

Tennessee Trails Association (TTA)
Minutes of the Board of Directors' Meeting
February 8, 2020
Nashville Hermitage Branch Library
Hermitage, TN

Call to Order/Welcome/Attendance

Meeting was called to order at 10:30 am by TTA President Mary Etta Ward, presiding. A quorum was present.

Members Attending: Mary Etta Ward, Linda Latter, David Bowling, Cheryl Heckler, Melinda Pearson, Libby Francis, Jane Coffey, Joan Hartvigsen, Terry Warren, Paul Schwab, Marvin Caine, Tom Bentley, Sara Pollard, Doug Burroughs, Bob Obohoski, Duane Frichtl, Cynthia Karrington

Members Absent: Garnett Rush, Rosemary Marshall, Mark Hubbard, Charlie Bright, Jean Smith

Chapter Chairs (non-voting) attending: Norman Brinsley, Jeanne Conatser,

Guests: Bruce Whitehead (Plateau), Cindy Bowling (Highland Rim), Ken Johnson (Clarksville)

Reports

Secretary—Melinda Pearson

Motion was made by Joan Hartvigsen to approve the Minutes of the 10-20-2019 Special Organizational Meeting. Motion carried. (Att. 1)

Joan Hartvigsen made a motion to approve the Minutes of the 10-20-2019 4th quarter Board of Directors Meeting, revised 11-17-19, and emailed to board members 1-31-20. Motion carried. (Att. 2)

Membership—Cheryl Heckler

Cheryl Heckler gave the Membership Report. (Att. 3, 4)

Treasurer—David Bowling

David Bowling gave the treasurer's report. (Att. 5, 6, 7, 8) Jane Coffey made a motion to accept the treasurer's report as presented. David Bowling presented the chapter allocation report for 2020. (Att. 9) Motion was made by Paul Schwab to accept the proposed 2020 allocations to chapters in the amount of \$1580.00, as presented in the report. Motion carried.

Evan Means Grants Committee

Joan Hartvigsen presented a grant petition for an Evans Means grant, recommended by the committee for funding. Motion was made by David Bowling, and seconded by Paul Schwab that the board approve a grant to Friends of Tims Ford SP in the amount of \$1,136.26, for cost

of storybook panels and lumber needed in the creation of a storybook trail. Motion carried unanimously. (Att. 10).

Old Business

Firearms Carry

Bruce Whitehead opened discussion of TTA's policy on firearms and weapons on TTA outings as set forth in the TTA Handbbok. The policy, he said, is in contravention with Tennessee open carry law. Motion was made by Paul Schwab to remove from the TTA Handbook the entire section entitled "Firearms". Motion carried.

Newspaper Production

Libby Francis, director of distribution for paper copies of the TTA Newsletter, gave a brief report. No action taken.

TTA Website Committee—Doug Burroughs

Doug Burroughs reported that after a process of elimination, and a face to face conference with Michael Richards, the committee recommends Richards Design Group as the website bidder best able to provide our website design requirements. Motion was made by Cheryl Heckler to contract with Richards Design Group for the design proposal they have submitted for a new TTA website at the contract price of \$16,700, which will also include design of a new TTA logo. Motion carried.

New Business

- MaryEtta Ward reported that a member of a chapter had approached her about giving TTA Life Members a certificate or similar recognition of being a Life Member. No action taken at this time.
- Tom Bentley proposed educational programs on topics related to hiking and/or the environment should be developed to broaden the scope of TTA events beyond trail hiking.
- Doug Burroughs gave an update of planning for the next annual meeting, Oct. 23-25, 2020, hosted by the Nashville Chapter.

Meeting was adjourned at 12:24pm by Mary Etta Ward.

Respectfully,

Melinda Pearson
TTA Secretary

Tennessee Trails Association
Minutes of the Special Organizational Meeting
October 20, 2019
Fairfield Glade Community Club Center
Crossville, TN

The Special Organizational Committee Meeting of the TTA Board to elect TTA officers and committee members, was called to order at 11:14am by Linda Latter, presiding for Mary Etta Ward, absent sick.

A quorum was present.

Members attending: Linda Latter, David Bowling, Cheryl Heckler, Melinda Pearson, Libby Francis, Jane Coffey, Mark Hubbard, Joan Hartvigsen, Terry Warren, Tom Bentley, Doug Burroughs, Bob Obohoski.

Members absent: Garnett Rush, Paul Schwab, Rosemary Marshall, Charlie Bright, Jean Smith, Cynthia Karrington, Sara Pollard, Lynn Takacs, Marvin Caine.

