



Washington Fly Fishing Club

April 7, 2020 - 5:15pm

Phone-in/Screen Sharing Free Conference Call meeting

	OFFICERS			COMMITTEE CHAIRS	
Jim Goedhart	President	P			
Dexter Brown	1st VP - Membership	P	Robert Thorpe	Conservation	P
Neal Hoffberg	2nd VP - Programs	P	David Ehrich	Creel Notes	
Lily Cutler	3rd VP - Christmas Party	P	Neal Hoffberg	Education	P
David Spratt	Treasurer	P	Pat Becker	Fruit & Flowers	P
Deborah Katz	Secretary	P	Robert Thorpe	IFFF Coordinator	
Marcia Kindinger	1 st Ghillie	P	Kris Kristoferson & Steve Sunich	Home Waters	
Ben Porter	2 nd Ghillie (non-voting)				
	TRUSTEES		Dave Schorsch	Outings	P
John Gravendyk	Past President	P	Bob Birkner	Photographer	
Tom Neu	Trustee	P	Cooper Hartman	Publicity	P
Jim Young	Trustee	P	Lily Cutler	Raffle	P
Gary Bergquist	Trustee	P	Pete Baird	Senior Advisor	
Dick Brening	Trustee	P	Matt Reat	Co-webmaster	
John Narver	Trustee		Mel Fry	Webmaster	
Greg Crumbaker	Trustee	P	Chuck Ballard	WFFC Heritage	P
	GUESTS		Greg Crumbaker	WFFC Foundation	P
John Gravendyk	WFFC Foundation	P	John Gravendyk	Youth	P
Jim McRoberts		P	Bill Neal	Awards	

P = Present

President

President Jim Goedhart opened the meeting at 5:15 p.m. with a quorum of thirteen officers and trustees. The March minutes were amended to note that WFFC will contribute some funds to STREAMGIRLS for waders as needed.

Committee Reports:

Education

Neal Hoffberg

Intro to fly fishing and fly casting have been cancelled. The fly tying round table is off the schedule until the church re-opens and people are comfortable about attending.



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Resumption of classes may not be until next spring.

Refunds will need to be provided to individuals who have already paid for their classes. It was suggested that they could be offered a membership for \$50 rather than a refund.

Neal has cancelled speakers for the May and June meetings so far.

AWARDS - Jim Goedhart for Bill Neal

The Boyd Aigner fly tying competition will be delayed until further notice.

FRUIT AND FLOWERS - Pat Becker

No report

OUTINGS

It was voted that all planned club outings would be cancelled through July.

CREEL NOTES - cut off April 12th

Youth - John Gravendyk

John recently reached out to a select group of new members (some who hadn't even been inducted yet). He was extremely pleased at the positive response from this group to not only serve as volunteers for our various youth programs but also their willingness to serve as Youth Committee members. The Committee is now formally made up of the following members.

Lily Cutler - a WFFC lead volunteer associated with The Mayfly Project and STREAM Girls

Ruth Sims - a WFFC lead volunteer associated with The Mayfly Project and Stream Girls

Kelly Brollier - a WFFC lead volunteer associated with STREAM Girls

Trevor Bennett - a WFFC lead volunteer associated with Gold Star Kids

Bob Young - a WFFC lead volunteer associated with Northwest Conservation and Fly Fishing Academy

While most of the activities associated with the Youth Outreach projects listed above are currently cancelled or "on hold", The Stream Girls event scheduled for October 2020 remains on the books. This



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will be a 3 day 2 night program at The Girl Scout owned Camp River Ranch near Carnation Washington. Lily Cutler, Ruth Sims and Kelly Broliier have all volunteered as mentor instructors for this event.

So far this year the Youth Committee has donated \$500 to the Fly Fishing Academy and has committed \$500 for the purchase of youth sized neoprene boot foot waders to STREAM Girls here in Washington State.

Our plan to associate with tried and true existing youth programs instituted by other organizations (Trout Unlimited, Mayfly Project, Gold Star Kids) seems like a winner and we can't wait to get on the water with the kids once this pandemic is behind us.

