



Federation of Dutchess County Fish and Game Clubs, Inc.

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

Meeting June 11, 2015
Copperfield's Restaurant

Attendance: 20 clubs represented, 26 delegates and guests

Vice President Bob Pascoello called the meeting to order at 7:45 PM. After the Pledge of Allegiance a moment of silence was observed for those killed in active duty.

May Delegates Meeting Minutes – motion to approve, seconded & approved.

May Federation Board of Directors Meeting Minutes – there were none.

May Treasurers Financial Report – motion to approve, seconded & approved

Guest: ECO Dave Clayton reported that the Academy is progressing nicely, Joe Snyder is the acting Director for Region 3, and during striped bass season, many warnings and two tickets issued for illegal size. There were 38 tickets issued during the burn ban, 17 of them in Region 3. A question was asked about the Marine Fishing Registry, many people think last year's registration is still good or that it comes with their license, Dave reminded everyone that they can go online and register with their smartphone, as long as they have the registration number if stopped for questioning. Dave further reported that a floater was found in one of the lakes, this person did not have a life vest on and drowned, Dave encouraged all to wear a life vest if you are on the water fishing.

Communications: None

Committees:

Fair Booth: Ken Foster reported that they had a kick off meeting at the last board meeting, he has contacted fair management to inquire about the reduced priced fair tickets for this year. A signup sheet is being sent around, he encouraged clubs to sign up for a slot to man the booth. He has updated the tutorial for the workers, a copy will be sent with the meeting minutes. Ken reported that Northern Dutchess is our host for this event every year, they have storage room for the Federation to keep fair booth supplies in, and the first group and last group of the day have a little house keeping to do. There will be room on the board in the booth for clubs to post information about events at their clubs, please get this to Ken before the fair or bring with you if you will be working in the booth.

Conservation Council: Bill Connors passed out a paper with information on Senate Bill S1081 – Feral cat neutering bill, he encouraged everyone to contact Senator Sue Serino and strongly request that she vote against passage of this bill. Feral cats kill billions of birds and small mammals; trapping, spaying or neutering and releasing them back into the wild and using funds from the Ag and Markets department that is earmarked to help neuter dogs and cats for people who cannot afford to have this done. This does not seem like a good use of these funds. Both of Sue Serino's contact phone numbers are in the memo, if you don't reach someone at her Albany number, call her Hyde Park number – it is hoped that if she gets 20 to 30 calls will get her attention. Bill further reported that the Audubon Society has also asked the Federation for support opposing this bill. Bill reported that the SWAT - State Wildlife Action Plan has been released, it weighs about 5 pounds, Conservation Council people are going through it and getting information to the Federation. The plans they make for non-game species can effect game species, for example – the New England Cottontail rabbit is protected while the Eastern Cottontail is not, but it is very hard to tell the difference between the two. They could close an area to hunting to protect the endangered species, this is why the Federation needs to be concerned about this. Bill is concerned that the proposed parking lot between 4th and 5th Lake in the Essex Chain did not make it into this draft of the plan. The SWAT plan closes on July 11 and the Essex Chain plan closes on July 27, so there is time to contact Albany. There was a question on the 480A program, Bill reported that there has been no action on this yet, as long as they take no action then if you are in the program already you will be grandfathered in. This has to be a statutory program, then if there are regulatory changes, the department would do that by authorization of the statute.

Outdoor Journal: Bill Connors reported that he is getting ads and articles for the journal but still needs more business card ads, he must have them by the July meeting. Fair distribution is 7500 copies, this is very good coverage for anyone interested in running an ad. Checks should be made out to the Federation of Dutchess County Fish and Game Clubs and sent to Pete Kraayenbrink, 953 Netherwood Rd, Hyde Park, NY 12538.

Fish: Ken Rose reported that fish stocking has been completed for this year.

Hunters Helping the Hungry: Penny Hickman reported that Tom Holsopple got a letter from Dutchess Outreach saying they wanted to recognize the Hunters Helping the Hungry program. She attended the event at The Manor and brought Bill Reiners to attend the presentation too. Penny spoke about the program and introduced Bill Reiners and described his involvement in this program. Bill asked Penny where this award would be displayed, Penny thought that perhaps CopperFields might donate a spot on the wall for this placque. Penny further reported that she has been contacted by Clove Valley and they will have breast birds to donate soon. She reported that since the program began the total distributed is around 94,000 lbs, which equates to 385,000 meals, and that this program is 100% volunteer.

Legislative Report : Paul Annetts reported that he met recently with Sue Serino and she said she would stop by our next meeting, but he has not heard from her yet. Scope is

sending out a lot of positive information, one of their members won a victory in Robinson vs Cuomo wherein Judge Macnamara ruled that the State Police must release statistical information on statewide registry for assault weapons. There is legislation to increase fines for killing deer illegally. On the federal level the Constitutional Carry has gained momentum with the public this year , this is the simple idea that law abiding citizens should not be forced to get a government permit before they can defend themselves, and no-one should be treated like a criminal simply for exercising their right to self defend. There are already laws in several states and other states are headed in this direction. Paul is sending around a form for SCOPE membership, for every 50 memberships a member club signs up through 2015, they will receive an engraved Remington 870 shotgun commemorating SCOPE's 50th year.

Old Business: Anthony Pittore reported that the parking area at Silver Lake has been cleaned up, he found brush piled up there and moved that. There is also a boat chained to the dock, and wondered if that is ok. This is not ok and the boat should be liberated.

Announcements: None

50/50 Winner: Skip North

Motion to Adjourn, seconded & approved

Meeting Adjourned 8:40 pm

Next Federation Board of Directors meeting – June 22, 2015

Next Federation Monthly Delegate meeting – July 9, 2015

Respectfully Submitted,

Cathy Culkin