

Pittsburg Anglers Association

**Meeting Minutes (Unapproved)
November 29, 2016**

Location: Buck Rub Pub, Pittsburg, N.H.

Present: Caron, Howe, Degray, DePontbriand, Bernhardt

Meeting called to order by Caron at 6:00 PM

Secretary/Treasurer's Report: Membership grew from 15 individual and 2 Business members in 2015 to 53 Individual and 3 Business members in 2016. Consensus was to continue outreach efforts at local businesses and also approach businesses that might like to join. We will also bring membership sign up forms to Marlborough, MA for the Fly Fishing Show. Those present agreed to increase donation levels in 2017 to \$20 for individual memberships and \$30 for family memberships.

Checking account was \$4463.24 as of 11/28/2016.

Balance as of 1/1/2016:	\$686.64
Memberships / Donations:	\$6953.35
Expenses / Stocking:	<\$3050.00>
Expenses / Permit:	<25.00>
Expenses / P.O. Box:	<\$66.00>
Expenses / Bank Fees:	<\$12.00>
Expenses / PAA Stickers:	<\$23.75>

New Business: A number of topics were discussed. The formation of officers and a board of directors for the association were agreed upon, which is a requirement to apply for 501(c) 3 status for the PAA. Those present agreed to the following: President - Howe, VP - Bernhardt, Sec./Treas. - Caron, BOD (2 positions) - DePontbriand, Degray. The association will have to adopt by laws as well, and Karen Caron has agreed to help the association move forward on this. We will have the proposed by laws for the January meeting.

It was agreed by those present that the PAA must apply for tax exempt status in order to file tax returns and hopefully increase memberships and donations. T. Caron proposed that Karen Caron take care of this process, as she has done this already for two organizations. Her fee (including legal services) would be approximately \$800, while the application process to the I.R.S. is normally \$850. Karen speculates that the process would take one year from the date of application to be approved.

In order to do this, we need Articles of Incorporation, which we believe that Rod DeGreef has applied for – Bernhardt will look in to this and get necessary paperwork from DeGreef.

2017 Stocking: After general discussion, all members present agreed that one stocking would be sufficient for the 2017 spring season – less stocking reduces cost of delivery of trout and permitting fees. Last year’s stocking budget was just over \$3000, and Howe made a motion of a budget of \$4000 for 2017. Bernhardt seconded motion. All agreed to \$4000 stocking budget for 2017. Howe will get in touch with Sumner Brook Hatchery to check on their schedule and availability of fish. Those present also agreed on stocking prior to Mothers Day weekend, and decided that Monday, May 8 would be the day to target. This day could be changed, depending on availability of Sumner Brook Hatchery. April stocking was discussed, but decided against due to unpredictability of snow runoff and resulting river flows.

Other Issues: Members present discussed the possibility of extending the fishing season on the Connecticut River to October 31 (same ending date for rivers in Vermont). Not sure if we’re looking just for the Trophy Stretch or extending to area below Murphy Dam. Bernhardt stated that he could contact NH F&G biologist Dianne Timmins to get her opinion of this.

Merchandising: Members present gave Caron permission to design and purchase stickers for 2017 – they are low cost and effectively get the PAA name out there and increase interest in the organization. Caron was also given permission to look in to purchasing hats for the organization to sell to the public at large.

Awareness: Depontbriand requested that we build boxes to distribute information and accept donations – the boxes would be placed at popular parking spots (1st Lake Dam, Bridge Pool) and would be checked periodically throughout the season. The members present pointed out that we would have to get permission from landowner to place such boxes. Depontbriand will check in to this.

Donations: Tall Timber guest Curt Kimbler donated several fishing items (rod, reels, etc.) for the P.A.A. to sell and use as a donation. Members present decided to hold off on advertising these items for sale (Ebay) until our tax status is resolved. In the meantime, the items will be housed at Caron’s abode.

Next Meeting: Tentatively scheduled to be held during the Fly Fishing Show in Marlborough, MA (January 20 or 21, 2017). Location will be in the bar at the Best Western Royal Crown Plaza.

Meeting adjourned at 8:15 PM. (Motion: Howe, 2nd DePontbriand)

