

**Tennessee Trails Association  
Board of Directors' Meeting Minutes  
Saturday February 3, 2018  
Bob Brown Building - Warner Park  
Nashville TN**

**PRESENT:** Carolyn Miller, Kathy Woods, Jackie York, Joan Hartvigsen, Jane Coffey, Mary Etta Ward, Jim Poteet, Linda Latter, Doug Burroughs, Bob Obohosi, Paul Schwab, Marvin Caine, Melinda Pearson, Nancy Allen, Lynn Takacs,

**ABSENT:** Cheryl Heckler, Garnett Rush, Rosemary Marshall, Charlie Bright, Tony Jones, Jennifer Carroll

**GUESTS PRESENT:** Paul McCullough, LouAnn Partington, Suva Bastin

**Meeting called to order by Carolyn Miller, TTA President, at 1:05 p.m.**

**Welcome and Introductions – Carolyn Miller**

**Approval of all minutes from weekend of October 14 – 15, 2017**

The Minutes of the October 14, 2017 Annual Membership Meeting were amended to include the Highland Rim chapter report which should have been included in the document. A motion was made by Joan Hartvigsen to accept these minutes and seconded by Mary Etta Ward. Motion carried.

<TTA 2017 Annual Membership MTG FINAL Nov 3 2017 - Amended Approved attached>

The 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter October 15, 2017 Board Meeting Minutes were amended to add Sara Pollard to the Present list and correct a typo to change the word 'complied' to 'compiled' in the Annual Meeting Summary paragraph. A motion was made by Kathy Woods to accept these minutes and seconded by Paul Schwab. Motion carried.

<TTA Board Mtg Oct 15 2017 FINAL Nov 3 2017 - Amended Approved attached>

The October 15, 2017 Organizational Meeting Minutes per the new bylaws were amended to include Jim Poteet as volunteering to serve on the new Strategic Planning committee. A motion was made by Joan Hartvigsen to accept the minutes and seconded by Mary Etta Ward. Motion carried.

<First TTA Meeting with new bylaws FINAL Nov 3 2017 Amended Approved attached>

**Treasurer's Report – Kathy Woods**

Kathy Woods had circulated six financial documents (some revised) to the board members for review before and during the meeting.

TTA Q4 2017 Inc & Exp

TTA Year 2017 Inc & Exp

TTA Net Worth 12.31.2017

Finance Committee 1.5.18

2018 Chapter Allocations

2017 Budget vs. Actual.xlsx.

Kathy asked for questions on the reports and there was discussion and reviews with the board. Discussion on the budget for 2018 resulted in amendments to increase the printing / reproduction expense amount and to fund Utilities (conference calls) expense with \$200. A motion was made by Joan Hartvigsen to approve the 2018 budget as amended and seconded by Bob Obohoski. Motion carried.

<Feb 3 - 2018 Budget (Approved) attached>

<TTA Year 2017 Inc & Exp - rev 2.3 attached>

<TTA Q4 2017 Inc & Exp - rev 2.3 attached>

## **Membership Report – Carolyn Miller in Cheryl Heckler's absence**

Two membership related reports were circulated to the board members by Cheryl Heckler before this meeting, requesting discussion on several items noted in the Membership report.

Discussion ensued on the matter of a grace period to allow expiring members to receive a newsletter 1 to 2 months after their membership expires. A motion was first presented to allow a one month grace period by Linda Latter and seconded by Kathy Woods. Motion was denied. A second motion to allow a two month grace period was presented by Mary Etta Ward and seconded by Bob Obohoski. Motion carried.

Another item discussed was limiting the number of VIP per chapter and determining an expiration date for a VIP member. No motion or action was determined at the meeting.

<Feb 3 - Membership report 1st Quarter 2018 attached>

<Feb 3 -TTA Membership 1st Quarter 2018 Charts attached>

## **Evan Means Grants – Carolyn Miller**

An Evan Means Small Grants Program request in the amount of \$600 was received prior to the Board meeting for the Trails for Kids 2018 Renovation Project at the Don Davidson Park in Fayetteville, TN. This application was reviewed by Carolyn Miller and Joan Hartvigsen to be presented to the board for approval. It is requesting tools for their volunteers to do needed maintenance and some rerouting of trails to help with the flow and directions on the trails. A motion was made by Jim Poteet to approve and seconded by Marvin Schwab. Motion carried.

A request to repurpose a 2017 Evan Means Small Grant that was funded for \$1000 was received from CTC on the day before the board meeting. This was not used at that time due to low volunteer turnout for the CTC Big Dig so the request was to re-purpose awarded funds for the purchase of back-up tracks for their Ditch Witch machine and then use the difference between the tracks cost and the awarded amount to purchase needed tools for the Spring BreakAway 2018. Carolyn Miller and Joan Hartvigsen reviewed and submitted the grant repurpose to the board for approval. A motion was made by Kathy Woods to approve and seconded by Bob Obohoski. Motion carried.

