



Washington Fly Fishing Club

April 2, 2024

Zoom Board meeting

	OFFICERS			COMMITTEE CHAIRS	
Danferd Henke	President	P	Bill Neal	Awards	
Jim Beck	1st VP - Membership	P	Robert Thorpe	Conservation	
Neal Hoffberg	2nd VP - Programs	P	David Ehrich	Creel Notes	
Gary Corra	3rd VP - Fundraising	P	Neal Hoffberg	Education	P
Kurt Peterson	Treasurer	P	Pat Becker	Fruit & Flowers	
Shelley Scheff	Secretary	P	Robert Thorpe	IFFF Coordinator	
Peter Schuitemaker	1 st Ghillie	P	Michael Nolan	Outings	P
	2 nd Ghillie (non-voting)			Photographer	
	TRUSTEES		Lily Cutler	Publicity	
Dave Spratt	Past President			Raffle	
Pat Becker	Trustee		Pete Baird	Senior Advisor	P
Jay Deeds	Trustee		Jim Goedhart	Webmaster	P
Mike Moscynski	Trustee	P	Eugene Bloundel	Webmaster	
Deborah Katz	Trustee	P	Chuck Ballard	WFFC Heritage	P
John Gravendyk	Trustee	P	Marcia Kinsinger	WFFC Foundation	
Chapin Henry	Trustee		John Gravendyk	Youth	P
	GUESTS		FFI Coordinator	Neal Hoffberg	P

P = Present

President

Danferd Henke opened the meeting at 7:02 p.m. with 10 officers and trustees.

Approval March Board Meeting Minutes:

On hold due to technological difficulties.



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BOARD MEMBER REPORTS:

PRESIDENT Danferd Henke

April's meeting will be held in the ballroom. Lynda Mapes will be inducted into the club at April's meeting.

Dan inquires if we should move all of the meetings into the ballroom. John G feels that the smaller room is more convivial but it did become crowded at the last meeting. Dan doesn't want to turn anyone away due to size limitations because he worries they will not come back. The Seattle Tennis Club recommends a size limit of 35 people in the small room but were able to accommodate 45 with tables extended into the adjacent room. John G is concerned that the meeting attendance numbers will go down in the summer months and the big room will feel too roomy. Neal says that tables can be arranged in the big room to feel more intimate if needed. Jim G asks if the next speaker will be in person. Neal responds, yes, the next speaker will be in person and he will be tying flies. Jim G expresses that if the speaker is in person, attendance will likely be improved.

Dan believes the WFFC should purchase a laptop for use at club meetings. He feels we can find one that will be appropriate for the club's needs for not a lot of money. Mike Nolan volunteered to research options for a new computer and purchase an appropriate device. The board authorized \$750 to spend on a new device, including a Microsoft 360 subscription.

Dan reports that the club needs someone with accounting experience to do the club's taxes. Kurt recommends looking into TurboTax for non-profit organizations.

Dan would like to start a new member mentor program. He asks for a small group to be formed to examine what the mentor program would look like. Chuck agrees that mentoring is a good idea. But he worries about having an obligation to go fishing with his mentee and coordinating schedules. He notes that the original sponsor program was usually just people being matched who were already friends. John G suggests bringing back the "new member outing". Peter S found that having a mentor for 2-3 meetings and 2-3 outings is all that he needed. He appreciated having someone to welcome him, provide suggestions for flies, follow-up at lunch, etc. He believes that after a brief period of mentorship, the new member should be able to integrate independently. Neal questions that since most of the club is still-water fishing, the new member has to have a boat or the mentor must have a 2-person boat. He worries



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about the legal responsibility of the mentor. Does having a mentor program bring liability? Jim G says that the key to involving new members is to get them to the meetings and involved in committees. He likes the idea of a “President’s Table”. Chuck suggests assigning a new member a mentor to provide information and connection while being sure they clearly understand the role of a mentor. Dan and Jim B will work together to come up with a description of the role.

