



Directors: Art Cottrell, Lisa Gilmore, Keven Graham, Ken Krueger, Mike Lesiak, Steve Shapiro,
Ex Officio Director: Willie Beshire; **Emeritus Directors:** Jeff Berg, Wally Bock, Joe Hammon, Ed Michael, Gregory Prosen, Marvin Strauch, Doug Vanerka, Joseph Vitti

Officers: Dave Carlson, President; Dan LaFave, Vice President; Jack Potts, Treasurer; Carol Hennessy, Secretary

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

On Wednesday, August 9, 2023, 7:05 PM, the OBTU Board of Directors held their monthly meeting at the Downers Grove Public Library and via conference call (Zoom)

Officers and Directors present

Dave Carlson, President
Dan LaFave, Vice President
Carol Hennessy, Secretary
Jack Potts, Treasurer
Willie Beshire, Past President
Wally Bock
Art Cottrell
Lisa Gilmore
Ken Krueger
Mike Lesiak
Greg Prosen
Steve Shapiro
Marvin Strauch
Joe Vitti

Officers, Directors and Committee Chairs Absent and Excused:

Keven Graham
Ed Michael

Officers, Directors and Committee Chairs Absent and Not Excused

Members present:

Call to Order:

D. Carlson called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

Approve Minutes From the July 12, 2023 BOD Meeting:

A motion was made by M. Lesiak and seconded by K. Graham to approve the minutes of the July 12, 2023 Board Meeting. The motion passed.

C. Hennessy gave W. Beshire a thumb drive with PDF files of the Board meetings from January 2023 through June 2023 to upload to our chapter's website..

Order of Business:



The order of business was approved without objections.

Reports:

President's Report

Since K. Graham and J. Dickens were unable to attend tonight's meeting, the 50th Anniversary Report is under the President's report. D. Carlson led the discussion regarding the expenses for the upcoming 50th Anniversary Celebration. There was \$8,100 budgeted for this event. Expenses to-date are at \$7,700 which is pretty close to what was budgeted. The Board reviewed the latest expenses related to the event.

The Board reviewed the Chapter's reimbursement process. To be reimbursed, one has to submit a receipt to the Committee Chair who in turn submits it to the Treasurer for reimbursement. The Board decided to pay the expense in question (\$970 for 200 fly boxes) even though a receipt from the company where the boxes were purchased from was not submitted.

D. Carlson reported that we are close to reaching our \$1,000 for the special founder's box which is to be presented to Chris Woods, TU National President. On Saturday, before the celebration, Chris Woods will join D. Carlson, W. Beshire and the three other chapter presidents for a lunch at Driftwood Restaurant.

D. Carlson reported that the chapter will be handing out flyboxes at the Anniversary event along with sticker and 50th anniversary pins. To receive a flybox, attendees are required to sign in at the event providing their contact information.

The Board reviewed the schedule of events for the the 50th Anniversary celebration. Each of the major committees with have booths at the celebration.

The Board briefly discussed where the chapter's inventory is currently stored. There is not on central location for the inventory. Would it be prudent to rent an additional storage unit or is it more efficient to continue as we are currently doing? This may be a topic worth further discussion at next month's Board meeting.

Treasurer's Report

Pott briefly reviewed the financial reports with the Board. Through the end of July, \$600 has been raised for the donation of the fly box made by Carl Hueter. He expects that we will reach the \$1,000 goal. The annual fundraising solicitation has brought in \$6,800 with another \$500 to \$700 to be entered into the books. In terms of expenses, we have paid for the brush cutter that was then donated to the Southeast Wisconsin chapter. In terms of the 50th Anniversary expenses, the total amount is within the budget. There is nothing out of the ordinary.

The Board noted that now is the time to re-up with the Oak Brook Park District in regards to booking Central Park West for our General Membership meetings. The question arose about reserving the Downer's Grove Library for future board meetings. When does our current reservation end?



C. Hennessy informed the Board that she set up a QR account which links to our website's fundraising page. Attendees to the 50th Anniversary can scan the QR and make donations that day if they so desire.

Conservation:

D. Carlson reported on Iowa conservation projects. The purchase of easements along Otter Creek is proceeding. The landowner has signed off on the easements.

There are three other projects going on in Northeastern Iowa. There are two on North Bear Creek, which is the section that we donated to last year. There is a small section on Patterson Creek. North Bear Creek is one of the highest quality Trout streams in Iowa. It is the number one popular stream in Iowa. All of the aforementioned projects are under permanent angler easements. The length of the projects are 3,800 feet, 3,700 feet, and 700 feet respectively. D. Carlson noted that the total cost of the projects is \$644,000 of which the landowner is responsible for a portion of the cost. This is where TU Chapters and other organizations enter the equation in that they help fund the landowners' share. The Conservation Committee met last week and recommended that we target North Bear Creek for our 50th anniversary legacy project. We had budgeted \$5,000 for the legacy project. Since Mike Siekert, Fish Biologist from the Iowa Department of Natural Resources, will be in attendance at the 50th Anniversary Celebration, that would be a good time to make the presentation to him.

A motion was made by M. Strauch and seconded by L. Gilmore to approve the Conservation Committee's recommendation to donate \$5,000 for the North Bear Creek project in Iowa as our 50th Anniversary Legacy Project. The motion passed.

Communications:

W. Beshire reported that the Downers Grove Library requires a Downers Grove resident to reserve the meeting room. J. Vitti agreed that he will contact the Library on our behalf to reserve the meeting room.

W. Beshire reported that the Board agreed that we should put out chapter newsletters a couple times a year. He is in the process of drafting a newsletter with the goal of getting it out in the next month.

C. Hennessy briefly reported on our Facebook activity. We are now following many of our conservation partners such as MEANDERS, TU Great Lakes Program, and our partner TU chapters in other states. From time to time, we will share their posts to our followers. The goal is to have Facebook posts on a consistent basis.

W. Beshire reported on the publicity that has gone out regarding our 50th Anniversary Celebration.

Education:

M. Lesiak reported that we need volunteers for the September Youth Fly Fishing Class. We currently have four mentors for the September 9th class. Unfortunately, this conflicts with the work day scheduled at the fish hatchery in Decorah, Iowa where volunteers will be building lunkers for the North Bear Creek project.



M. Strauch reported that the aquarium for the new TIC school has been purchased.

M. Strauch reported that the Stream Girls class scheduled for August 19th still needs girls. This Stream Girls Class is being coordinated with Kankakee River State Park..

Youth Camp:

D. LaFave gave a brief summary of this year's Illinois Council Youth Camp. He reported that he will report more in September after all the expenses come in and are paid.

Membership:

K. Krueger reported that we are seeing an increase in membership due to the Orvis 101 Classes as well as the Newsletter sign-ups.

He also reported that there will be upcoming Trout On-Tap and Breakfast Club events later this month..

Adjournment:

A motion was made by D. LaFave and seconded by C. Hennessy to adjourn the meeting. Hearing no objections, the meeting was adjourned at 8:55. p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Approved: September 13, 2023
Date

Carol Hennessy
Carol Hennessy
Secretary