clubs in the Eastern part of the state and Bluff River Canoe Club in Memphis.
4. Communications with members. Use Emma to poll members' feelings on this.
5. Publicity. National magazine article. Access would be a great subject. Jim will work with them on this.

Other. Daniel Boone reported that we could get a pull-down display for \$3-4 hundred. It rolls up and is in full color. The Board approved a motion for Daniel to purchase the display.

TVC sent a thank you note for TSRA providing paddling lessons for two for their fundraiser.

The meeting adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sherry K. Beard