

3-1-1992

Business Meeting Minutes

Southeastern Fishes Council

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Business Meeting Minutes

MINUTES

Business Meeting 17th Annual Meeting Southeastern Fishes Council

The Southeastern Fishes Council met in the Broyhill East Room of the Broyhill Conference Center on the Campus of Appalachian State University at Boone, N.C. on April 11, 1991. Chairman Franklin F. Snelson, Jr. presided. The meeting was called to order at approximately 4:05 PM local time.

Committee Reports

1. Secretary's Report

The Minutes of the 1990 Business Meeting which appeared in Issue No. 23 of the SFC PROCEEDINGS were approved.

2. Treasurer's Report:

Checking Account Balance (6-1-90)	\$2288.12
Dues & other contributions received (6-1-90 through 4-1-91)	344.00
Expenses (6-1-90) through (4-1-91)	
PROCEEDINGS	(1,812.79)
Accountant Fees	(250.00)
Checking Account Balance (4-1-91)	569.33
Paine Webber Cash Fund (3-28-91)	2,081.95
TOTAL ASSETS (4-1-91)	\$2,651.28

3. Historian's Report:

Don Cloutman passed out a draft of a "History of the Southeastern Fishes Council, 1975-1991." The membership was asked to review this document and provide him with comments.

Election of Officers:

Fritz Rhode of the Nominating Committee presented the following slate of candidates. There were no additional nominations from the floor.

Chairman Elect:	David Heins	Bill Woolcott
Secretary/Treasurer:	Hank Bart	Steve Ross

The election was held and David Heins and Hank Bart were elected to their respective offices.

Old Business:

Report from Treasurer regarding Tax Status: After receiving records of the Paine Webber account and contacting the IRS

Problems Resolution Office in Richmond, Virginia, and contacting the attorney (Joseph P. Congleton of Knoxville) which incorporated the SFC in the state of Tennessee, I have the following to report. The Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN) used for the Paine Webber Account appears to be ours. I say appears because the IRS has no record of this TIN. However, the Paine Webber account was opened on May 15, 1981, at which time a TIN was applied for and subsequently issued (to the SFC) for this account. The money placed into this account came from the sale of our Tennessee charter (after consulting with above attorney). Mr. Congleton informed that we did not file for 501(c) status at the time (tax exempt status). The CPA I retained (R. Allen Whiteside of Fredericksburg, Virginia) surmises the following to have occurred:

- 1) Although the account had a TIN the SFC was not filing tax returns. Therefore there was no "activity" regarding this number as far as the IRS was concerned. After several years of no transactions involving this TIN the IRS may have inactivated the TIN and deleted it from their records.
- 2) Changes in tax laws required dividend and interest paying counts to report these transactions to the IRS. No problem yet because the IRS could not match these reports with TIN on tax returns.
- 3) Using their new computers the IRS is now able to track and match dividend reports to income tax returns filed. Probably our TIN was "flagged" because there was no return filed using this number and being the name on the account I got a letter of inquiry.

Our CPA has now completed his examination of our financial records. In a letter he advises us of the following regarding our status on taxes and the IRS:

- 1) The SFC is in compliance with IRS regulations, etc....
- 2) The SFC's gross receipts in a taxable year are normally not more than \$5,000 (normally less than \$2,000). The SFC operates as a not-for-profit organization. Therefore the SFC does not have to file an annual return. IRC Sec 6033 (a) (2) (A) (ii).
- 3) The SFC is a tax exempt organization under ICS Sec. 501 (c) (3) as it is a publicly supported organization as described under IRC sec. 509 (a) (2).
- 4) As long as we maintain the present status we need not file a return or apply for tax exempt status. However, should our status change (i.e. gross receipts exceed \$5,000) we need to file for tax exempt status.

I have communicated the above to Mr. Mikos with the IRS Problem Resolution Office. He later informed me that he agrees with the opinion of our CPA. However, the SFC must obtain a new TIN.

After some discussion it was determined that we would try to obtain tax exempt status if it could be done at little or no cost, otherwise we would file for a new TIN only.

