

TENNESSEE TRAILS ASSOCIATION  
2nd Quarter 2001 Board Meeting Minutes  
May 19, 2001 Norris Dam Reservation, Tennessee

1. Welcome. The meeting was called to order at 1:30 p.m. at the TVA Picnic Pavilion at Norris Dam Reservation by Libby Francis, President.

Attending were the following Board members:

Libby Francis, President

Leigh Jones, Vice President

Barbara Matheson, Treasurer

Harold Draper, Past President

Arleen Scheller, East Tennessee Regional Director

Eric Wilson, Big South Fork Chapter Representative

Siler McCarty, Cove Lake Chapter Representative

Keith Mertz, East Tennessee Chapter Representative

Fount Bertram, Murfreesboro Chapter Representative

Dan Brennan, Nashville Chapter Representative

Also present were:

Jack Bastin, Clarksville Chapter

Suva Bastin, Clarksville Chapter

Anna Bertram, Murfreesboro Chapter

Diane Boxx, East Tennessee Chapter

Jim Clark, Northwest Chapter

Jim Deming

Ed Dippold, Cove Lake Chapter

Faith Dippold, Cove Lake Chapter

Nancy Fraley, Tennessee Valley Authority

Charlie Jones, Plateau Chapter

Rosemary Lynch, East Tennessee Chapter

Diane Manas, Newsletter Editor

Bob Rock, Tennessee Rails-Trails Advisory Council (TRAC)

Bob Rock

Russell Smith, Columbia Chapter

2. TVA Trail Issues. Nancy Fraley, newly appointed TVA Natural Area and Trails Coordinator, provided an overview of TVA Natural Areas and trail issues. She explained that TVA has three classes of administratively designated natural areas: small wild areas for recreation, habitat protection areas for endangered and threatened species protection, and ecological study

areas for outdoor education. Major issues are invasive exotic plants, all terrain vehicles, and horses. In the past, TTA has assisted with trail maintenance at Hemlock Bluff, Whites Creek, and Short Springs Small Wild Areas. A new small wild area on Tellico Dam Reservation needs trail development. A new trail has recently been developed at Douglas Dam Reservation. Several persons present asked about the status of Foster Falls Small Wild Area, and it was explained that current plans are to keep it under joint state-TVA administration. It has become an internationally famous rock climbing area, and the rock climbers are helping to maintain the area.

3. Approval of minutes from First Quarter 2001 Board Meeting. The board minutes were reviewed and approved with no changes. Francis explained that Globe Pequot is holding onto the copyright for the Tennessee Trails book, and will sell copies until they are exhausted. The search for a new publisher is temporarily postponed until there is a change in the copyright situation.

4. Treasurers Report. Barbara Matheson, Treasurer, presented a corrected budget for 2001, which reflected changes recommended at the 4th Quarter 2000 meeting. In the income area, retiree membership and royalties were removed. A new budget item was added for the Kentucky Trails Association startup. She announced that TTA was having a cash balance audit conducted in order to meet requirements for granting agencies. The audit is needed to confirm that TTA is well managed. The Board approved the corrected budget and treasurer's report.

5. Insurance. Matheson reported that because of the capital campaign for the Cumberland Trail Conference, the insurance limits for employee dishonesty were increased to \$100,000. Two quotes were obtained, and a policy was purchased for \$503. Liability insurance for the Board of Directors will cost about \$1000 for \$1 million worth of coverage. A more complete proposal will be presented at the next Board of Directors meeting.

6. Membership. Francis reported that new brochures have been printed. They have the same text as the old brochures, but are bright yellow.

7. Newsletter. Diane Manas, Newsletter Editor, reported that the newsletter has grown to 12 pages. This requires an increased postage rate for mailing, and she presented an advertising rate sheet for members to hand to potential advertisers. A guide to consistency in submitting newsletter items, including

hike schedules and hike reports, was handed out.

8. Annual Meeting. Leigh Jones, Vice President, reported on behalf of the Plateau Chapter that the annual meeting is November 9-11 at Camp Carson in Newport. A wide range of accommodations will be available, ranging from motel rooms to camping. Because the camp is affiliated with a church denomination that discourages alcohol, no alcoholic beverages will be allowed.

9. Chapter Reports.

East Tennessee. Keith Mertz reported that hikes are averaging 15 hikers. Rosemary Lynch of the chapter described a community grant program that her company promotes that will likely result in a grant to TTA. The company recognizes employees who devote their time to community service and provides a \$500 grant for 50 hours of community service. Trail maintenance, trail construction, education, leadership, and administrative duties can count towards eligible community service. Lynch has been attending East Tennessee hikes and accumulating hours towards the grant award.

