

Maine Council Trout Unlimited
May 20, 2009
IF&W Region B Headquarters, Sidney
Call to order 7:04 p.m.

In Attendance:

Georges River: Dan Daly, Chairman
Kennebec: Steve Brooke, Secretary; Gary Corson; Greg Ponte
Sebago: Bill Oleszczuk, NLC Delegate
Somerset: Craig Denis, Vice-Chair; Jim Veilleux, Treasurer
TU National: Jeff Reardon, New England staff

Secretary's Report - Brooke

Minutes of Council Meeting 10/29/2008

➤ **MOTION to table pending availability of written copy** –Brooke/Ponte – passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report – Denis

No change in Sunkhaze balance and no change to Trout Camp balance

➤ **MOTION to approve as explained** – Dennis/Ponte – passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS:

1) Forest Society of Maine & West Branch Easement:

- The Chair has had no response to Council's letter of last fall
- Denis reported that the anticipated Stewardship Committee meeting was not held as expected last winter.
- Denis reported that Dr. Max McCormick, a FSM Board member and Stewardship Committee member had expressed similar concerns to those Denis found.
- Council discussed follow-up letter to reinforce concerns of Council. The Chair will follow-up.

2) Blueback Charr

- Council members expressed frustration with the Department's lack of response to the Maine Council's letter of concern;
- Several Council members expressed continued concern about the Department's approach to protection of blueback charr.
- There was extensive discussion about the current risks to the remaining populations of blueback charr. Principal threats come from
 - current stocking practices by the Department
 - illegal introductions of competing species
 - over-harvest of the remaining populations of blueback charr
 - impacts on habitat from land use.
- Council discussed options that could be pursued and the potential impacts each approach:
- State of Maine Endangered Species Listing and what would be required to document this status:

- Special legislation at the State level to create additional protection
- Federal Endangered Species Listing and what would be required to document this status.
- **MOTION for the Chair draft a letter to John Boland and to continue to work with the agency to improve the status of blueback charr– Denis/Ponte**
 - passed unanimously.

3) Wild Brook Trout

Council has been invited to list potential projects for wild brook trout restoration projects in the State of Maine for a potential funder. Council identified the following:

- Big Reed Pond reclamation
- Lower Penobscot Watershed culvert effort in partnership with TNC – a multi-year effort is needed with Steve Koenig as Project Manager
- Chop & Drop in-stream restoration in partnership with the Maine Forest Service
- Skowhegan area watershed survey of Whitten Brook
- The Jam Black Brook project scheduled for summer 2009 has a \$16K shortfall with \$72K in hand
- Upper Kennebec Wild Brooktrout Initiative has a \$200K shortfall with \$400K in available
- Conservation Success Index – a GIS analysis of wild & native waters
- Survey funds for un-surveyed streams from the A & B lists
- Bald Mt Pond – study of the impact of stocking of brook trout over blueback charr

NEW BUSINESS

1) Golden shiner trapping, Round Pond:

Reardon noted that what is needed is a formal plan with request, budget, and support letter from IF&W that includes:

- a formal assessment of the impact
- a baseline study

Dennis added that with a \$150 grant from Council would support the effort

- **MOTION to support this effort once the Department has provided a plan, a budget and a letter requesting support in the amount of \$150.** (Denis/Ponte)
 - Passed Unanimously.

2) Meduxnakaeg request for kiosk:

- **MOTION to contribute up to \$500 for materials for this project** (Oleszczuk/Ponte) - Passed Unanimously

3) Daly Print and other Fundraising updates:

- Chair Daly has provided Dan Legere with a copy of the print for sale in his shop.

- Extra copies of the print are needed for other consignment opportunities in Camden and at the American Museum of Fly Fishing
- **MOTION to provide \$300 a seed funds for printing and shrink-wrapping of prints and to place prints for consignment sale at 60/40 rate in stores and to use sale of proceeds for additional production charges as needed. (Ponte/Corson)**
 - Passed unanimously

- Proceeds from the sale of the Grand Lake Stream book have been offered to council in the amount of \$2,700
- **MOTION that Council accept this contribution and send a letter of thanks to the donor (Brooke/Ponte)**
 - Passed unanimously

4) **TROUT CAMP UPDATE**

- Ponte reported on applications for this season's Trout Camp
 - 6 in state applications
 - 6 out of state applications
- Ponte reported on fundraising for Trout Camp
 - \$459 proceeds from the Council's Rod Raffle
 - \$ from the Flyfishing Only casting contest. Council gave special thanks to Mike Holt for organizing this popular event and for his continued support of Trout Camp.
 - LL Bean is donating goods this year and any balance of funds will come in July
 - **There is a potential for a shortfall in the budget**
- **MOTION that Council will cover any budget shortfall this year and the budget will be revisited this fall. (Dennis/Brooke)**
 - Passed unanimously

5) **TROUT CAMP MATERIAL STORAGE**

- **Ponte** noted that Council now has a considerable inventory Trout Camp materials and supplies. KVCTU has rented a 10 X 20 storage locker in Sidney and he recommends that Council pay _ of the \$65 monthly change so that

- **MOTION that Council pay _ of shared storage locker space in Sidney with Kennebec Valley TU for Trout Camp materials and supplies (Denis/Ponte)**
 - Passed unanimously
- **MOTION That Council designate one person to act as Property Manager for the inventory of Trout Camp materials and supplies (Denis)**
 - Motion dies for lack of second

6) **Ponte reported that the Presque Isle Fish & Game Club has requested a team to teach fly tying to kids at a summer event.**

7) **National Leadership Congress Convention**

- Oleszczuk reported he may not be able to attend the NLC convention this year. He will send a proxy.
- **MOTION to nominate Greg Ponte as an alternate in the event Oleszczuk cannot attend (Brooke/Denis)**
 - Passed unanimously

- 8) WILD BROOK TROUT WORKING GROUP**
 - Chair Daly discussed IF&W's request for a new TU Council delegate to the IF&W Wild Brook Trout Working Group. Council unanimously designated Ponte to continue as representative. If an alternate is needed, Denis is to attend. Corson noted he is the official delegate from SAM to the IF&W Wild Brook Trout Working Group.

- **MOTION to ADJOURN** – Bowie/Ponte - passed unanimously 9:45 p.m.