

# NWCT Chapter of Trout Unlimited

## Minutes of meeting

April 3, 2018

The April meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM at the Knights of Columbus by President Ken Ludwig. There were 21 people present.

Prior to the Secretary's Report, Bob Hart started a discussion based on a recommendation from Alicea Charamut. Alicea suggested doing away with the reading of the Secretary's and Treasurer's Reports during the meeting to focus on more of the committee reports and actions of the Club. She thought this would be of more interest than the reading of reports, and if someone was interested, they could see the reports on the website. The opposing view felt the readings did not take much time and got people refreshed to what was going on and give them a chance to question or add to what was being done. A motion was made, seconded and a vote held with the result of continuing to read the reports at the meeting.

As a result, the Secretary's Report for March was read by Secretary Bob Hart and was accepted as read.

The Treasurer's Report was given by Scott Richie. There is \$3516.01 in our treasury. There is a second account which was set up for Amazon donations which has \$5.00 currently. The treasurer's report was accepted as read.

The "Trout in the Classroom" report was given by Dick Heffernon. Dick reported the Winchester School was looking to start a TIC program this fall.

Ken announced our first fishing get together of the season to be held at the Blackberry River on Friday, April 20<sup>th</sup>. We will be gathering at the Beckley Furnace off the Lower River Road in Canaan.

Jeff Yates talked about needing volunteers for a kid's conservation project planting trees and shrubs on the Salmon Kill River on April 24<sup>th</sup>. Tracy Brown is coordinating this event. Volunteers should contact Ken Ludwig or James Quadrino.

There is a State Council meeting on April 24<sup>th</sup>.

Bill Richie requested our club give a \$200 donation to the Kid's Fishing Derby on the Farmington River, as we've done for the last several years. The derby is held on opening day in Riverton. A motion was made, seconded and passed to donate \$200 again this year.

Ken told the members there would be no meeting in May (originally scheduled for May 1<sup>st</sup>) as we would hold our second fishing event on May 12<sup>th</sup> at the Legends on the Farmington River off River Road. The event will run from noon until dusk, with a board meeting and general meeting starting at 10:00 AM.

Ken said there were still six openings for a one-on-one Spey Fly Casting instruction on the Farmington River. Cost is \$50 per person and you can contact Ken if interested.

Ken asked for a committee to start meeting for preparation of our next fundraising banquet. Ron Leoni and Scott Richie will set up the committee.

There was a fly swap this evening.

The program for this evening was a presentation by Jeff Yates, President of the Mianus TU Chapter and TU National Director for Volunteer Operations. Before Jeff's talk, he mentioned there were two volunteer opportunities – 1) to help re-plant areas on the Macedonia Brook in Kent after breaching the dams, and 2) the Salmon Kill project mentioned above. Jeff talked how TU's mission was more than just conservation, it was to Protect, Reconnect, Restore and Sustain. Jeff mentioned TU, like most volunteer organizations, had to deal with tough meeting attendance. He offered some suggestions such as 1) do a variety of fun things, 2) invite everyone, 3) be welcoming and nice, 4) build partnerships, and 5) build relationships. He said success takes time and is measured by more than meeting attendance – it is best to measure involvement of any kind by members and non-members alike.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 PM. There will be no formal meeting in May, but we will have a fishing event on May 12<sup>th</sup> (see above). The June meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 5<sup>th</sup>, 2018 at the Knights of Columbus in Torrington.

Respectfully submitted,

Bob Hart  
Secretary, NWCT Trout Unlimited