New Business

PROCEEDINGS Committee: Bo reported that the committee plans to send out a questionnaire to the membership. A suggestion was made that we attempt to switch to recycled paper for the PROCEEDINGS in keeping with our conservation outlook. There was some discussion regarding this comment. Chairman Snelson suggested this be included in the questionnaire and pointed out that there were too few members present to make any major changes.

Passing of Gerald E. Gunning: Dr. Gunning recently passed away. He had been an active and respected colleague and will be missed by all.

Regional Reports:

Oral Regional Reports were given by the following members and will be forwarded to the Editor for inclusion in the PROCEEDINGS.

Fritz Rhode	–	Northeast
Noel Burkhead	–	Southeast (sent report)
David Etnier	–	North-Central (given by Peggy Shute)
Hank Bart	--	South-Central
Bob Cashner	–	Southwest (no report)
Henry Robinson	–	Northwest (no report)

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made. The motion passed and the meeting ended at 6:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Werner Wieland

Secretary/Treasurer

REGIONAL SFC REPORTS

REGION I – Northeast

Three state books are in various stages of completion. *The Fishes of Delaware* by Maynard Raasch, a retired chemist from Dupont, should be out by the end of June. It will consist of popular accounts with 100 color photographs and many references. Total length will be 170 pages and the cost will be \$12. Bob Jenkins' *The Fishes of Virginia* will probably be out early in 1992. It will consist of 2400 pages and 750 illustrations. They're hoping to keep the cost down to around \$50. And last but not least, Ed Menhinick's *The Freshwater Fishes of North Carolina* is being printed and will

be out in June. Cost will be \$37.50 and the book will be distributed by the Wildlife Resources Commission.

The Proceedings of the Virginia Endangered Symposium was published in April. It contains a synthesis of Bob and Noel Birkhead's work for the past 10 years. Bob is relinquishing his role as contact person for Virginia endangered fishes to Paul Angierman now at VPI. Paul has been conducting some surveys in warm-water streams. Bob is concerned that *Erimystax cahni* is not being found at sites from which it was known from during the last decade.

In North Carolina, the Scientific Council's report on the conservation status of NC freshwater fishes was submitted to the Wildlife Resources Commission (WRC) to be considered at their next meeting. Ed Menhinick is editor of the final report.

The WRC is currently stocking *Esox masquinongy* into the New River drainage. Alvin Braswell has been in touch with their biologists to discuss the folly of doing this. Another WRC introduction, *Micropterus punctulatus*, poses some problems. It has been expanding its range in the Cape Fear River and could possibly reach Buckhorn Dam, putting in the same waters as *Notropis mekistocholas*.

Field work this year includes status surveys on *Etheostoma acuticeps* and *E. colis* by me, a survey this fall on the lower Pee Dee for *Moxostoma* by NC Division of Environmental Management, Alvin Braswell and me, and continued work on *Acipenser brevirostrum* and other anadromous fishes in the Cape Fear River by Mary Moser and Steve Ross.

Brimleyana is back in business and they guarantee two issues this year and in subsequent years. They need quality manuscripts to meet this goal.

The South Carolina Wildlife and Marine Resources Department is updating their endangered, threatened and special concern fishes list. This was sent out to interested ichthyologists for their comments. A final list will be sent to their Commission next year. The Department has a little money for surveys on nongame fishes. John Cely is the contact person.

F. Rhode

REGION II – Southeast

Summary of research and conservation activities for freshwater fishes from coastal drainages between the Edisto and Appalachian rivers.

Gary Meffe and Dean Fletcher (Savannah River Ecology Lab).

- Work continues on life history evolution in *Gambusia* (GM).
- A life history study on *Aphredoderus* has been initiated (GM, others).
- Work continues on the reproductive life history of *Notropis cummingsae* (DF).

Rick Eager (USFWS, Charleston).

- Reported ca. 5900 and 7300 hatchery reared *Acipenser brevirostrum* were tagged in the Savannah River in 1989 and 1990 – there have been no returns.