Jim Poteet stated that the Evan Means Grant program should be referenced in the bylaws.

## **Annual Meeting Update – Carolyn Miller / Suva Bastin**

The 2018 annual meeting will be hosted by the Clarksville chapter the weekend of October 26 – 28 at the Brandon Springs Group Center in Dover, TN. The emphasis will be on TTA's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary being celebrated this year, and they are asking for ideas and suggestions from all the membership.

Carolyn Miller requested a board vote on the use of fund raising proceeds from the annual meeting. Discussion ensued about what had been done in the past and suggestions on the possible uses. It was suggested that proceeds from both silent and live auctions, bake sale, and white elephant sale be designated to the Evan Means Grant program and all other proceeds could be used at the discretion of the hosting chapter. A motion was made by Jim Poteet to approve and seconded by Mary Etta Ward. Motion carried.

## **Committees – Carolyn Miller**

Carolyn Miller requested that all committee assignments be completed and discussion ensued on what is need to get that done.

The Finance committee consists of Kathy Woods, June Callahan, and Jennifer Zahn. A motion was made by Paul Schwab to approve and seconded by Marvin Caine. Motion carried.

Awards – as per bylaws: Joan Hartvigsen and Garnett Rush.

The Membership committee consists of Cheryl Heckler and two of the Regional At-Large Directors of Garnett Rush and Joan Hartvigsen with an opening to be filled when the West At-Large Director is filled. A motion was made by Joan Hartvigsen to approve and seconded by Jackie York. Motion carried.

The Communication committee consists of LouAnn Partington, Jim Poteet, Jeff Steele, and Doug Burroughs.

The Evan Means Grant Program committee consists of Carolyn Miller, Joan Hartvigsen, and Marvin Caine. A motion was made by Kathy Woods to approve and seconded by Linda Latter. Motion carried.

The Website committee consists of Doug Burroughs, Carolyn Miller, Jim Poteet, and Melinda Pearson. A motion was made by Bob Obohoski to approve and seconded by Marvin Caine. Motion carried.

The Bylaws committee consists of Carolyn Miller, Jim Poteet, Bruce Whitehead, Kathy Woods and Linda Latter. A motion was made by Paul Schwab to approve and seconded by Mary Etta Ward. Motion carried.

## **Old Business**

**Website Update** – There was discussion regarding getting this process back on track. The two previous proposals need to be resubmitted after confirmation they are still accurate so further discussion can ensue at the May 5<sup>th</sup> board meeting about making a decision on this.

## **Chapter Reports**

### **Clarksville** – Paul Schwab

No report

### **Columbia / Franklin** – Marvin Caine

We held our first meeting of the year on Tuesday January 2. Three new members of our chapter were in attendance. We planned hikes for the the first quarter of the year. We are now back to scheduling two hikes a month. We will be going to Bluebell Island again the end of March. Our next meeting is in April.

### **East Tennessee** – Rosemary Marshall absent

No report

### **Highland Rim** – Mary Etta Ward

Since co-hosting the 2017 TTA Annual Meeting the Highland Rim Chapter has been hiking and camping. We hike close to home and far away. We lead easier hikes and strenuous hikes. Several of our hikes have been joint hikes with the Murfreesboro Chapter. The strenuous hikes include Collins Gulf Loop, Gahuti Trail at Fort Mountain State Park, Fiery Gizzard Trail and the Brady Mountain Trail section of the Cumberland Trail. We camped at Fort Mountain State Park, Chatsworth Georgia and stayed in a Cumberland Mountain State Park cabin and hiked the Pioneer Trail and Brady Mountain trail. The easier hikes included Short Springs State Natural Area, sections of the Sewanee Perimeter Trail and Old Stone Fort State Park.

We have helped build new trails at Sherwood Forest and maintain trails at Short Springs State Natural Area. We meet monthly for a meal, meeting and a program. We have enjoyed two parties. Marcia Medford hosted our Christmas Party at her Sewanee home. A hike to Piney Point preceded the Christmas Party. Jim and Marietta Poteet hosted their annual Chilly Chili Hike. This party was preceded by the Sherwood Forest Hike, the newest trail at South Cumberland State Park. Many TTA members from the Middle Tennessee Chapters attended the Poteets Chilly hike in Sherwood Forest and the Chili lunch at the Poteets' Clifftops home.

Our Chapter Chair, Mary Etta Ward, invited Stuart Carroll to present a program at our November meeting. Stuart Carroll is Manager of Virgin Falls State Natural Area and Lost Creek State Natural Area. Stuart has served as Park Ranger at Fall Creek Falls State Park for many years. He is co-author of the second edition of "Hiking Tennessee: A Guide to the State's Greatest Hiking Adventures." Manager Carroll shared the State's long term plans for extending trails in the Lost Creek State Natural to Virgin Falls State Natural Area and Fall Creek Falls State Park. Stuart also explained how trail descriptions and maps are accomplished and spoke about some of the newer trails listed in the book.

