



Federation of Dutchess County Fish and Game Clubs, Inc.

P.O. Box 3201, Poughkeepsie, New York 12603
www.dutchessfishandgame.org

The Voice of the Sportsman since 1932

Minutes of February 11, 2016 Regular Delegates Meeting

Copperfield's Restaurant, Washington Hollow, NY

President Joe Lurenz called the meeting to order at 7:35 PM.

Scott Emslie led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

A moment of silence was observed for our Armed Forces members killed in action, and for our Secretary Cathy Culkin.

There were 31 people present with 20 clubs represented.

Guests There were no guests present.

The minutes of the previous regular meeting on December 10, 2015 were accepted.

Motion - Scott Emslie, 2nd – Bob Pascocello, Vote - AIF (All in Favor)

The minutes of the Board of Directors meeting on January 25, 2016 were accepted.

Motion - Scott Emslie, 2nd – Ken Foster, Vote - AIF

The treasurer's report was accepted as presented. Motion - Scott Emslie, 2nd – Paul Annetts, Vote - AIF

Treasurer Pete Kraayenbrink reported that dues from the following clubs have not yet been received: Chestnut Ridge, Columbia & Dutchess Ringneck Shooters, NAVHDA – HV Chapter, Pawling.

Communications

Joe Lurenz received a call from the Dutchess County Tourism agency confirming the Federation's information to be included in their Tourism Guide and publications.

Committee Reports

Fish: Ken Rose reported that the winter trout stocking was done in December, with about 280 fish stocked in each lake: Morgan and Upton.

Conservation Education: Scott Emslie reported that so far we got 1 free code for a 1 camp fee. There are some availability issues with the Pack Forest Camp, which has traditionally been the older kids camp and to which we are sponsoring 2 kids. The situation is being monitored. It was suggested that we write a letter to the DEC expressing our concern about the availability problem and the change of age groups for that camp.

Legislation:

- Paul Annetts read a letter from the lawyer Capana confirming our name and description for the Amicus brief being filed against the SAFE Act.
- Paul passed around an NY2A signup sheet (New York 2nd Amendment PAC) looking for support. This came from their contact that he met at the recent Ulster County meet-the-candidates night.
- There are many new bills of interest in the new NY legislative session, several of which Paul highlighted, including a bill to expand upon the COBIS system, proposing to register ballistics (spent casings) for all firearms, not just pistols.

Annual Dinner:

- Penny Hickman reported that attendance was down this year, but was enjoyed by all who attended.
- Special thanks go to Harold and Judy Coons for taking reservations, and to Jackie and Scott Emslie for their great efforts running the raffles.
- Financially, we made a profit this year on the dinner.
- Also noted was that Sheriff Butch Anderson was appointed as a Lifetime Honorary Member of the Federation.

Hunters Helping the Hungry:

- Penny Hickman reported that about 4100 pounds of game meat has been distributed so far in this program year, of which about 2200 pounds were from birds.
- Deer donations are down as compared to last year.
- Penny is looking for clothes donations for the homeless shelter affiliated with the Lunch Box food pantry to which we donate meat. There is a dire need. Call Penny at 635-3641 if you can help.
- Bill Conners reported that we were able to get and process the meat from a moose that was caught in an enclosure in the Harlem Valley and put down by the DEC. Hopefully this will set a precedent for situations like this in the future. Special thanks to Anthony Pittore, Kevin Haight, and Roger Humeston.
- 20 deer were taken into the program from the recent Vassar College deer cull.

Outdoor Journal: Bill Conners is still looking for ads for the upcoming Outdoor Journal edition.

Conservation Fund Advisory Board (CFAB):

- Bill Conners reported that the state is moving toward banning natural doe urine based scent products due to the link to Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD). Other states are considering bans as well. Artificial scents would not be affected.
- A DEC Environmental Conservation Officer academy is starting soon. Even with these officers, there will still be a shortage of 60 officers across the state.
- The new air powered bows have been determined to be a legal implement, but only for fur bearer species. There is still some uncertainty if they can be used for other game. Check with the DEC to be sure.
- The Sullivan County Federation annual coyote hunt resulted in 71 coyotes taken.

New York State Conservation Council

Bill Conners reported that the Council continues to have financial difficulties. The Council leadership has yet to accept and act upon recommendations from the ad hoc financial committee that was specifically formed to address the issue. The recommendations would help ensure long term solvency.

The DEC deer management plan specifies no more expansion of mandatory antler restrictions in the state. Studies indicate that in many areas, hunters are already voluntarily passing up young bucks.

Unfinished (Old) Business None reported.

New Business

Scott Emslie introduced Matt Cousens, chairman of the Friends of NRA committee. The annual dinner will be held on April 16th at the Ramada Inn in Fishkill. Matt is seeking clubs, organizations, or individuals to contribute to underwrite raffle prizes, at whatever level. The Federation has already sponsored a prize. Matt is also looking for grant applications from clubs and organization who would like to receive grant money from the dinner fundraiser for local projects.

Bob Jenks, of Northern Dutchess Long Rifles 4-H club, reported that the club is continuing to grow with more kids, more guns, and more ammo. It is about a mix of 50/50 girls and boys. They continue to seek donations of guns and expendables (targets, ammo, etc.), and also clubs who could provide range time. There would typically be 10-12 kids at a time using a range. Any and all help is appreciated.

Announcements

Pleasant Valley Trout & Game Club – They will be holding Hunter Education classes in April, August, and September. Students MUST pre-register on the DEC web site and complete the pre-requisite homework. The club is also including some trapshooting as part of the course. Club info at www.pvtroutandgame.com.

The 50/50 raffle was won by Bill Conners.

Next regular meeting date is March 10th, 2016.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Tom Holsopple (Acting Secretary)