TREASURER Kurt Peterson

Kurt provided a treasurer report for review via email. Please look at it.

Kurt also reports on a serious issue. BECU accidentally took money out of the WFFC account and put it into his personal account. The error has been rectified. He also received letters from the bank and sent them to Dan for proof of the error.

MEMBERSHIP Jim Beck

Jim reported that the club has 113 members. 97 people have paid their 2024 membership dues. 35 people have not yet paid their 2024 membership dues. There are 13 new members. Follow-up emails and a phone tree providing reminders to pay the dues have been completed. Jim G says that members who have not paid their dues should be suspended. There is concern that a lot of the club’s older members have not paid but it is recognized that they can come back if interested, they must simply pay more to be reinstated. Dan feels that we have gone through enough hoops to obtain dues payment. He also suggests giving a list of unpaid members to the Ghillie for the next meeting. Peter S suggests a possible cross reference with name tag to help ID those who have not paid at check in. Jim B says that some people are having legitimate difficulty signing on to the website. Those people have been given the option to send a check. Dan says that the club should suspend those who have not paid. Jim B questions if those members will even realize they have been suspended since they do not access the website. Kurt questions if suspending people actually helps obtain payment. Mike M shares that this is a long-standing problem. Other clubs automatically suspend members and he thinks this will be effective. He does note that those having difficulty are likely the non-tech savvy people with obsolete computers that make the website ineffective. Neal adds that if technology is truly the problem, Peter can take membership payment at the dinner meetings and/or payment can be sent via check.

Final decision - Jim B will send an email to everyone who hasn’t paid informing them of suspension and need to pay a penalty to be reinstated.



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PROGRAMS **Neal Hoffberg**

Neal reports that program topics/speakers are in great shape. David Williams will present at the April meeting about WA state's fly fishing opportunities and will tie beforehand.

FUNDRAISING **Gary Corra**

Gary reports there are no significant updates. He has picked up some donations.

Committee Reports:

Conservation **Robert Thorpe**

Robert is not present

Education **Neal Hoffberg**

Fly tying is underway with 1 person. Beginning casting class is also underway. Jim G notes that not a lot of people are signing up for the classes. Dan feels that more publicity is needed.

Fruit and Flowers **Pat Becker**

Pat is not present.

Outings **Mike Nolan**

There is an upcoming outing at Pass Lake on April 6, 2024. Mike has sent the reminder email. Lake Hannan is scheduled for April 27, 2024. Chopaka is scheduled for May 24-27, 2024. Dan is hosting Chopaka this year. He is considering another flash outing between Lake Hannan and Chopaka at Cady Lake. This flash outing will likely be mid-week. Neal adds that Richard Plunkett knows that lake very well. All outings have been posted on the WFFC website.

Publicity

No updates.



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Youth **John Gravendyk**

John reports that both the Mayfly Project and Youth Academy have received donations from the youth committee. 18 students from all over the country have signed up for the Youth Academy. A dormitory room has been added to provide additional accommodations. Jim G may have secured a donation from the Reddington/Sage parent company. Additionally, the Inland Empire Fly Fishing Club has donated fish hook remover tools.

Heritage **Chuck Ballard**

No update.

FFI **Neal Hoffberg**

FFI is hosting their annual casting event on May 4th at Lake Ballinger.

WFFC Foundation Interface **Jim Goedhart**

Jim reports the WFFC Foundation has made all of their donations.

Webmaster **Jim Goedhart**

No update.

Creel Notes **Ron Tesher**

No update.

OLD BUSINESS:

None.

NEW BUSINESS:

Dan will not be at the April meeting. Neal is leading. Mike will try to obtain a new computer in time for the next meeting. Jim G will bring his laptop as backup.



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Next Board Meeting

May 6th, 2024 at 7:00 pm

The meeting was adjourned at 7:57 by Danferd Henke.

Respectfully submitted

Shelley Scheff,
WFFC Secretary