

TPE Board Meeting
Tue, Jan 16, 2018 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM CST
Minutes

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

Scott Fulton, Jim Rogala, Deanna Pomije, Jerry Newman, Evanne Hunt, David Hamel, Rich Henderson, Jack Kussmaul, Alice Mirk.

Excused: George Howe, Jim Rachuy, Gary Eldred, Caroljean Coventree

Staff: Chris Kirkpatrick, Joe Rising

2. Adopt Meeting Agenda

3. Approve Consent Agenda – ACTION

- Accept minutes of Board & committee meetings

There was a motion by Alice Mirk to approve the Consent Agenda. Jack Kussmaul seconded it. The motion passed.

4. Treasurer's Report – Alice Mirk – ACTION

- Preliminary statement of financial activity through December 31, 2017

Alice Mirk reported on the statement of financial condition. We are pleased with how the end of the year went. We are in good. There may be additional end of the year income. The administration fees are still being calculated. The graphs were reviewed. There is a lot of annual variability, especially with central cash. The projected budget for 2018 looks on target. We are slowly increasing income. We are running very lean. We are doing well with major donors. Compass Club went up 33%. Board giving was low. TPE is fortunate with the Board members we have. We will discuss later if we still need a line item for the Board giving and review our tracking data. Total expenses were decreased. We met or exceeded most of the projections. We are spending money implementing the mission to manage and protect land and this is reflected in our finances. Questions were asked and answered. We had a really good year last year. Our approach is paying off. Thanks to everybody for a job well done.

There was a motion by Evanne Hunt to accept the Treasurers Report through December 31, 2017, Rich Henderson seconded it. The motion passed.

5. President's Report – Scott Fulton

- Chapter visits – UPDATE

Scott Fulton gave his report. Seven chapters have been visited. There is a training module in the Land Management Committee and the chapters are interested in this. The Landowner Services Initiative has received feedback. There will be a survey to document input. There is an idea of pooling chapter assets in a common land protection fund. The Leadership Development Initiative is receiving strong support. Chapters want sustainable leadership. There has been a lot of chapter leadership changes of late. Central Staff may b*e better termed Chapter Support Staff, this

resonates with most chapters. The financials are looking good and staff is doing a great job showing the numbers. Communication and Outreach is doing well as chapters are focusing on their membership. They want access to their membership data and numbers. We want to really think about membership and how we do this. This relates to staff work plans. We want to replace Timberlake. Communication and Outreach is getting results. Every chapter has a Facebook page now. There are a lot of land protection projects coming up. These are very exciting. The Executive Committee has discussed the next three year Strategic Plan. We won't work on a new one this year as the prior one is still on target. This will be determined later this year, how and what the process will be, especially given all the interest from chapters. The next one may be a significant shift

6. Executive Director Report – Chris Kirkpatrick

2017 year end major donor giving – UPDATE

Chris sent out a list of donors we are tracking. There were 62 transactions. There are interesting trends. There is positive growth. We did really well with these members and want to be in touch with them. It is fun to contact these people and thank them. We have had new Compass Cub donors already this year. Evanne asked about how many major donors did not give. She wants to see how successful she is personally and how effective the process is. What did we do to make these donations happen? This would be nice to know. Rich H. thinks they came on field trips. Statistics are bearing this out and will be shared at the next board meeting. This will be presented to the Fundraising Committee as well.

2018 staff work plans – ACTION

Chris Kirkpatrick spoke to the staff work plans. Joe will continue working with chapters, leadership and liaisons, communications. We will continue to focus on our successes and work off that. Chris and Joe have been working on an integrated communications and fundraising calendar for the year. Chris will keep working with the accreditation process. Chris is working on a dashboard for a snapshot of our financials and data. There are easements wanting to be donated. Alexander and Swenson prairies have been approved by the WI DNR. The core committees are very busy. There will be a migration to a new database this year. We know a lot more about what we will need for chapter interests and central goals.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

7. Finance Committee

2018 budget review – UPDATE

Alice Mirk reported on The Finance Committee. They recommend that the Board should accept the budget as prepared by staff and Winnie. We are very confident that we will be able to meet the projections. We will stick with the budget as passed.

OLD BUSINESS

8. 2018 summer picnic & 2019 winter conference future chapter hosts – UPDATE

Chris Kirkpatrick met with the chapter last week. The MN Driftless Chapter will be hosting it on the July 15th. Prairie Moon may be a site. Evanne Hunt said that the SCVC and CSC will cohost the annual Conference in 2019. The last two times it was at the University of Wisconsin–Stout. They make it affordable with easy access. The Prairie Bluff Chapter intends to take the 2020 conference!

NEW BUSINESS

.Evanne gave an update and request for Auction and Raffle items. Evanne sent out a spreadsheet prior and Joe will send a reminder tomorrow.

OTHER BUSINESS

Adjournment

David Hamel moved to adjourn the meeting and Jack Kussmaul seconded it. The motion carried and the meeting ended at 8:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joe Rising
Communications Coordinator

2018 Board Meetings:

Sunday, February 25th 9:00 am at UW La Crosse WI

Tuesday, May 15th 7:00 pm via GoToMeeting

Sunday, July 15th at picnic Minnesota Driftless Chapter to host

Saturday, September 15th at TPE office in Viroqua, WI (time TBD)

Tuesday, November 13th 7:00 pm via GoToMeeting

Tuesday, December 11th 7:00 pm via GoToMeeting