HERITAGE - Chuck Ballard

Chuck continues to get submissions from old print Creel Notes that will be archived for inclusion in a historical record of the club from 1989 to the beginning of on-line Creel Notes.

FOUNDATION INTERFACE - John Gravendyk has volunteered to be the WFFC Foundation interface with the club. He will talk to Mike Wearne in order to get regular up-dates to present to the Board. It was also requested by Jim Young that a "sense of the direction of the Foundation" be included in that up-date.

WEB SITE

Jim stated that the small glitches associated with getting into the web-site have been fixed.

Board Member Reports:

Treasurer

David Spratt

A budget report for the first quarter of 2020 was presented. As anticipated, there were changes to both spending and revenue due to COVID-19.

There was a lengthy discussion regarding the 2020 budget going forward. There will be an impact on revenue and expenses due to cancelled classes, dinners, speakers fees. It was suggested that budgeted enhancements to the website be removed. Deborah Katz pointed out that this is our only presence at the moment, so the website is crucial.

Dave Spratt will reach out to committee chairs to get up-dates on spending.



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Because the December fund-raiser is a major source of income to the club, anticipating alternatives, such as a virtual fundraiser, was considered.

Along with that, the question of people who won trips in the December 2019 seeking refunds was brought up and discussed.

Lily Cutler offered to draft a letter for people with pending trips which Deb Katz offered to edit. This will be presented and reviewed at the May board meeting.

It was agreed that Dave Spratt would be able to provide a single signature on outgoing checks to ensure a smooth process.

Quikbooks subscription was updated.

1st V.P. – Membership

Dexter Brown

Several members have paid but not been inducted yet.

3rd V.P. -- Christmas

Lily Cutler

Pending further discussion

Old Business:

- Tom Neu stated that there were numerous constraints associated with having a picnic at Meridian Park. (See new business)

New Business:

1. After much discussion, the Board voted that all Dinner Meetings, Outings, Classes and Fly Tying Forms be cancelled through July subject to the Governor's COVID-19 closure restrictions for the health and safety of the club's membership.
2. "Jim McRoberts, the club's lead for Project Healing Waters reported he has received from PHW Headquarters a proposed new MOU. The existing agreement is 4 pages; the new one is 13 pages. Gary Bergquist reviewed the agreement at the request of President Goedhart. Gary stated the proposed agreement included mandatory insurance requirements and imposed due diligence requirements pertaining to persons other than club members. Jim said he was told by the NW Regional Director of PHW that all of the Oregon TU clubs as well as some IFF clubs have refused to sign the proposed agreement. Jim said he has a call into PHW to explore options."



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3. Release of unmarked Hatchery Salmon and Steelhead Situation:
 - a. Our anadromous fish watchdog organization, The Conservation Angler, contacted me last week to see if the WFFC would join in an urgent letter to the Western State Governors alerting them to a potentially devastating decision to release all hatchery chinook and steelhead salmon un- marked (ie bypass the finn clip) in order to protect hatchery workers from the Covid 19 virus. This seemed suspicious to TCA who then drafted a letter to the Governors.
 - b. Jim circulated the letter to the WFFC Board early in the week for comment. The entire Board urged us to sign the draft letter. The final draft was signed by Jim Goedhart for the WFFC on Wednesday April 8.
 - c. On Friday April 9th we were notified by David Moskowitz, the environmental lawyer at TCA that late breaking news from the USFWS indicated that their position was changing. The letter was not sent.
4. Neal has been in touch with Jim Cox from Western Rivers Conservancy about providing a “virtual meeting.” Apparently, they have several that are already prepared.
 - a. Neal will ask if Dave McCoy would like to present in May.
5. Jim Goedhart has graciously offered his place for our August picnic. The costs that would be involved include renting PortaPotties, some chairs and tables. Tom Neu has a BBQ caterer that he likes very much. He charges a flat rate of \$1000. Additional costs would be for meats and the members could bring the sides. It was agreed that this would be a great option and very generous of Jim and Caroline to offer.

Meeting adjourned at 7pm

Deborah N Katz