

**Tennessee Trails Association
First Quarter 2003
Board Meeting Minutes
February 1, 2003**

Those present for the First Quarter Board meeting of the Tennessee Trails Association, held on Saturday, February 1, 2003, at the St. Bernard Academy Building, Nashville Tennessee, were as follows:

Fount Bertram
Anna Clark
Jim Clark
Jim Deming
Libby Francis
David Furse
Carol Haley
Ray Haley
Bill Hamilton
Bob Hemminger
Charles Jones
Leigh Jones
Sarah Knoch
Spenser Knoch
Gloria Lenski
Jerry Lenski
Diane Manas
Brent Morris
Beverly Neurock
June Parker
Jim Poteet
Doug Ratliff
Russell Smith
Sandra Spearman
Susan Turner
Rob Weber
Susan Weber
Anne Wesley

The Agenda was as follows:

1. Welcome. Leigh Jones, TTA president, opened the meeting at 1 p.m. and welcomed all present, including the new chapter chairs and guests. She thanked Fount Bertram for presiding at the last Board meeting.
2. Approval of minutes for 4th Quarter TTA Board meeting. The minutes were approved as corrected.

3. Treasurer's Report. Carol Haley distributed the Balance Sheet as of December 31, 2002, and the Profit and Loss Sheet. She reported that the organization is in "good condition" and that three new life members have been added. The Budget Committee met prior to the Board meeting and discussed the proposed budget for 2003. This committee recommended cuts in the cost of publishing and mailing newsletters, and they recommended that chapter mailings be reduced to five newsletters. A recommendation was also made for trying to reduce costs for the Membership Directory. Four Evan Means Grants were awarded for a total amount of \$3,000.00 as follows: Cumberland Trail Conference, \$1,000 for Big Dig Trailbuilding; WATeR, \$600.00 for Tellico Trails to implement a trail system along the eastern shore of the Tellico Reservoir; Northfield Elementary, \$800.00 to help with the Northfield Conservation Study Area (Sparta); and North Cumberland PTO, \$600.00 for a one-mile trail on the campus of this Cumberland County school. In discussion following the report, members agreed that the budget for the next year needs to be in place by the November meeting. The budget committee will meet in August to begin preparing the 2004 budget.
4. Membership Director's Report. Anne Wesley distributed a list of the VIP deletions from the newsletter list. There was discussion about other deletions and those who should receive newsletters. After discussion of other membership concerns, a motion was made to further define the term "supporting member" as anyone who gives a total of \$50.00 or more. The motion was seconded and passed. Another motion was made that a TTA family lifetime membership be offered in the amount of \$750.00. This motion passed.
5. Evans Means Grant Recommendations. Of the seven grant proposals submitted, four were awarded by the committee. (These grants are listed above in #3.) A motion was made and seconded that the Board accept the recommendations of the committee. The motion passed.
6. Annual Meeting. The 2002 meeting update has been completed, and Jim Poteet has the notebook to pass on to Beverly as plans are being made for the 2003 meeting. (Note: East Tennessee, Big South Fork, and Cove Lake are hosting the 2003 Annual Meeting.) The comment was made that the 2002 meeting was a "great meeting," and all agreed. The 2003 meeting may be in Townsend, and the dates may be Nov. 1-2. A motion was made as follows: that without prior Board approval, up to \$700.00 can be used as a deposit for holding space/rooms for the annual meeting. This motion was seconded and was passed.
7. Associate Organization Reports. TRAC and TCV: Jim Deming updated the group about activities associated with TRAC and TCV. He spoke of "still talking" plans in the Ducktown/Polk County area, an area that would be "a wonderful recreation corridor." He also described work in the Ashland City area and other possible areas where trails might be built, including a possible trail from Cordova to Memphis. "We're watching a lot a areas," he said. Jim also noted that

a complete report for Tennessee Conservation Voters (TCV) appeared on Page 1 of the February issue of *Tennessee Trails*. For additional information about specific bills under discussion, contact Jim directly. (Members agreed to hear this report before a break and to have the chapter reports and the CTC report after break.)

8. Chapter reports were given by representatives as follows: Bob Hemminger from Big South Fork; Bill Hamilton from Clarksville; Russell Smith from Columbia; Leigh Jones reading Cove Lake's report; Leigh reading Cumberland Gap's report; Beverly Neurock from East Tennessee; Doug Ratliff from Highland Rim; Gloria Lenski from Memphis; Martin McCullough from Murfreesboro; David Furse from Nashville; Jim Clark from Northwest; Charlie Jones from Plateau; Susan Turner from Soddy Daisy; and Leigh for Helen Anglemier from Upper Cumberland. After giving a general report, each representative addressed how its chapter advertises activities and promotes interest among members and potential members. From a multitude of interesting hikes to holiday parties to various types of promotions, TTA chapters are indeed getting the word out about events! Local media, e-mail, the TTA newsletter, the TTA Web site, and word of mouth seemed to top the most popular avenues of communication.