Chapter Chairs (non-voting) attending: Bruce Whitehead

Guests: Carolyn Miller, Cindy Bowling

Officer Elections:

Motion was made by Terry Warren and seconded by Jane Coffey to elect Mary Etta Ward as President. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Joan Hartvigsen and seconded by Libby Francis to elect Linda Latter as Vice-President. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Cheryl Heckler and seconded by Mark Hubbard to elect David Bowling as Treasurer. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Joan Hartvigsen and seconded by Doug Burroughs to elect Melinda Pearson as Secretary. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Libby Francis and seconded by Terry Warren to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

Seeing was adjourned at 11:20am.

Respectfully submitted,

Melinda Pearson
TTA Secretary

Tennessee Trails Association (TTA)
Minutes of the Board of Directors' Meeting
October 20, 2019
Fairfield Glade Community Club Center
Crossville, TN

Call to Order/Welcome/Attendance

Meeting was called to order at 9:04 am by VP Linda Latter, presiding for President Marietta Ward, absent, sick. A quorum was present.

Members Attending: Linda Latter, David Bowling, Cheryl Heckler, Melinda Pearson, Libby Francis, Jane Coffey, Mark Hubbard, Joan Hartvigsen, Terry (McCoy) Warren, Marvin Caine, Tom Bentley, Sara Pollard, Doug Burroughs, Bob Obohoski, Lynn Takacs

Members Absent: Garnett Rush, Paul Schwab, Rosemary Marshall, Charlie Bright, Jean Smith, Cynthia Karrington

Chapter Chairs (non-voting) attending: Bruce Whitehead

Guests: Carolyn Miller, Cindy Bowling, Tim Takacs

Reports

Secretary—Melinda Pearson

Board agreed by acclamation that as a Standing Rule, minutes of each Annual Membership Meeting should be approved by vote of the members at the next Annual Membership Meeting. A motion was made by Joan Hartvigsen, to approve the minutes of the 8-3-19 Board Meeting, revised as of 9-17-19. Motion carried. (Attachment 1)

Treasurer—David Bowling

David Bowling presented the Treasurer report. (Attachments 2,3, & 4) A motion was made by David Bowling to approve the Treasurer's report as presented. Motion carried.

Membership—Cheryl Heckler

Cheryl Heckler presented the Membership report. (Attachment 5). Motion was made by Tom Bentley to approve the membership report. Motion carried.

Awards—Joan Hartvigsen

Joan Hartvigsen presented the Awards report. Motion was made by Joan Hartvigsen to approve the Awards report. Motion carried.

Grants—Joan Hartvigsen

Joan Hartvigsen presented the Grants report. (Attachment 6). Motion was made by Joan Hartvigsen to approve the Grants report. Motion carried.

Nominating—Linda Latter

Linda Latter presented the Nominating report. Motion was made by Linda Latter to approve the Nominating report. Motion carried.

Old Business

TTA Website

Doug Burroughs presented the TTA Website report (Attachments 7,8,9,10, & 11)

Website committee member Mark Hubbard gave notice of his potential conflict of interest with one of the four website design bidders.

Joan Hartvigsen made a motion, that in the best interest of the Association, notwithstanding the conflict disclosure, Mark Hubbard be permitted to participate in discussion regarding our website selection. Motion carried on a vote of disinterested board members. A statement of rationale for this vote of permission, as required by bylaws to be included in these Minutes, is Mark's declaration that:

- The relationship he has with the conflicting party is "casual friend."
- He has no business or financial relationship with the conflicting party.
- He will voluntarily abstain from any vote wherein the conflicting party is under consideration in the vote.

TTA Newsletter

Libby Francis presented the TTA Newsletter production report.

New Business

A Life Member has asked the board to consider giving Life Member certificates.

Joan Hartvigsen made a motion to change the Association hashtag from #TTAHike to #TTAHikes . Motion carried.

Bruce Whitehead/Libby Francis reported financial returns for the 2019 Annual Conference:

Lynn Takacs made a motion to table until the next meeting a discussion led by Bruce Whitehead, concerning TTA Handbook policy that forbids the carry of firearms/weapons on TTA outings. Motion carried.

Bob Obohoski made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 10:57 am.

