

Tennessee Scenic Rivers Association Board Meeting

September 22, 2011, 7:00pm, Radnor Lake Visitors Center

Present: Trent Ganstine, Charlie Wilkerson, Sally Barr, Craig Burr, Michael King, Patty Shultz, Jim McCool, Dave Pelren, Barnett Williams, Donnie Safer, Mark Quarles, Jack Lyle,

Guest: Lucy Garrabrants

Absent: John Grimes, Lisa McCarter, Daniel Boone, Gene Levine, Chris Grissom, Steve Logan, Clyde Gensert, Brian Devine, Sam Davis

Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President, Trent Ganstine.

Action Items:

Approval of Minutes: Motion was made, and seconded to approve the minutes of the August 25, 2011 meeting. Motion carried.

Financial Report - Lucy Garrabrants: TSRA ended August with a deficit of \$1271 for the month and a surplus of \$7320 year-to-date. August revenue included dues, donation and interest. August expenses included TSU bill for roll school \$1020, ACA trip insurance, and recurring monthly expenses such as the website, storage, merchant processing fees and bookkeeping.

We received a contribution in September of \$1500 from Care Safety, LLC that is designated to the Swiftwater Rescue Program for instructor training. We also received two grants from TWRA to continue clean-ups on the Hatchie and the Harpeth during the next twelve months. Motion was made by Sally Barr, and seconded to approve the financial report. Motion carried.

Conservation Committee-Mark Quarles, Donnie Safer, Dave Pelren:

Fracking: Mark Quarles indicated that there are no updates concerning natural gas extraction by "fracking". There is a waiting period for a new set of rules due out by January 1, 2012. In the meantime, the coalition is trying to get national attention with organizations such as Sierra Club, etc.

Donnie Safer updated the board as to the TN Water Quality Control Board meetings that are open to the public. The Board meets on the 17th floor Conference Room in the L&C Tower on Church Street in Nashville. The next meeting is at 10:00 a.m. October 18, 2011.

Dave Pelren noted that on Oct. 8, 2011, a water quality seminar will be held at Moss Wright Park.

Community Shares- Lisa McCarter: Lisa will represent TSRA by competing in the Music City Chili Cook-off on October 15, 2011 in Centennial Park. This will earn TSRA 30 fundraising points for Community Share. The cook-off runs from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Lisa has asked for one or two volunteers to help her serve chili to the public. These Community Share points are much needed.

Winter Paddling Clinic: The Winter Paddling Clinic will be held October 15th and 16th at the Ocoee River Rats Campground. The Bunk House has been reserved for our use. David Evans is heading up this clinic. A volunteer form is online as well as the signup form for students.

Basic River Essentials Class: This class was led by Sherry Beard on Saturday, October 1, 2011. Twenty students participated with a solid support group of instructors and support boaters.

River Access update - Patty Schultz: Patty announced that TSRA is one of the recipients of this year's HARPETH RIVER STEWARD AWARD. HRWA recognized TSRA's vision to establish an access about every four hour's float on every waterway that can be paddled in the state. The approach has been to engage as many stakeholders groups as possible, including many watershed organizations, state agencies like TDEC, TWRA, and TDOT, and federal agencies like the National Park Service. TSRA's River Access committee was largely responsible for revitalizing a dormant Park & Float program between TDOT and TWRA that will evaluate potential access at state highway bridges. The committee also has been responsible for at least two new access points along the Harpeth River and incredible upgrades at existing access points. Patty will accept the award for TSRA on October 1, 2011.

The start date for the Newsome Mill Access will be Monday, September 26, 2011. Volunteers are needed.

Pool Rolling Sessions- Jack Lyle: Jack has communicated with Tim Jones at Tennessee State University concerning regular roll sessions over a three month period. He proposes that we have open pool sessions all but two Wednesday evenings in January, February, and March and possibly part of April in 2012. Start times and length of time for sessions were discussed as well as how to handle waivers and ACA insurance. The pool, including two lifeguards, will cost us \$80.00 per hour. We need to get the word out to local schools and colleges. We need to attract younger members and incorporate social outreach in order to strengthen our membership. The board was unanimous in its approval of Jack's proposal of a more relaxed, less formal group instruction for roll school. It was mentioned we could have specific paddle skills per session, i.e. paddle strokes, bracing, etc. Jack Lyle and Dave Pelren suggested boat give-a-way to volunteers /teachers. Charlie and Jack will work on a give-away for volunteers.

Board Nominations-Trent Ganstine: There are seats for 18 to 22 board members. The following Board members have agreed to be placed on the ballet: Donnie Safer, Charlie Wilkerson, Michael King, Lisa McCarter, Gene Levine, John Grimes, Craig Burr, Sally Barr, Jim McCool, Patty Shultz, Dave Pelren, Jack Lyle, Daniel Boone, Clyde Gensert and Barnett Williams. Non-board members that agreed to be on the ballet are Gary Cope, Woody Woodall, Ellen Omohondro, Michelle Sinkovitz and Deborah Seckman.

Annual Meeting and Fall Fling-Charlie Wilkerson: Fall Fling will be held October 28th through the 30th at the Bunk House at Ocoee River Rats Campground. The cost for staying in bunk house is \$10 a night and \$8 for tent campers. When registering for other accommodations at Ocoee River Rats, let Glenda know you are attending TSRA Fall Fling to get a special rate. Robert Grega will smoke 20 lbs. pork butt for dinner Saturday. Everyone will be asked to bring a dessert and side dishes. TSRA will pay for the meat. Daniel Boone has agreed to lead a trip down the Hiwassee on Saturday. Trips on other rivers will be planned. Entertainment will be provided by Gene Levine and Charlie Wilkerson Saturday night following a brief annual meeting. This is a family event with no real agenda. Trips will be clearly marked and scheduled. An email blast regarding Fall Fling will go out to 1400 people as well as be placed on TSRA message board and Facebook.

Website update-Charlie Wilkerson and Trent Ganstine: The website has been updated with all current events.

Membership Expiration Date-Trent Ganstine: Discussion was held on membership expiration dates and the possibilities of combining ACA and TSRA memberships.

Membership Survey: Jim Clapper has agreed to develop a new membership survey. Details concerning the 2004 survey were shared with the board. Discussion concerning the new survey included number of questions on the survey, whether to send out to members only or expand to nonmembers and members who have dropped their memberships. Questions should include quality of instruction, trip participation and quality, conservation level, club services and quality of newsletter, website, etc.

Jim McCool made a motion that we ask Dr. Clapper to come up with two surveys; one for members and one for members that have dropped out. We are trying to gain what a current member wants out of TSRA and, if not a member, why? Barnett Williams included in the motion that four each \$50.00 gift certificates be given in a random drawing to current members and four each gift certificates to members who have let their memberships expire. The motion was made and seconded by Craig Burr. The motion was approved.

Motion was made by Craig Burr to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 9:11 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Sally Barr.