



## Federation of Dutchess County Fish and Game Clubs, Inc.

P.O. Box 3201, Poughkeepsie, N.Y. 12603

Meeting November 13, 2014  
Copperfield's Restaurant

**Attendance:** 22 clubs represented, 28 delegates and guests

President Tom Holsopple – called meeting to order at 7:20 PM.

**Guest Speakers:** none

**October Delegates Meeting Minutes** – motion to approve, seconded & approved. Cathy had problems with email and the minutes were not received by most delegates when these were sent in October, we are working on getting this resolved.

**October Federation Board of Directors Meeting Minutes** – Cathy could not make this meeting, Bill Conners recorded the meeting but there are no minutes. Tom reported that there were no votes on anything except plans for the annual dinner. The things discussed at the meeting will be talked about tonight.

**September Treasurers Financial Report** – motion to approve, seconded & approved

**Communications:** none

**Committees:**

**Legislative Report:** Paul Annetts is away but he emailed his report. Bill Conners reported that there is a new tip line for poachers and polluters, 1-844-DEC-ECOS, and the numbers are: 844-332-3267. This goes directly to a law enforcement line, and is available 24/7. There are a few printed copies of the legislative report on the table. If anyone has any questions about the material in his report, send Paul an email. His email address is included in his report. The legislature is not in session right now. Bill Conners presented a copy of the Amicus Brief that we have all been hearing about, we have been getting emails from Paul Annetts about Paloma Kapana and the Amicus Brief she is preparing. The Federation and Whortekill have signed on. Bill explained that the purpose of signing on is to sign on as a friend of the court and show that they are not being paid by the plaintiffs in the case. This is to show the court that there is broad public interest in the issue that the court is about to hear and the decision made. The case that is being brought to the courts is from the New York State Fire Arms Collectors, a not for profit organization and they are protesting the NY SAFE ACT, they are trying to get it declared unconstitutional. For a donation of \$100 an organization can sign on, there is a disclosure that must be signed for

the court that ensures that your organization is not part of the plaintiff's case and that your organization is independent of the plaintiff and is going to the court with your opinion on the case being heard. If your club makes a \$100 contribution payable to the SCOPE Legal Defense Fund to pay Paloma Kapana, we will have a brief going to the court with hundreds of organizations from across the state, voicing an opinion on this egregious law the NYS Legislature passed. Bill encouraged all delegates go and talk to their clubs and make them listen. If moral support is needed, contact Bill Conners or Paul Annetts to come to a meeting to present this to the members. Any organization that is part of the sporting community should sign on since this shows broad public support for the issue. This case is going to be heard sometime in the first quarter of next year. There is no deadline for signing on but it would be nice to have this done by December 31, 2014. The information on where to send the donation is included in Paul's emails, Bill will ask Paul to resend the email with this information. There is a form in the email packet that needs to be signed and included with the \$100 donation. Bill Conners stated that he will email the brief and any other information regarding it to the delegates. Cathy asked if Paloma Kapana would come to a meeting here with representatives for the member clubs to present the case; Millbrook Rod and Gun Club Board indicated they would sponsor a meeting at their club if she is willing to do this. Bill suggested we discuss this with Paul Annetts as soon as he is back. Another issue of interest is the PCB Dredging. 2015 is supposed to be the last year for this. They are trying to go back to GE and expand their project. PCB levels in fish in the Hudson River were going down without remediation, but there is movement to get GE to pay for more dredging projects. A question was raised about an article that stated that one of the conservation funds was running low on funds. Bill Conners reported that this was referring to the New York State Conservation Fund, this is the trust account where all license fees are deposited. There is approximately \$21 million in the fund, there are peaks and valleys as this fund is used and replenished, it will not run out of money. Governor Cuomo shifted 80 ENCON Officers salaries to being paid out of the NYS Conservation Fund and he decided to restructure the fees as well. There is a concern that the fund will run out of money but this is not new news, this kind of thing has been happening on about a 10 year cycle.

**Conservation Camps:** Scott Emsile reported that the camp applications must be turned in at that December meeting, give them to Pete Kraayenbrink as Scott will not be able to make the meeting. Each club can submit applications for one boy and one girl for each of the camps. Camp DeBruce is for 11 to 13 year olds and Camp Pack Forrest is for 14 to 17 year olds. There are forms on the table for delegates to take with them. Scott has checked the web site, no information on the camps yet. The applications require an email address, while Scot sends out an initial mailing, everything else must be done on-line. Scott is planning on doing the drawing on January 1, the applications must be sent to him by the December 31, 2014. A question was raised, do the campers have to be Dutchess County residents ? The club that is sponsoring the camper must be from Dutchess County, and the campers should be first time campers, but the camper may be from outside the county.

**Annual Dinner:** Penny Hickman reported that at the board meeting it was decided to hold the Annual Dinner on January 31<sup>st</sup> at Villa Borghese. Cocktails at 5:30, dinner at 6:30,

\$45 per person. Penny will bring a signup sheet to the December meeting.

**Hunters Helping the Hungry:** Penny Hickman reported that approximately 8655 lbs of game has been distributed to date. When the next group of birds are picked up and delivered this will bring the total to 9100 lbs. This is the best year ever. There is no other program in New York that comes close to this. The people in the program are all volunteers.

**Fish:** Morgan and Upton Lakes will be stocked in December.

**Club 36 Raffle:** Tom Holsopple asked that any new tickets or money be turned in to him and the second round of 12 drawings will begin after the meeting.

Joe Molinaro read a letter from a camper thanking the Federation for the chance to attend Camp DeBruce this year.

**Conservation Council:** Bill Conners reported that the big push right now is to get as many clubs as possible to sign on to the Amicus Brief as possible. They are working with environmental groups in the northern part of the state on access issues and getting involved in some of the invasive species issues. In an effort to keep invasive species out of the lakes and reservoirs boats are going to have to be washed when moving them from one body of water to another.

**Old Business:** none presented

**New Business:** none presented

**Nominating Committee:** Tom Holsopple asked if there was a report from the Committee, Cathy reported the slate is all the current officers, three are three board members running again and Bill Conners is running for the open position. Elections are next month we will take nominations from the floor at that time.

**Announcements:** None

**50/50 Winner:** Pete Kraayenbrink

Motion to Adjourn, seconded & approved

Meeting Adjourned 8:45 pm

**Next Federation Board of Directors meeting – November 24, 2014**

**Next Federation Monthly Delegate meeting – December 11, 2014**

Respectfully Submitted,

Cathy Culkin