

**Three Rivers Chapter of Trout Unlimited  
Board Meeting Minutes: November 02, 2022  
7:00PM at Wildfin American Grill, Issaquah, WA**

**Board and Committee Members**

Present: Steve Laing, Judy Larson, Bill Gerdtts, Bruce Tyson, Kevin Ostendorf, Rebecca Lavier, Austin Chu, Jeff Norman

Absent: Dave Kyle, Jeff Jensen, Keaton Zyskowski, Wayne Lamm

**Proceedings**

Meeting called to order at 6:58pm by Steve Laing

October 2022 minutes were approved

Judy Larson made a motion to accept Austin Chu's resignation as secretary of 3RTU, and nominated Rebecca Lavier as the new secretary. Steve Laing seconds the motion. No discussion. All approved, none opposed, motion passes.

General member meeting at VFW Redmond, 11/16/2022: 7- 9 PM

- Members of the board were asked to come early to help set up.
- A member of VFW is required to receive food and beverage service. 3RTU member Austin Elliot is a member of VFW, which allows us to use this venue.
- Raffle will include items from Creekside Angling Company, Formula Brewery, a custom-made leather holster for fishing pliers, items donated by Austin Chu, 3RTU wooden fly box with locally tied flies, guided trip to go fish for SeaRun Cutties for two with Brett Wedeking, and a custom-made bamboo rod from Steve Foisie's workshop. We may also purchase a few items for the raffle.
- Discussed ways to conduct a raffle, including selling tickets online and in-person, using a digital wheel with everyone's name
- Speaker(s)/entertainment – suggested showing one or two short films. Todd (?) speaking, or ask Dave McCoy(?) to discuss how to prep for a saltwater trip
- Question was asked whether we should bring back the Troll – a donation "box" for those that attend the meetings

Member Survey – Judy Larson provided an update

- 3RTU has approximately 760 members
- Average response to surveys is 3-4 %; another chapter had 7%; we are almost at 7% with the goal of 100 responses out of 760.
- Sending out another reminder on Friday morning. Survey is pinned to top of Facebook page, will try Instagram – give it two weeks. Hopefully will be able to provide survey data at membership meeting.

- Discussed whether it would be beneficial to send out a mailer, but cost is unknown, and is paper any more effective than digital? Board decided not to pursue a mailer.

#### General member meeting frequency (monthly, semi-monthly, quarterly)

- Short discussion on how many member meetings to hold in a year: semi-monthly favorable among all board members.
- One 3RTU activity a month is reasonable: attend an event, participate in a conservation effort, or hold a member meeting.
- Plan to have a member meeting in January. Alternate between a fishing-related topic and a conservation topic. Possibility to hold a candidate's forum as well – Judy L. will look into this. Questions will reflect what is important to 3RTU.
  - Previously, the December event was a White Elephant party. Suggestion made that we hold this event in 2023.

Judy Larson made a motion to hold semi-monthly member meetings. Bruce Tyson seconded the motion. All in favor: Motion was approved by the board.

Frequency of Chapter newsletters – no discussion.

#### Future Board and Member meeting location

- 55 Sunset – December meeting

#### New and potentially new Board members –

- Board needs to get information out to members over the next month or two about open positions, and passing responsibilities to new people. Looking for continuity as new board members start.
- Secretary – Rebecca Lavier
- Treasurer – need to find a new person to take over Kevin's job, and provide mentorship while that person learns the position.
- Communications
- Outings Coordinator – Does 3RTU board want to keep this position, and find a new member to take it on?
- Revisions for Chapter By-Laws –
  - Discussion about official board positions, and what is the role of Trustee position (support to the board). Judy L. wants to clarify them, see where we can make changes, how to better transition board members, have a former position holder stay on as a trustee for support. Maybe need to change the name of positions so that they truly reflect what they do. Committee example – we don't have an Education Chair, but we have an education component to several things we do.
  - Helpful to have specific committee chairs attend meetings and share with the board their activities, etc.
- Succession planning – not discussed

Transition to QuickBooks for bookkeeping/accounting –

- Switching to QuickBooks in April is best for planning. Discussion: It's not in the budget right now, but we can purchase the QuickBooks software and make sure the expenses reflect this expense. Quicken and QuickBooks use should overlap for one month to ensure that records are transferred properly and accounts match up. Recommended to transition to new software in the new year.
- New laptop purchase- old one is heavy and at least 10 years old

Bruce Tyson made a motion to purchase QuickBooks and a new laptop for 3RTU. Judy Larson seconded the motion. Discussion: Possibility of finding an educator or corporate discount to reduce the cost for the laptop? All board members in favor, none opposed. Motion passed.

Event & Project "Playbooks" or Check sheets

- Two components: guide or playbook, and a checklist for each action. Also important to count the number of people that attend each event or activity. This binder or folder can be passed to the next board member or chairperson to make the transition to new leaders easier.
  - Salmon watchers/Kokanee spawning observers -Jeff Jensen/Dave Kyle
  - Fry Trapping – Wayne Lamm, Kristin Wyatt
  - Salmon Days – Current President
  - PHW – Bruce Tyson
  - Compass Outdoor Adventures casting clinics – Bruce Tyson. Big thanks to Bruce and Jeff for volunteering, making sure it was a success
  - Perch Derbies – Dave Kyle – Should this event be held in May? Or Summer when it's not as busy.
  - Volunteer Appreciation BBQ, Fly-casting clinic – President
  - Cedar River Clean-up – Keaton Zyskowski ran this event this past year; need to determine what this event will look like next year.
  - Run with the Kokanee – Kristin Wyatt?
  - African Clawed Frogs – Rebecca Lavier

New Business:

- February meeting should be about the budget
- Could we create an online space to fill in volunteer hours?
- PHW – rent Lake Hannan with Overlake Fly fishing Club (OFFC) for the event
- WA Gives Campaign – Judy L.
  - Last year 3RTU brought in approximately \$3000.
  - Campaign starts in 5 weeks and if 3RTU wants to participate again then we need to start planning as a December fundraiser.
  - As a board, do we want to create a matching donation like we did last year? Last year we set the matching amount at \$500.

Bruce Tyson made a motion that 3RTU participate in the WA Gives campaign as a fundraiser for the end of 2022. Judy Larson seconded the motion. Discussion: Bill Gerdts mentioned the need to create an actual budget for 3RTU that reflects the money raised through fundraisers such as WA Gives, and designate funds to specific purposes within our chapter. All board members were in favor, none opposed. Motion passed.

- Steve Laing acknowledged Judy Larson's work creating All In The Water documentary. Judy discussed the process of entering the documentary in lots of film festivals all around the world.
- Discussed the need for a newsletter, and the frequency should be monthly.
- Discussed holding a showing of All In The Water and Spawning Grounds (updated version when it's ready) as a mini film festival. Invitation should be open to all conservation partners, and provide raffles.

Kevin O. made a motion to end the meeting. Jeff N. seconded. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 9:13pm