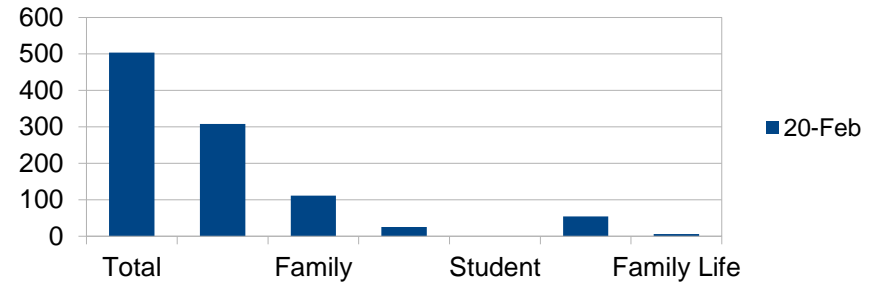
Respectfully submitted,

Melinda Pearson
TTA Secretary

TTA Membership Report for February 8, 2020 Board Meeting

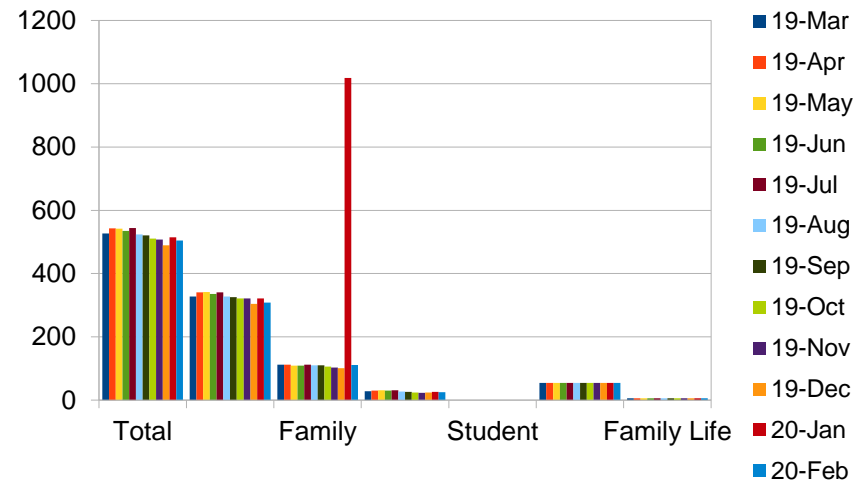
TTA Membership for October 2019

Date	Total	Individual	Family	Supporting	Student	Life	Family Life
20-Feb	504	308	111	25	0	54	6



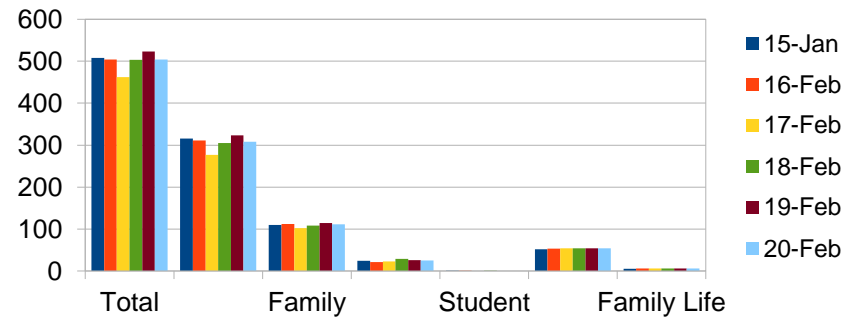
TTA Membership for past 12 months

Date	Total	Individual	Family	Supporting	Student	Life	Family Life
19-Mar	527	327	112	28	0	54	6
19-Apr	543	341	112	30	0	54	6
19-May	542	342	109	31	0	54	6
19-Jun	535	336	109	30	0	54	6
19-Jul	544	341	112	31	0	54	6
19-Aug	524	327	110	27	0	54	6
19-Sep	521	325	110	26	0	54	6
19-Oct	511	321	106	24	0	54	6
19-Nov	507	321	103	23	0	54	6
19-Dec	489	304	101	24	0	54	6
20-Jan	515	321	1018	26	0	54	6
20-Feb	504	308	111	25	0	54	6



TTA Membership for April in the past 6 years

Date	Total	Individual	Family	Supporting	Student	Life	Family Life
15-Jan	508	316	110	24	1	52	5
16-Feb	504	311	112	21	1	53	6
17-Feb	462	277	102	23	0	54	6
18-Feb	503	305	108	29	1	54	6
19-Feb	523	323	114	26	0	54	6
20-Feb	504	308	111	25	0	54	6



Responses from the question sent to new members from June 2019 thru January 2020:
Where did you hear about TTA? Please list all that apply.

