

**Tennessee Trails Association**  
Second Quarter Board Meeting  
May 06, 2006  
Ellington Agricultural Center

Attendees: Anne Wesley, James Hubert, Leigh Jones, Carolyn Miller (proxy for Sandra Spearman), Jim Schroeder (proxy for Anna Bertram), Gary Cooper, Suva Bastin, Richard Savage, Donald Dresser, Rosemary Marshall, Merri Hinton, Jim Johnson, Brent Morris, Sherrie Yokley, Bob Richards, Diane Manas

- I. Welcome. Meeting called to order at 1:00 PM by TTA President, Anne Wesley.  
Fount and Anna Bertram at SEFTC  
Paul Freeman at SEFTC

II. Corrections to and approval of 2006 1st Quarter Minutes. Approved and seconded as written.

III. Treasurer's Report. LouAnn Partington not able to attend.

- We have not paid dues to Tennessee Conservation Voters, but have not been billed. Anne Wesley will check into this issue.
- Protocol for disbursement of grant money.
  - Write check to chapter and have chapter write checks to cover the expenses.
  - Could set up a separate account for projects.
- Amazon.com.
- Hiking Tennessee Trails — once received royalty money.
  - Out of print, so no longer get money from this source.
  - We no longer have the copyright and been told that the owner of the copyright, Globe Pequot Press is not interested in publishing or in letting go of the copyright.
  - Archives or Bob Brown might have the document to show that gets the royalties.
  - Logo on cover of last edition by Alan Stokes.
  - Each chapter writes favorite hikes.

IV. Membership Report. Garnett Rush not in attendance.

- Memphis and Murfreesboro growing the most rapidly.

V. Cumberland Trails Conference

(a) Representative Report. Handed out a report about Breakaway 2006. Reported on Big Dig South in Rock, Possum, and Soddy Gorges (May 22 – June 30, 2006) and Big Dig North in the Smoky Mountain Backcountry Site (May 31 – June 19, 2006) Jim Schroeder - Looking for routes between Suck Creek and Patton lands into the Signal Mountain area.

(b) Friends of the Cumberland Trail

- The group exists and we believe that they have non-profit 501 (c) (3) status.
- Arleen Decker is the organizer and Fount Bertram is on their advisory board.
- This group is not the same as the Cumberland Trail Conference.
- Every park is being pressed to form a "Friends Group".

(c) TTA Board Resolution authorizing Paul Freeman to sign state contract. (see handout – e-mail from Bob Fulcher, Cumberland Trail State Park). Issue was brought up by the need to have authorization. Motion by Leigh Jones, with typographical corrections, seconded by James Hubert, motion passed with no opposition.

(d) Update on 501(c)(3) status.

(See handout – memo from Steve J. Eisen)

Opinion concerning the 501 (c) (3) status of TTA and CTC. This lawyer does not believe that there would not be much problem and he spells out the steps.

The next step is for the Cumberland Trail Conference to decide what to do next.

Jim Schroeder: "CTC Board feeling we think that this might have to happen, so go on with it." Will probably need to pay for some of the legal fees associated, so we should be prepared to accept some cost and there would be some cost for CTC as well.

Options: CTC operate by our by-laws as currently written or make a change to the TTA by-laws to allow for the current mode of operation.

Discussion: Needs discussion at the annual meeting rather than at a "special called meeting", so need an informational meeting at the Annual meeting to allow for all members to get the same story.

Suggest: Put info in the newsletter and have info available on Saturday morning and be prepared to vote on the issue at the annual meeting.

Action: Anne to get info about cost of reorganization from the lawyer.

VI. TTA Regional Representative reports.

(a) Middle TN Representative. Brent Morris.

- Columbia/Franklin Chapter has begun building a trail at Stillhouse Hollow.
- Jim Schroeder – Walls of Jericho update. State of Alabama is on hold because until a floral inspection can be done. The Tennessee side is open, but cannot get to the waterfall unless you bushwhack. Up to 20 miles of trail once the project is done.
- National Trails Day trail building project scheduled.
- Short Springs – proposed suspension bridge on hold.

(b) Approval of Don Dresser as West TN Representative.

Don introduced himself.

- Lives in Jackson, Tennessee
- Retired lawyer.
- Replaces position vacated by Jerry Lenski.
- Motion made, seconded, and passed.

