

**PSA Steelhead Association
General Meeting
8 March 2006**

Attendance:

Directors and Officers

- Doug Kramer, Matt Hrycyk, Glen Mills, Roy Tenney, Michael McSkimming, Brian Emerick, John Fuhrmann, Diane Krupinski, and Mike Hines, John Bodner, Wayne Anderson, and Ken Nulph.

Members

- There were 14 individuals present not including the Board of Directors and Officers.

Call to Order: 7:00 pm

Approval of Minutes:

- The meeting minutes of 8 March 2006 were approved unanimously.

Treasury Report:

- According to the Treasurer's Report, there is \$11,108.95 in various PSA accounts. A motion was made to approve the report, and it was seconded. The Treasurer's Report was approved unanimously.

Hatchery Report:

- According to Steve "Garth" Gdanatz, new crates had to be made since the older ones were falling apart. In general, everything seems to be going fine and the kiddies are doing great in their temporary home.

Old Business:

- March 25th will be the date for the annual Spring Run Tournament. We are hoping for better weather and participation this year. As in previous years, pizza, wings, soda, and beer will be on the menu. This is a catch and release tournament for fun.
- The Erie Sports Show yielded some positive results. Due to the efforts of Glenn, Skip, John, Ken, Spoon, Doc, Roy, and others, we have 71 new members as a direct result of that show. Breaking that down, there are 64 new regular members, and 7 new junior members. Excellent job folks!
- Similarly, the efforts of Ken, Spoon, and Doug at the Monroeville Show produced 121 new PSA members! We are growing indeed.

- John Fuhrmann is in the process of cementing a letter to propose meeting with the PFBC (namely Dr. Austen) and the PSA. It is hoped that the concerns regarding easements and property purchasing will be disseminated with respect and a mutual appreciation as to what this area has to offer anglers throughout this area, state, and country. This letter was distributed to the regular membership and a motion was made to approve the letter before mailing it off to Harrisburg. This motion was seconded and approved unanimously.
- Diane and Wayne will continue to work together to publish a quality newsletter for the remainder of the season. It is hoped that Wayne will take this newsletter to new heights in the coming years. His expertise in technology will be an asset to our membership.

New Business:

- DCNR is reported to have ample grant funds available. It is believed these monies would be a benefit to have in the effort to acquire easements. We will work on getting a representative to one of our meetings in the near future.
- There is an improvement project going on in the vicinity of the Walnut Creek Middle-School. This improvement project is affecting the water quality of the 3CU raceway located on Heidler Road. A permit for this improvement project has been granted.
- There is a proposed fee for a Jr. Angling License being shopped around by the PFBC. The fee will be \$5.00 and will be targeted for those anglers between the ages of 12 and 15. The state will receive an additional \$3.00 from the federal government for every license sold. All monies will be utilized for youth and family angling programs.
- There will be a meeting on Friday March 31st concerning the Erie Bluffs. Apparently, this meeting will be at Albion high School and will have the Sportsman Coalition, Dr. Austen, and the Pennsylvania Game Commission there. The meeting will begin at 7:00 pm sharp.
- In an effort to reach as many PSA members as possible, the PSA will be constructing a website to be independent from the FISHUSA site. While there is no dissatisfaction with the current home of the PSA site, it is believed that we can current information up and out there faster if we have our own page. Glenn, Doug, and Wayne will get the ball rolling. Current estimates indicate that it may cost the association roughly \$20.00 per month to operate the site. Other cost effective domains will be sought.
- Regarding some of the threads that have appeared on the FISHUSA Discussion Boards, there are times at which a response will be necessary on the part of the PSA. As a means to achieve a clear and succinct rejoinder, one person, Mike Hines, has been designated as spokesperson for the PSA. Any comments made by Mr. Hines will have the full approval of the PSA Board of Directors before being made public.

WCO Report: James Smolko, PFBC, Eastern Erie

- Contrary to what might have been reported, there WAS not a significant smolt kill on 12-mile. After an extensive investigation, only about 160 smolts were killed out of the 30,000 that were stocked. Low clear water conditions were a significant factor contributing to this unfortunate occurrence.

Guest Speaker: Officer Brook Tolbert, PFBC
Topic: Proposed Junior License

- The number one reason for the decline in youth participation in \angling related activities is lack of time. Interestingly enough, adults indicate that if their child became interested in fishing, they would also.
- Currently, \$480,000 is spent annually on youth angling programs.
- In an effort to boost interest in angling, there is a proposed idea of implementing a Youth Angling license. This license would cost \$5.00 and would be applicable to those who are between the ages of 12 and 15.
- There are 13 other states that require a youth angling license. The average cost for those licenses is \$12.16.
- This proposed license is being sought in concert with the national “Take Me Fishing” campaign which is trying to promote fishing as “cool.”
- All monies generated from the license will be dedicated to youth angling programs which will include more fishing equipment loaner sites, the purchasing of more equipment and materials, and special open days for youth anglers.
- The federal government will add an additional \$3.00 to the fund for every youth license sold.

From the Floor:

- “Hooked on Fishing,” in conjunction with the NorthEast Middle-School will hold a fly-tying clinic on April 3rd. The program will begin at 6:00 pm sharp, and all those interested are encouraged to contact Roger @ 814-474-2804. Spoon was kindly asked not to participate.

Adjournment:

8:45 pm

Next General Meeting:

Wednesday 12 April 2006 @ 7:00 pm at the **American Legion Post 773 on 4109 West 12th Street, Erie, PA. 16505.**

Respectfully Submitted,
 Michael “Doc” McSkimming
 Sláinte Mhãth!