



Payson Flycasters

AZ Trout Unlimited Gila Chapter 530

Board Meeting Minutes



Date | time 8/23/2023 3:00 PM | *Location* Howell Residence 805 N Matterhorn Rd Payson AZ 85541

Board Members Present: Mark Hayes, Dorothy Howell, Greg Reed, Deems Davis, Larry Hess, Dave Rozema, Donn Newhouse, Gary Altman, Tom Herman, Jim Stroger

Dave Rozema Opened the meeting at 3:01PM.

1. Reviewed and update areas of responsibilities:
 - c. Tom Herman will coordinate local field trips. Communication will be via email. First trip is 10/3 at Silver Creek (item 7 on the agenda). Other trips will be scheduled as conditions allow.
 - f. Payson Parks and Recreation class on October 21, 2023. 2 people have signed up for the class as of this meeting. Jim Stroger will be teaching, and Tom Herman will observe in preparations for classes in 2024. Assistance from available members of the club will be requested.
 - j. Tom Herman has reported that the "Lie and Tie" fly tying sessions have resumed on Tuesdays at Tiny's at noon.
 - k. Bamboo rod restoration. Tom Herman reported 15 rods have been stripped and will be offered to members of the club who wish to restore them. Any leftover rods may have value as awards to be used at future events.
 - l. Project Healing Waters. Deems Davis will assume coordinator duties from Tom Herman. Tom Bethune will provide food preparation, Dave Rozema will bring donuts, Dorothy Howell will provide coffee and desserts.
 - i. Gary Altman shared costs for the Christmas Party at Mazatzal Casino. Approximately \$41 per person, club will charge \$35 and subsidize the difference. Currently the date is 12-9-2023. Gary will research available for other dates and report back to the board.
4. Tom Herman reported over \$1000 raised from sales of gear donated by Gary Bedsworth. Robert Walsh and Tom Herman will bring remaining items to the Payson Flycasters meeting on 8-26-2023, for sale to members in attendance. Remaining items will be sold at the Arizona Flycasters Club meetings and the proceeds given to TU Gila Chapter 530.
6. Donn Newhouse will contact Chris Rich of the Arizona Fly Shop for opportunity for Chris to speak at the November 25, 2023, Payson Flycasters meeting. Tom Herman and Dave Rozema will be kept in the loop.
- *. Tom Herman and Dorothy Howell will speak at Bob Youtz's Celebration of Life on 8-26-2023 at Green Valley Lake Park.ⁱ

1. Reviewed and update areas of responsibilities: - *continued*
 - *. Larry Hess will be the out of state trip coordinator
 - i. Gary Altman shared costs for the Christmas Party at Mazatzal Casino. Approximately \$41 per person, club will charge \$35 and subsidize the difference. Currently the date is 12-9-2023. Gary will research available for other dates and report to the board.
 - e. Humane Society Gear Collection and Sales Events. The board reviewed the agreed upon change of the schedule by having collections in mid-summer, fall and spring, with the sales only in the spring. Donn Newhouse will contact Bill Davis for an update task to speak with Dave Montgomery regarding the Humane Society Gear Sales coordinator position.
 - g. Jim Stroger requested help for the JRE after school program's fall session.
2. Executive Committees and Council Positions
 - c. TU State Council delegates. Greg Reed volunteered for the open seat. Dave Rozema motioned, and Dorothy Howell seconded, all board members present voted in favor. Delegates for GTTU 530 are: Tom Osterday, Dave Rozema, Mark Hayes and Greg Reed.
3. Treasures Report by Dorothy Howell. As of 7/31/2023 Payson Flycasters account balance is \$4751.15. GTTU530 account balance is \$2638.00. Board members in attendance agreed to report financial status in board meetings only, not in general club meetings.
5. TU Conservation Committee Report by Jim Stroger
 - a. Upper East Verde improvements above the power pump station on the wild rainbow trout section. There are four additional sites being considered above the 4 chevrons placed in the creek in 2021, which was partially funded by GTTU/PFC as part of restoration work that took place at Flowing Springs, 2nd and 3rd Crossing locations. Other TU Chapters, MSA, and AZGFD are all likely to pick up the rest of the funding for this work. GTTU will cover the cost of the initial consultation of \$1050. Jim Stroger motioned those funds donated by Joe Miller for conservation efforts be used for this effort. Donn Newhouse seconded, and all board members present voted in favor.
 - b. Canyon Creek stream improvements below the "OW" bridge at the confluence of Mule Creek into Canyon Creek high dirt bank which is significantly eroded with each high water event. More work is to be done upstream of the confluence to just above the OW Bridge. Estimated effort is over 10 years with a start date of 3 to 5 years to allow for planning designs and major fundraising. The new TU Conservation position will be working on that fundraising.
 - c. Dude Creek initial phase is to avoid the back cutting of the creek channel that further erodes and makes the stream less accessible for trout to move. This is planned to take place in the fall of 2023 or next spring with heavy equipment. Phase 2 may be more

- appropriate for volunteers as it will be putting in log sweeps to help encourage more meanders. It is funded, and GTTU secured \$20,000 in grant money toward the project.
- d. Chase Creek work needed to remove invasive blackberry bushes, with planting of native plants, and stream bank cutting remediation work.
 - e. Update on New Zealand Mudsail issue. Eleven signposts at Canyon Creek and Tonto Creek have been installed but no warning signs are yet in place. Possibility of completion by September.
 - f. Recreational Gila Trout Stocking Update. While AZGFD and USFWS agreed that Gila stocking would include Christopher and Haigler Creek in addition to Oak Creek and East Verde River, the USFS has not processed the paperwork and granted permission. Jim sent a letter in support to USFWS and USFS seeking action to begin stocking this year (about 18 months after the AZGFD/USFWS agreement). The letter received positive responses from both agencies. Jim has remained in touch with Julie Carter, AZGFD Aquatics Branch Chief, about this and she is hopeful that permission will be granted for Spring 2024. Additional letters from TU will be sought, if it seems to be stalled, to prod the USFS.

8. Board members present agreed not to publish the newsletter for the foreseeable future.

ⁱ * represents an item that was not present on the agenda.