(c) East TN Representative Vacancy

VII. Chapter reports.

Clarksville – Merri Hinton

- By sending e-mails to previous year members, two have rejoined.

Columbia/Franklin – Sherri Yokley

- Trail Building projects: Stillhouse and Short Springs.
- Used TTA display at Thompson Station Event.

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### Cove Lake – Brent Morris

- At least once a month, do trail maintenance in Cove Lake area of Cumberland Trail. Will have a new person sending in newsletter information.

### East Tennessee – Rosemary Marshall

- Losing some membership.
- Hike regularly.
- Hiking Coordinator has resigned.
- June – annual picnic will be a weekend camp trip to Indian Boundary.
- Meeting to train new hike leaders.

### Highland Rim – presented by Brent Morris.

- Meet 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each month at Western Sizzling.
- February meeting – Park Manager from Tims Ford talked about new trails, including a canoe trail.
- March meeting – Joint meeting with Friends of Short Springs.
- April meeting – Rick White, Natural Resource Manager at Arnold Air Force Base property.
- Currently, the chapter is section hiking the perimeter trail at Suwannee.
- One member is hiking the Appalachian Trail.

### Jackson – Gary Cooper

- Meet at Perkins restaurant for past few months. Getting some new members.
- Natchez Trail State Park – hoping to work to upgrade or build trails.

### Memphis- no report

### Murfreesboro – presented by Jim Schroeder.

- Edgar Evins Earth Day
- Gaining one or two members a month.
- Beginning backpacking hikes.

### Nashville – Jim Johnson

- Membership stagnant.
- Booth at Master Gardner's and Earth Day at Centennial Park.
- Annual picnic – June

### Plateau – James Hubert

- Annual picnic - July
- Membership stagnant
- Hiking Rules for Wednesday group – ask Jim McCullough to allow for distribution to the TTA Board Members.

### Upper Cumberland – Richard Savage

- Getting some interest from Tennessee Tech students

### VIII. Soddy Daisy Chapter update.

- Youngest chapter.
- Randy Dicky and Bill Bryant are potential contacts for this area.

### IX. Southeastern Foot Trails Coalition update – No report, as meeting of SEFTC is this weekend.

### X. TTA Communication Issues

#### (a) Hiking Handbook – Diane Manas.

Has a new edition and has solicited two ads.

#### (b) 2006 Membership Directory

- Expensive to publish and mail – options:
  - i. New edition to only go to new members or to old members that will buy the directory.

Motion: Use newsletter to solicit ads to be included in the membership directory to help offset the cost of producing the directory. Motion made, seconded, and passed.

(c) Use of TTA Listserver. An item was sent to the listserver concerning selling of public lands.

Limit to: notices of hikes, etc, or will need board or editorial committee permission. Motion: Listserver will be used only for TTA related issues, such as hikes, unless prior approval by the board or editorial board.

### XI. National Trails Day

#### (a) Greenway and Trails Workshops – Bob Richards.

May 15 - Nashville and June 2 – Chattanooga.

Trail planning, funding and partnerships, health aspects.

Cost: \$65

Five events on TTA website that have not been registered.

They need to be registered on the National Trails Day website.

#### (b) Middle Tennessee Activity. Brent Morris.

Trail building at Walls of Jericho sponsored by TWRA.

Need to bring your own tools.

### XII. 2006 Annual Meeting Update

Passed around pictures of Brandon Springs.

Passed out solicitation materials to chapter chairs.

Have reserved the entire Brandon Springs facility.

Hope to plan some non-hiking activities.

Allocation of proceeds from the auction and bake sale at the 2006 annual meeting. Motion: Jim Johnson moved that the proceeds go to the CTC breakaway program with second by Jim Schroeder. Motion passed.

### XIII. Old Business

(a) Earth Day events summary. See above.

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### (b) Stillhouse Falls Trail Grant.

- Discussion: An officer needs to be the one handling the money.
- Grant (\$2000) from Tennessee Parks and Greenways given for trail building work at Stillhouse Falls.
- Set up a separate account to allow for money to be written out of that account.
- Write a check to the chapter and then have the chapter write checks for any expenses.

### XIV. New Business

(a) Nomination of Awards. For the August meeting, need nominations for the TTA Award, Bill Stutz Award and the Golden Squirrel Award.

(b) 2007 Annual Meeting. Plateau chapter is scheduled to be the host.

### XV. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 3:40 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn Miller  
TTA Secretary