



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, December 13, 2023, 7:06 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
Jack Potts, Treasurer
Carol Hennessy, Secretary
Wally Bock
Art Cottrell
Lisa Gilmore
Keven Graham
Ken Krueger
Mike Lesiak
Greg Prosen
Steve Shapiro
Marvin Strauch
Joe Vitti

Officers, Directors and Committee Chairs Absent and Excused:

Willie Beshire
Ed Michael

Officers, Directors and Committee Chairs Absent and Not Excused

Members present:

Annie Vitti

Call to Order:

D. Carlson called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m.

Approve Minutes From the November 8, 2023 BOD Meeting:

A motion was made by M. Strauch and seconded by M. Lesiak to approve the minutes of the November 8, 2023 Board Meeting with the correction of changing the time of the Nature Nook trip from Spring to Fall. The motion passed.

Order of Business:

The order of business was approved without objections.



Reports:

President's Report

D. Carlson reported on the slate of candidates that the Leadership Development Committee is bringing forth. Keven Graham has agreed to run for re-election. John Martyn who is on the Conservation Committee has agreed to run for the seat being vacated by Lisa Gilmore. D. Carlson thanked L. Gilmore for her time on the Board. L. Gilmore added that she is still willing to participate in the Chapter's activities.

C. Hennessy made a motion and was seconded by M. Lesiak to bring forward to the General Membership the slate of Keven Graham and John Martyn for directors- each to serve three-year terms.. The motion passed.

C. Hennessy made a motion and was seconded by M. Lesiak to bring forward to the newly elected board the slate of officers of Dave Carlson – President; D. LaFave – Vice President; Jack Potts – Treasurer; and Carol Hennessy – Secretary. The motion passed.

D. Carlson reported that Jim Dickens has agreed to serve as the Chair for the Financial Development Committee.

Financial Development

D. Carlson thanked everyone for their work on making the Holiday Fundraising Party and Rod Raffle a success. The Board concurred that it was a good idea to push the idea to pre-pay for the party. It made check in so much easier. By offering the discounted prices for pre-paid tickets instead of other incentives was easier and had fewer headaches. By pushing the pre-pay ticket option we had the most accurate head count that we have ever had. It was noted that there were little to no bottlenecks at the door with a pre-pay system. The Board also concurred that the food, service, and atmosphere at Venuti's was very nice and worth repeating. The buffet dinner option was a better value than just appetizers. It was recommended to book venues earlier which would then start the rod raffle process sooner since you would know which jurisdiction to apply to for a raffle license.

J. Potts reported on the revenues and expenses from the party and raffle. In terms of revenues from the party and raffles, they were comparable to past years' revenues. He went over the revenues from the bucket raffle, silent auction, rod raffle and ticket sales with the Board. Over all we had over \$12,000 in revenue. The expense that he is reporting is the cost for the venue. There will be some additional expense, but overall it was a successful event. Estimated net income is about \$7,500.

The Board agreed that one of our goals for next year is to get more attendees to the Holiday Party. We had 55 attendees this year which was up from the last few years, but we should try to get more attendees.



C. Hennessy mentioned that she went to Orvis Yorktown to purchase flies and other items that were on sale since that store was closing by the end of the year. This led to a discussion about other sources of new members. Orvis Yorktown was a source for new members. Who can fill that vacuum? The Board discussed R.E.I., Cabela's, L.L. Bean, and Patagonia as potential partners.

Treasurer's Report

J. Potts reported that the financial reports were sent out earlier. We had \$5,000 in cash at the end of November. For the income statement for the year we had at total of \$26,000 in expenses and \$22,000 in revenue. This was before the party. We will be net positive after adding the party net income.

J. Potts reported that we need to remove Fred Hodge's name along with Dave Lunardini from the Vanguard account and add Dave Carlson to that account. We need a Board resolution to do this. The Board discussed whether we should have three names on this account instead of two. It was decided to add Dan LaFave as well.

A motion was made by M. Strauch and seconded by K. Graham to remove Fred Hodge and Dave Lunardini from the Vanguard Account and to add Dave Carlson and Dan LaFave to the Vanguard Account. The motion passed.

Programs:

S. Shapiro reported on the schedule for speakers for the upcoming General Membership meetings. Jason Randall will be the speaker for the January meeting; Mat Wagner for the February meeting; P.J. Smith for the March Meeting and Mike Sepiker for the April Meeting. Since the Central Park West will be closed for remodeling, we need to figure out another option for a meeting. We could do a outdoor event for May or perhaps do an outdoor event in June. D. Carlson stated that he would check with Katie at the park district to see if the field next to the Central Park West Building is available.

D. Carlson stated that he sent out the website's preliminary calendar so that the Committee Chairs could start laying out the dates for their events.

Membership:

K. Krueger reported that the next breakfast is set for this Saturday, December 11th.

The Board discussed the topic of getting name badges for new members. Should the members purchase the name badge or should they be free of charge to the new members. The Board discussed the criteria on who should get a free name badge and the timing of getting the name badges.

Education:

M. Strauch reported that he plans to have an Education Meeting before the end of the year to start planning for the upcoming Spring and Summer months. In regards to the T.I.C program all of the eggs have hatched.



Conservation:

D. Carlson reported on the partnership we have with the American Farmland Trust to do a project on the Illinois River. He received a call from Shelby Bess. They will re-submit another grant proposal to the Fishers and Farmers. They are not sure if they will get money in this round, but wanted to know if we would send them a new letter of support in which he did.

D. Carlson informed the Board that he did an Instagram on Graue Mill Dam removal. The dam is now out of Salt Creek. The Instagram response was over 500 hits.

D. Carlson updated the Board on the e-DNA project. The Conservation Committee is now deciding what pump to purchase for this project.

D, Carlson announced that K. Graham has agreed to take over as Committee chair for the Conservation Committee.

Diversity Initiative

M. Strauch reported that he and L. Gilmore will meet sometime in the next week and should have a things coming forward.

L. Gilmore reported on a side issue. The Wisconsin Women Fly Fishing program recently had a break in at their storage facility. All of their equipment was stolen. She is asking everyone to keep their eyes open for fly fishing equipment that may be for sale online in case it is the stolen equipment.

Adjournment:

A motion was made by J. Potts and seconded by M. Lesiak to adjourn the meeting. Hearing no objections, the meeting was adjourned at 8:57p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Approved: January 10, 2024
Date

Carol Hennessy
Carol Hennessy
Secretary