

WPWA Board meeting October 26, 2017

Present: Jen (her last meeting), Brenda Rashleigh, Alan Desbonnet, Chris, Donna, Ian Willets, Jon Waldstein, Joe, Tom

Call to order at 6:35pm

1. Introduction of board candidates – Steve McCandless
 - a. Steve could not attend this meeting.
2. Welcome new board members – Ian Willets and Jon Waldstein
3. Approved minutes of August meeting – Joe (motion), Donna (2nd), all in favor.
4. Wild and Scenic update
 - a. Denise provided update on process and showed website (Action: Give Denise any feedback on website, including what is missing).
 - b. Denise is working on a Stewardship Plan, the purpose of which is to maintain/improve outstanding/remarkable values of the waters. It will include things we are already doing, won't cost towns any money. May/June rollout, Need all 12 towns to sign on.
 - c. If successful, will need part-time stewardship coordinator (Denise will retire at end of 2018), it will open doors for money to fund implementation of the stewardship plan (e.g., unchannelize Pawcatuck).
 - d. Denise will come back to the board in Jan/Feb to "give us marching orders" to help with rollout, once draft of plan is done.
5. Protect Rhode Island Brook trout issue – all agreed with the points in Denise's previous letter (i.e., decline is unknown, and 95% decline is unlikely; multiple stressors are affecting brook trout, most likely temperature, not just stocking; a smaller-scale pilot study of no-stocking would be appropriate). Brenda will draft letter to be signed by Alan on behalf of board. Issue will be discussed at PRIBT Dec. 4 meeting. Alan will check with Meg Kerr about whether we want someone there in person. Per Denise, we have temperature data for 12 years, we should be able to look at trends when the data are formatted for analysis.
6. Budget Status Update
 - a. Budget status was presented by Jen and Tom. Two good prospects – Cooked Goose, Flipside. Expecting \$78K from Sandy, of which 24K will be retained. Hoping for 11K annual appeal, 48K Latner in Dec.
 - b. \$5,560 was moved from investments between meetings to pay current bills, based on annual budget approved in January. Tom asked for retroactive approval to follow general procedure to approve each funds move. Joe – motion, Donna 2nd, Tom abstain, all in favor.
 - c. There are some timing issues (e.g., Sandy grant). Cash flow problem between now and next meeting. Tom suggests planning long-term to keep at least \$30K in cash to avoid issues of tight cash-flow on a monthly basis. Alan made motion to move \$20K from investment accounts into checking, and review in November – Jen 2nd, all in favor.
 - d. Jen resigned as treasurer -- Tom nominated by Jen to be treasurer, Alan 2nd, all in favor.
7. Business drive – Alan will get back involved next week.
8. Ed Report – It would be useful to hear from Chris about what the latest issues are, and what he has been working on. Different formats of ED report have been tried in the past. The group

decided that we will try a 4-bullet format, where Chris will provide the bullets ahead of time to be put in the agenda. He will provide more detail at the meeting if needed.

9. Website redesign – Jon will engage on this.

Adjourn 8:08pm