

Toledo River Gang Annual Meeting



Meeting Minutes	January 24, 2016	12:30pm	Fort Meigs YMCA Perrysburg
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Type Of Meeting	Annual Club Meeting
Note Taker	Beth Grafing
Attendees	John Entry, Mike Stoll, Joel LeCaptain, Julie Stepp, Eric Slough, Jackie Blackwood, Allen Blackwood, Patrick Forrester, Staten Middleton, Jazz G., Beth Grafing, Mark Wilkerson, Allen...?, Sue Anderson, Frank Pile,
Agenda Topics	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Finances 2. Election of Officers 3. ACA Certification 4. Adjusting Student Moving Water Dates 5. Summer Pond / Community Paddles 6. Nantahala Club Trip 7. Welcome Packet for New Members 8. Club T-Shirt 9. Summertime Local Paddles 10. Swift-water Rescue Training
Discussion	
	<p>1. Finances</p> <p>Eric Slough, club treasurer, review the finances from 2014 and 2015. Also previewed the budget for 2016. See financial spreadsheet attached.</p>
	<p>2. Election of Officers</p> <p>John Entry (President), Julie Stepp (Student/Class Coordinator), Eric Slough (Treasurer), and Beth Grafing (Webmaster) were re-elected to their positions.</p>
	<p>3. ACA Certification</p> <p>Any club member interested in seeking American Canoe Association (ACA) certification may be eligible for reimbursement from the club – as long as club members volunteer their time with the YMCA classes in January. Those interested should contact Eric or John Entry.</p>
	<p>4. Adjusting Student Moving Water Dates</p> <p>Club members not present at the annual meeting brought concerns to John Entry that TRG is losing participation from new students due to cold water paddling in March and April. Suggestion arose that the club should move back the Slippery Rock date to Mid-May. However, Jackie and Allen pointed out that many of us whitewater paddlers are busy paddling the Cheat and Stony Creek festivals during that time. Details TBD.</p>
	<p>5. Summer Pond / Community Paddles</p> <p>There have been requests through the Metropark service and YMCA to offer roll classes in the summer. Most club members, however, are busy paddling. We may establish one night in the summer (Tuesday or Thursday, so as not to compete with Doug Smith's pond session) for a community paddle at a local pond. No one present at the club meeting volunteered to coordinate. Details TBD.</p>

6. Nantahala Club Trip

Beth Grafiing, Mark Wilkerson, Jana Burkett and Ann Flynn plan to paddle the Nantahala over Memorial Day weekend. Club members interested in paddling a Class II river should contact Beth. Beth to add the Nanatahala trip to the club’s events page.

7. Welcome Packet for New Members

Newly joining club members often receive nothing upon joining Toledo River Gang. Beth brought up an idea to have a welcome packet – where a designated club member (new club officer) emails new members with discount information and password/directions for opening the club roster. Members seemed to like the idea. **Details TBD.**

8. Club T-Shirt

The idea of a club t-shirt was brought-up. The shirt should be synthetic (non-cotton) to ensure club members can wear it on the water. However, logos and shirt designs have not been finalized. **Details TBD.**

9. Summertime Local Paddles

To add more options for TRG members to socialize, the club is considering adding some flatwater summer local paddles on the weekends, water dependent, and maybe some evening paddles. One per month – at a local destination. Need volunteers to pick a date and time. Perhaps we could also pair-up with other local clubs such as the Flatlanders Club (out of Fremont area) and the Northwest Ohio River Runners (out of Point Place). **Details TBD.**

10. Swift-water Rescue Training

Running short on time toward the end of the meeting, President John Entry brought-up an important issue: we’d like to get more club members training on Swift-Water Rescue techniques. The goal of the club is to be safe at all times. With more club members paddling whitewater, the club strongly encourages members to look into ACA safety courses. Contact John Entry for more information on summer swift-water rescue training dates.

Action Items	Person Responsible	Deadline
Add pages to the website for Races, Where to Paddle, and Introduction to Kayaking (Kayak 101)	Beth Grafiing	March 1
Add the Nanatahala trip to the club’s events page	Beth Grafiing	Feb 1
Need a volunteer to coordinate community pond session	TBD	May 1
Need volunteers for monthly community paddles	TBD	May 1