We have planned many exciting outings for 2018. These include camping and hiking at Frozen Head State Park, Cataloochee Area of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park, Balsam Mountain and Roan

Mountain State Park. We have scheduled camping at Big Hill Pond State Park and a Ghost River Paddle. And we are just getting started!

We are grateful to all our hike leaders and hikers/campers who participate in these activities.  
Thank you, Joan Hartvigsen

### **Jackson** – Melinda Pearson

The Jackson Chapter plans hikes from September 1 through April and occasionally into early May. We typically schedule two hikes a month. We suspend our hiking in the hot season, although usually we have a midsummer outing which is a float trip, or other outing centered on a water feature. From August thru April, we gather once a month at dinner for planning meetings.

Since last September we have hiked Big hill Pond SP, Timberland SP on the Natchez Trace Highway, Tishomingo SP (Mississippi), Chickasaw SP, Mousetail Landing SP, Fall Creek Falls SP, Pinson Mounds State Archaeological Park, and New Johnsonville State Park. In November, several members also took a bicycle outing to ride a portion of the Rails to Trails network on a rail-trail head starting from New Albany, MS.

Our chapter membership numbers have remained steady in the last couple of years, despite a slight decrease in the TTA membership record. If there is a discrepancy, I believe it is due to some regular hikers who have let their membership lapse. I am working on getting them to renew membership.

### **Memphis** – Charlie Bright absent

No report

### **Murfreesboro** – Tony Jones absent

No report

### **Nashville** – Doug Burroughs

October - December 2017

- Nashville TTA. Chapter membership is 98 as of January 2018. This is an increase of 6 since the last quarterly report.
- Chapter Officers
  - Chair: Doug Burroughs
  - Treasurer: June Callahan
  - Hike Coordinator: Nancy Juodenas
  - Programs Coordinator: Nora Beck
- Ten **hikes** were scheduled and published in the TTA Newsletter:

- Montgomery Bell State Park in Burns TN
- Pogue Creek Canyon State Natural Area
- Shelby Bottoms Greenway in Nashville
- Nashville Urban Hike
- Bryant Grove Trail – Long Hunter State Park
- The Nashville Chapter's regular monthly meetings continue on the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of each month at the REI store in Brentwood TN, except that because we have the holiday party in place of the December meeting, there were two **monthly meeting topics** this quarter:
  - October: Kathie & Karl Dupre presented slides and stories about their backpack trip in Washington State.
  - November: Jason Allen and Leslie Anne Rawlings from Long Hunter State Park.
- The Nashville Chapter again **wrapped gifts** at the REI store in Brentwood in exchange for donations, with proceeds dedicated to the Cumberland Trails Conference. This year, \$535 was collected. We also received \$60 in sales of the Cumberland Trail book. This event was organized by Amy Sutton.
- Amy Sutton also continues to collect mail from the **statewide TTA mailbox** at the Melrose Post Office in Nashville and process as needed. Membership applications/renewals are forwarded to the Membership Director, etc.
- The Nashville Chapter continues to collate, label, fold, tab, stamp and mail out the printed copies of the **TTA Newsletter** each month. This process is coordinated by Diane Manas.

### **Plateau** – Bob Obohoski

The Plateau is sad to announce the passing of one of our long-time members. Bill Quattrociocchi recently died suddenly after a short battle with Leukemia. He is survived locally by his wife Carol who is also an avid hiker. Bill was active in our chapter as a hiker, treasurer, and social coordinator with Carol. He was active in his church, men's softball and pickleball. He was a friend to all and will be missed greatly.

During the last quarter of 017, the chapter hiked every week in places all over Tn. Several Members also did an overnight hike and camped.

We have been actively pursuing our self-imposed CTC 100 Mile Challenge with many successful completions.

Our membership has grown and we've enjoyed new hikers on the trail with us.

We look forward to new challenges in 2018 and are beginning the process of planning for the 2019 annual Meeting.

Submitted by Bruce Whitehead

**Soddy Daisy** – Nancy Allen

The Soddy Daisy Chapter continues to try and schedule hikes for Tuesdays & Saturdays. More members are becoming involved leading hikes and suggesting new trails. In December we had dinner at Olive Garden for members and spouses/friends.

We have been contacted by Get Out Chattanooga Magazine to highlight trails that are within ½-1hr. from Chattanooga that are not the most popular for their March issue. We are hoping that the staff writer, Myron Madden, who contacted us can come to our chapter meeting on Feb. 6 so he can meet us and we can share what we know with him.

Future plans include a 2 day hike with an overnight. Place has yet to be determined.

Nancy Allen (for Jean Smith)

**Sumner Trails** – Lynn Takacs

No report

**Upper Cumberland** – Jennifer Carroll absent

No report

Motion by Carolyn Miller to adjourn the meeting; Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 4:13 p.m. (CT)

Respectfully Recorded,

Jackie York  
Secretary, Tennessee Trails Association