

Tennessee Scenic Rivers Association
Board Meeting
September 23, 2010

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

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

Absent: S. Logan, H. Stacy, C. Wilkerson and F.Worthington

Guests: Lucy Garrabrants and Scott Strausbaugh

President Trent Ganstine called the meeting to order.

MINUTES:

The July minutes were approved as submitted, as were the August minutes.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

We ended August with a surplus for the month and a surplus year-to-date of \$2,682.00. We are slightly up in terms of revenue from this time last year, even though we have expended a little more than this time last year. Sam recommends that we ask the membership to donate at the end of the year, as we did last year. Daniel pointed out that we have two large expenditures yet to make before the end of the year: one for the Cummins Falls tract and another for the legislative score card.

The financial report was approved as submitted.

CONSERVATION:

Rob is going to attend the upcoming gathering for Cummins Falls.

Rob stated that we have been asked to comment on another permit application, an ARAP to fill in 20+ acres of wetlands for a YMCA in Kingsport.

Lucy attended the statewide watershed meeting on behalf of TSRA. This was hosted by TDEC at the Ellington Agricultural Center and facilitated by the same people who did it last year (Southeast Watershed Forum). It was attended by nonprofit watershed groups.

Daniel reported that the Mill Creek Watershed group has gotten involved with other watershed groups and Metro to determine the best sites (post-flood) for clean-ups. The Hatchie River clean-up, led by TSRA member Connor Franklin, was this past weekend, as were clean-ups on the Duck River, led by John McFadden, and on Big Swan Creek, led by Marshall Spencer.

Donnie reported that TVA released a draft interpretive planning document for the next few years on where they are going to get their power. This document will be used to make decisions about whether TVA proceeds with some nuclear plants and how many coal fired plants will be shut down. There is a 45 day public comment period on the planning document.

COMMUNITY SHARES:

Lisa reported that we may have the opportunity to earn some fundraising points next month if Community Shares of Middle TN proceeds with a planned chili cook-off in Centennial Park. We can earn 20 points for entering some chili into the contest. Trent volunteered to provide his recipe if this event goes forward. Other wise we will need to make our Christmas part a house party for Comm. Shares as we did two years ago.

ACCESS PROJECTS:

Patty reported that everything is on track for the ribbon-cutting ceremony for the access point at Highway 249 in Bellevue. Jane Polansky is working on ADA issues and is going to try get some information to work with the ADA groups (???) The RTP grant should be approved by December 1, 2010. Keep America Beautiful has a sub branch, Keep Tennessee Beautiful and Mack Pritchard suggested to Patty that TSRA be a sponsor.

HARPETH RIVER CANOE DAY:

Jack reported that this event has fallen through and Councilman Tygart intends to move it to next year..

AMERICAN WHITE WATER GRANTS:

Mark reported that the application we submitted did not succeed. Greater Baltimore and the University of Idaho were the big winners. We can apply for separate grants later in the year. There is the potential for a grant from Outboard Marine.

LOST LOON TRIATHLON:

Jim Clapper reported that this was a success and TSRA will be the beneficiary next year. Several TSRA members showed up to provide volunteer support.

BASIC RIVER RESCUE:

Trent reported that 29 students participated. Twelve came from Paddle Adventures Plus, the meet-up group in Nashville and many were in rec boats. Everyone was very enthusiastic and we received a lot of good feedback. Four new members were gained from this event.

BOARD NOMINEES & ANNUAL MEETING:

We have 19 nominees so far and 18 can be elected from our slate, which is posted on our web page. Voting can be online and will continue up until October 19th. The annual meeting will be on Thursday evening, October 21 at the East Park Community Center in East Nashville.

WEB SITE PAYMENT OPTION:

Trent stated that he will work with Lucy to get the forms filled out to facilitate payment for our schools and events, the making of donations and paying for membership.

MEMBERSHIP DRIVE:

Trent presented some written proposals for offering promotional memberships. He will be asking Scott to provide a list every month of members who have expired, renewed and all new members. The proposals include two options: 1) a six month free trial membership; and 2) 12 months at half price. Trent pointed out that neither option would allow trial members to vote in our next election for board members (2011). Some discussion ensued regarding these options and some variations on the options. Sam made a motion that we offer a free membership through July 31, 2011 to allow new members to take advantage of our clinics and that we offer it to Paddle Adventures Plus, conservation organizations and paddling clubs. The motion passed.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS:

Trent suggested that we take a look at making membership renewals uniform with one start date. This might require allowing existing members to pro-rate their renewals until we can get everyone on the same start date. Some discussion ensued regarding an appropriate start date. Some suggested a calendar year starting January 1 and others suggested starting in February or March to get past bills from the holidays. Discussion was then tabled until next month.

MISCELLANEOUS:

Sam has put in an application with Metro Parks to have a flat water slalom course in Shelby Bottoms on the duck pond. This should not incur any costs and Sam has the materials for gates.

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.