Murfreesboro. Fount Bertram stated that new leadership is emerging and that the chapter is working on a new park in Murfreesboro. The big event will be the chapter's National Trails Day event on June 2 at Edgar Evans State Park on Center Hill Lake. The chapter intends to construct 8 additional miles of trail. Donations have been received of food, water, insect repellent, hats, t-shirts, and socks for volunteers. About 200 people are expected. In response to a request for soft drink donations by Diane Manas, Barbara Matheson agreed to donate funds for soft drinks for volunteers. Other chapters, including Clarksville, Columbia, East Tennessee, Murfreesboro, Nashville, Plateau, and Upper Cumberland will send delegations to the event.

Big South Fork. Eric Wilson stated that the chapter is doing well. The current major project is the re-opening of historic Rugby trails from the 1880s. The historic trail to Gentlemen's Swimming Hole has been re-opened.

Clarksville. Suva Bastin reported that the chapter has been involved in the Ashland City rail-to-trail project and is represented at project meetings. TTA also has been represented at local publicity events such as Earth Day and the Spring Fling at Dunbar Cave.

Nashville. Dan Brennan described the large attendance that the chapter meetings draw, and also reported on the Earth Day event, which the chapter hosted with Team Green (a club organized by a local radio station) and the YMCA.

Northwest. Jim Clark reported that meetings have regularly drawn 10 to 15. A recent highlight has been the float trip with the Wolf River Conservancy.

Cove Lake. Siler McCarty reported that trail hikes draw 12 to 15. On National Trails Day the chapter will lead familiarization hikes on three new trails at Cove Lake State Park.

Plateau. Leigh Jones reported that the chapter will have events at Black Mountain on National Trails Day, and also will send a delegation to Edgar Evans.

#### 10. Associate Organization Reports.

Tennessee Rails-Trails Advisory Council. John Rock described the difficulties of participating in the rail abandonment process. Trail advocates have to obtain the support of a local government, who must file a notice of intent to assume liability. Then a negotiation process takes place with railroads. Many potential greenways can be envisioned, if trail advocates can act fast enough when a rail abandonment is announced. The Board discussed rail-trail issues, and it was pointed out that Kentucky was one of the most progressive states in the rail banking area.

Cumberland Trail Conference (CTC). Arleen Scheller stated that the Conservation Fund was purchasing 5,000 acres of land in Hamilton County on behalf of the CTC to use as a trail corridor. The land contains three complete river gorges. CTC now needs to raise \$3 million in the next 3 years to pay for it. A new trail from Cove Lake to Devils Racetrack (the rock formation overlooking I-75) is being built. CTC will have a concert on National Trails Day in Chattanooga at the Mountain Opry. The concert is partially funded with a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts. Kickoff events for the capital campaign will be held in Nashville and Norris. Arleen presented CTC's Cumberland Trail Award for 2000 to Faith and Ed Dippold at the Board meeting.

#### 11. Regional Representative Reports. Arleen Scheller,



1

East Tennessee Regional Representative, described volunteer work at Devils Backbone in Lewis County. There may be potential for new chapters in Hohenwald and Spring City. The Southeastern Regional Trails Conference will be held in April 2002 at Cloudland Canyon State Park in Georgia. The focus of this meeting will be on linking all the long-distance trails into a cohesive system.

12. Committee Reports. A draft copy of the new hiking handbook was passed out, and Diane Manas stated that this document also needs advertisers to recover expenses and make monies available for other TTA projects. Fount Bertram reported that the slide show is expected to be completed by the annual meeting.

13. The Third Quarter Board of Directors meeting was scheduled for August 18, 2001 at Murfreesboro.

14. Other Business. Harold Draper passed out National Public Lands Day brochures. TTA has for three years worked in partnership with Big South Fork National Recreation Area on this event, which will be held this year on September 29, 2001 on the Blue Heron Loop Trail. Libby Francis reminded the Board to be thinking of nominees for the annual awards. These should be submitted to Libby for discussion at the August Board meeting. Libby also noted that Fount Bertram has been recognized as the American Hiking Society volunteer of the year for Tennessee. Finally, Libby reminded everyone to use official sign-up forms on every hike. These contain important emergency contact information and risk information for hikers. The meeting was adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

submitted by Harold Draper  
4907 Shannon Lane  
Knoxville, TN 37918  
865-689-7757

Return-Path: <h.m.draper@att.net>

From: h.m.draper@att.net

To: libbyslibbys@home.com, cejones@webtv.net, bmath@mindspring.com, snappyl@mindspring.com, jpoteet@genesco.com, jlenski@lurgipsi.com, bdraude@mts.edu, scheller@usit.net, ttahiker@msn.com, sandbar@multipro.com, screendoor@bigfoot.com

Cc: dianemanas@home.com, robweber@usit.net, helena@cookeville.com, jclark@utm.edu, osrwodan@aol.com, gnorrid@yahoo.com, keithmertz@hotmail.com, webmaster@tnrica.org, todd1966@aol.com, modelt@charter.net, ericavi@infoave.net

Date: Thu, 24 May 2001 02:00:55 +0000

Attached please find the May 19 BOD minutes. Libby or Patti: Could you mail a copy to those who do not have e-mail?

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