CTC: Sandra Spearman, CTC representative on the TTA board, Rob Weber, CTC director, gave the CTC report. Two awards were given for 2002: to Terry Bonham (CTC) and to Pete Berntsen (Bob Brown Award). The CTC Balance Sheet (as of December 31, 2002) was distributed and explained as was the CTC Profit and Loss Previous Year Comparison (January through December 2002). It was noted that a \$300,000 debt remains on the Rock, Possum, and Soddy Gorges but "we made it last June and will make it this June." Many activities are in place and being planned in order to help complete the CT by 2008. Sandra reported on plans for the 2003 Spring BreakAway program and said that 17 schools are planning to come. "Since 78 students are coming the first week, trail builders and many other volunteers are needed," she said. The third annual CTC auction is in April, and plans are underway for this big event. There was a general call for volunteers for The Big Dig, "a big deal for all involved!" This eight-week program (May 11- July 18) needs TTA volunteers. Carol Haley will be cook for the Big Dig.

9. Regional Representative Reports. The West Tennessee At-Large Director is Jerry Lenski, and the Middle Tennessee At-Large Director is Brent Morris. The position of the East Tennessee At-Large Director is still vacant. Jerry reported that he has contacted *The Jackson Sun* about publicity and has left materials at Outdoors, Inc. in Jackson. Brent reported that he has spoken to the Kiwanis Club and presented a slide show. He would like to do more trail building in the area and would like to coordinate some trail building opportunities in the Middle Tennessee area.

10. Newsletter Report. Diane Manas gave a report about the changes in paper, printing, and mailing costs in relation to the newsletter. She said that there have been lots of improvements but still urged everyone to write clearly and concisely.
11. Committee Reports. The first order of business came from the Nominating Committee. Jim Poteet explained that since Carol is retired, that the committee would like to nominate June Parker for the position for TTA treasurer. June has lived in Nashville for 10 years and is a professional in accounting and financial systems. A motion was made and seconded to name June Parker as the new treasurer. The motion passed.

The nominating committee is still working on naming someone for the East Tennessee Representative position.

Other committee membership was noted as follows:

Evan Means:

June Parker, Libby Francis, Leigh Jones, Brent Morris, Jerry Lenski,
Fount Bertram, Jim Poteet

National Trails Day:

Arleen Scheller, Fount Bertram, Leigh Jones, David Furse, Brent Morris,
Jerry Lenski

Finance:

June Parker, Fount Bertram, Leigh Jones, Rob Weber, Libby Francis,
Gloria Lenski, Jim Poteet

Organizational/Development:

Jim Poteet, Jim Clark, Dan Brennan, Brent Morris, Gloria Lenski, Anne Wesley,
Leigh Jones

12. Old Business. Fount reported that one can join the American Hiking Society for \$15.00 and recommended this organization. Fount also talked about the SE Foot Trails Coalition and announced the dates (Oct. 17-19) for the upcoming meeting. He said that there has been "a groundswell of excitement" about the building of trails from Key West to Canada. Fount has more information for those interested.

There was a reminder from Diane to have publicity information go through the hike coordinators or chapter chairs. She spoke of the general publicity mailings to newspapers.

There was discussion of Evan Means' book *Hiking Tennessee Trails* and of the status of the copyright. Falcon has publishing rights and rights to the title. There was discussion about the possibility of republishing the book. Marietta Poteet volunteered to help pursue and explore possibilities.

The chapter chair notebook project is ongoing.

The next Board meeting will be on May 3 at the St. Bernard Academy Building,
Nashville

13. New Business. Anne mentioned the logo registration for Tennessee Trails. In other new business, there was discussion of a letter to be sent to Governor Bredesen about the importance of the Cumberland Trail and completing this trail.

14. At 5:12 p.m., there was a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Anna Clark
TTA Secretary

**2003 Board of Directors
Tennessee Trails Association**

Elected Officers

President: Leigh Jones (Plateau)
Vice-President: Fount Bertram (Murfreesboro)
Secretary: Anna Clark (Northwest)
Treasurer: Carol Haley (Memphis) through Jan. 2003; June Parker (Nashville)
Membership: Anne Wesley (Nashville)

At-large Directors

West Tennessee: Jerry Lenski (Memphis)
Middle Tennessee: Brent Morris (Murfreesboro)

Ex-officio Members

Past President: Libby Francis (Nashville)
Past President: Jim Poteet (Nashville)

Chapter Chairs and Board Representatives (*)

1. Big South Fork: Bob Hemminger
2. Clarksville: Bill Hamilton
3. Columbia: Russell Smith
4. Cove Lake: Richard Helm
5. Cumberland Gap: Rosemary Register and Barbara Smith
6. East TN: Beverly Neurock (Oak Ridge/Knoxville)
7. Highland Rim: Doug Ratliff (Tullahoma Area)
8. Memphis: Betty Porter
Gloria Norrid Lenski (*)
9. Murfreesboro: Martin McCullough
11. Nashville: David Furse
12. Northwest: Jim Clark (*)
13. Plateau: Charlie Jones
14. Soddy Daisy: Susan Turner (Charlie Jones and Fount Bertram)
15. Upper Cumberland: Helen Anglemier

Associate Organization Representatives

Cumberland Trail Conference: Barry and Sandra Spearman
Tennessee Rail-Trail Advisory Council: Jim Deming

Newsletter Editor: Diane Manas

TTA Board of Directors

(Alphabetical Listing with addresses)

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Jim Deming, TRAC Representative

Libby Francis, past president
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David Furse
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Leigh Jones, TTA president
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Jerry Lenski, Memphis Chapter, West Tennessee Representative
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(Diane Manas, newsletter editor)
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Beverly Neurock, East Tennessee
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June Parker, TTA treasurer, Nashville
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