

TENNESSEE TRAILS ASSOCIATION
2nd QUARTER 1999
MINUTES

The meeting was held as a weekend retreat for board and general members at Standing Stone State Park in Livingston Tennessee. The board meeting was held in two parts this quarter – first on Saturday evening May 15th 1999 and part two on Sunday morning May 16th 1999.

Present:

Jim Poteet	Gloria Norrid	Fount Bertram
Eric Wilson	James Leininger	Libby Francis
Dave Walton	Susan Weber	Margaret Dixon
Harold Draper	Don Coffman	Suva Bastin
Arleen Barnett	Patti Shaw	Denise Charvoz

Also present were: Vi Biehl Jack Bastin
Al & Vera Churcher

Minutes from 1st quarter 1999 were approved with one correction noted:

Rob Weber is also on the committee appointed to set policies and practices for the TTA small grant program.

CHAPTER REPORTS were given in a chapter chair meeting held by Libby Francis on Saturday afternoon May 15th.

After a pot luck supper, board members held part one of the board meeting and discussed the following items.

TENNESSEE RAILS TO TRAILS COUNCIL (Jim Poteet) The Tennessee Rails Advisory Council (TRAC) has requested T.T.A. to consider their organization as a potential associate member of Tennessee Trails. Jim Poteet has been invited to their next board meeting (June 12th) and will go to gather more information. He will then report back to the T.T.A. board at our summer meeting and the issue will be discussed further. Some of the major concerns with their organization is their promotion of multi-use trails, while T.T.A. focuses on foot use only and how the monies and membership would be handled if they were to become an associate member. Jim Poteet will also invite TRAC to be a guest at our Aug/summer 1999 meeting so they can become more acquainted with T.T.A. also.

ENDOWMENT FUND (Jim Poteet) An investment committee has been set up to invest these funds for our associate organizations (currently Cumberland Trail). The committee is made up of: TTA president, treasurer, all regional reps, and a rep from each associate organization. A motion was also made to authorize the president and treasurer to take the necessary actions to invest the funds per the committee recommendations.

MEMBERSHIP (Jim Poteet) Jim went over the membership history sheet (from in our folder). For some reason we are not maintaining our membership. There may or may not be a solvable answer for this, but we need to be aware of it. Offering more diversity in hikes and building up more hike leaders were suggested as some helpful solutions.

COVE LAKE CHAPTER We were to recognize the Cove Lake chapter officially at the board meeting, but there wasn't anyone present from the chapter. There was a scheduling mix-up and they'd planned a work day. A motion was made and seconded to recognize the chapter anyway and to provide them with seed money (\$100.00).

CTC REPORT (Susan Weber) Breakaway was a great success and Susan thanked all participants and donors for their contributions and support. A first quarter 1999 report was handed out stating their goals and objectives. (A copy of this is included with these minutes). They remain active in working with land owners for site surveys and acquisitions.

U.T./MARTIN (Gloria Norrid) There remains an ongoing effort to establish a possible new chapter in this area. Margaret Dixon (the interim West Tenn. rep) and Gloria will continue to pursue this interest.

KENTUCKY TRAILS ASSOCIATION Discussion was held regarding what involvement we should take: It was agreed that TTA would offer support and encouragement to their organization. We would determine specific support efforts as situations and needs arose.

POTENTIAL BY-LAW CHANGES (Jim Poteet) A committee was appointed to work on potential by-law changes and report back to the board at the summer 1999 meeting. Any requested changes will then be brought before the general membership at our annual meeting in November 1999. The committee is comprised of: the president, all regional reps, vice president, treasurer, Fount Bertram, and Eric Wilson.

OFFICER NOMINATIONS (Jim Poteet) Between now and the next board meeting, Jim Poteet will talk with each board member to seek nominations for the upcoming vacancies of: vice president and west Tennessee regional rep. The nominations will then be presented to the board for consideration.

DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS LIABILITY INSURANCE (James Leininger) A motion was made and seconded to table this issue until the summer 1999 board meeting so more information can be gathered. Concern was also expressed in making sure this policy would cover our associate organizations.

1999 AWARDS (Jim Poteet) Nominations for the Bill Stutz and TTA awards need to be submitted so the board can vote on them at the summer 1999 meeting.

1999 ANNUAL MEETING (Fount Bertram) Reservations have been made at the Dubose Center in Monteagle. Fount is very satisfied with the progress of the plans. The August newsletter will have all the details and reservation forms for the membership to start registering for the annual meeting.

2000 ANNUAL MEETING (Suva Bastin) Suva has checked locations and reported Land Between the Lakes as a good possible location. Brandon Spring group camp would be available the second weekend in November 2000. They also have cabins and provide meals. The date (Nov. 10- 11- & 12, 2000) and location were approved by the board and Suva will pursue securing this location for the November 2000 annual meeting.

FUTURE BOARD MEETINGS (Jim Poteet) Everyone enjoyed the weekend

format of the Spring board meeting. It was decided to keep the Spring board meeting as a weekend retreat (open to all the membership) with alternating east and west locations. Reelfoot was recommended as the Spring 2000 board meeting location with the Memphis (west) chapter as hosts. The summer and winter board meetings will be held in Nashville and the fall meeting will continue to be combined with the annual meeting.

The next board meeting will be held at Libby Francis' home (2104 Snook Drive Nashville). Libby graciously volunteered to host a cook out in her back yard after the meeting. PLAN B: In case it pours down rain, we will have the meeting at the L&C tower in downtown Nashville (4th & Church streets).

ANNUAL AUCTION 1999 (Arlene Barnett) Arlene will get a group together to work on this year's auction. It will probably be made open to the general public. This will require more solicitations on our part and to help, we will have a workshop on solicitation (for auction items) at our summer board meeting.

TTA SPONSORED HIKES Arlene Barnett will coordinate a TTA sponsored hike once per quarter. No particular chapter will be responsible for the hike. The hikes will try to be near a state park or such so people can easily make their own reservations if they decide to stay over. The hike will be announced in the newsletter and will hopefully generate even more interaction between chapters.

Patti Shaw
Recording Secretary
T.T.A.
May 28, 1999

EVAN MEANS SMALL GRANT PROGRAM (Jim Poteet) A sample grant application was presented to board members (in their folder). A non-profit group with like objectives of TTA may apply for a grant. Possible sources of funding for the grants are: royalties from "Hiking Tennessee Trails" book, profit from books and merchandise sales, designated contributions, special fund raising projects, grants from other sources, and allocation of operating expenses (from regular membership fees). Also mentioned was the interest from life membership investment fund earnings. This will require a by-law change to use this source. The board voted to present this by-law change to the general membership at the annual meeting in November 1999. There was one descending vote to this motion.

It was agreed that the treasurer would give the board a report at the summer 1999 meeting of the funds amount available for small grants. The deadline for grant requests would be December 31st and the grants would be awarded in mid February. A grant awards committee was voted on and comprised of: all regional reps, treasurer, president, and vice president. It was further agreed that the vice-president would be a non-voting committee member of this group.

WEST TENNESSEE REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVE Margaret Dixon was voted as interim regional rep for West Tennessee. She replaces Ray Burkett who resigned. Ms. Dixon will serve through December 31, 1999. In January 2000 elections will be held to determine a full term West Tennessee rep.

BY-LAWS AND CHARTER (Jim Poteet) There was a unanimous vote to change our by-laws to be consistent with our corporate charter.

Meeting was adjourned for the evening.

Sunday morning May 16th 1999 Board Meeting continued.

TREASURER'S REPORT (James Leininger) We have added a couple new life memberships. The ending balance is @\$1,200.00 and there is @\$4,000.00 in savings. We are in "comfortable" shape per James. (A copy of the treasurer's report is included with these minutes).