(The number after the choice is how many chose that one. Some specify what newspaper, event, etc. they saw it at which is listed after the number)

- A) Internet Search such as Google
6
- B) TTA Facebook page
2
- C) Other social media, which was _____
0
- D) Other media such as Newspaper. Please list the name of the newspaper.
5
Newspapers: Gallatin, Crossville & Fairfield Glade, Portland Sun & Portland Leader, Chattanooga Times
- E) Friend or Coworker
17
- F) Saw a Tennessee Trails Newsletter or Event Poster which was located at _____?
2
Big South Fork Information Center in Crossville, Dunbar Cave State Park
- G) Booth at a public Event. Which Event?
1
outdoor expo this spring at Bells Bend
- H) Encountered a TTA member on a hike
5
- I) Other. Please specify.
5
REI events
Someone on a CA geology trip knew a TTA member

43 responded out of 87 new members.

Tennessee Trails Association
Chapter Allocations for 2020
Based on December 2019 Memberships
\$3 Per Member---Minimum \$100 Allocation

<u>Chapter</u>	<u># of Chapter Members</u>	<u>\$ Allocation</u>
Clarksville	33	100.00
Columbia/Franklin	18	100.00
East Tennessee	22	100.00
Highland Rim	51	153.00
Jackson	15	100.00
Memphis	43	129.00
Murfreesboro	45	135.00
Nashville	80	240.00
Plateau	45	135.00
Soddy Daisy	52	156.00
Sumner	44	132.00
Upper Cumberland	<u>21</u>	<u>100.00</u>
Total Allocation	469	1,580.00

EVAN MEANS GRANT PROGRAM --- FUNDING REQUEST

Grant recipient: Friends of Tims Ford State Park Date of Request: January 28, 2020

A brief description of the project for which funding is being sought:

Tims Ford State Park, in partnership with the Friends of Tims Ford State Park, is developing a Storybook Trail. Funding from TTA would cover the cost for the storybook panels to be made as well as the lumber to frame and hold the panels along the trail.

How does this project fit within the range of your organization's total activities?

Our job is to help Tims Ford State Park continually improve visitors' experiences through volunteer and financial assistance. The Friends of Tims Ford State Park is seeking funding for the project and will be working alongside park staff for the completion of the Storybook Trail.

Explain how hikers will benefit from the project:

The Storybook trail is designed to be read while walking the trail. Tims Ford State Park gets many school groups, especially during the spring months. These school groups will be benefitted through physical activity, learning about the natural world, and through literacy with the book panels. The book that has been purchased also contains educational materials for teachers that hit a variety of topics and educational standards. In addition to school groups, the park hosts hikes that can be done on this trail as well as camps throughout the course of the summers. This project will also be self-guided so that anyone will be able to benefit from the trail.

When is the project expected to begin?

Park staff has already begun the project. The books have been purchased, a user agreement is in place, and the sign shop that will be making the panels has a digital copy of the book and is ready to begin the process of developing the panels as soon as funding is acquired.

When is the project expected to be completed?

We hope to have the project completed by April 11th, if not sooner, so that it is in place and ready before the bulk of the school group field trips begin.

What is the total cost of this program from all sources?

Total cost for this program is \$1,335.26. This includes the price of lumber, hardware, the panels and artwork fees, and the copies of the books we have ordered.

Provide a detailed spending plan for the amount being requested from TTA:

\$219.30- Lumber from Home Depot: 2x4x10—Qty 25 and 4x4x8—Qty 10

\$11.96- Hardware from Home Depot: 1 box 3.5 inch screws and 1 box 2 inch screws

\$905- HighTech Signs: Storybook panels and artwork fees

\$1,136.26 Total requested amount. Note: Most grants are \$1,000 or less. We can absorb the difference if granted \$1,000.

How many total man-hours will be required for the project?

From planning to installing, an estimated 50-125 Park Staff man hours will be used. This includes meetings with management, park staff obtaining the books and planning the project, and will include park staff hours on the park's tractor during installation.

How many volunteer hours are expected to be used for the project?

Tims Ford State Park is currently working on a partnership with the local high school shop class to build the frames for the story book panels. The Friends of Tims Ford will also be volunteering to build any amount of frames that are unable to be completed by the school as well as to help install the panels along the trail on installation day. This is an estimated 150- 250 volunteer hours.

Grant submitter's name: Laura Qualman

Email: qualj@aol.com Telephone: 615-260-1281