



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

April 14, 2016 Regular Delegates Meeting

Copperfield's Restaurant, Washington Hollow, NY

President Joe Lurenz called the meeting to order at 7:33 PM.

Paul Annetts lead the group in the Pledge.

A moment of silence was observed for our Armed Forces members killed in action.

There were 32 present with 25 clubs represented.

Guests:

Robin Moore of Pawling F & G, Manchester H C and Whortlekill R & G.

Det. Lt. Dave Clayton proudly announced his youngest son graduated from the NYS Parks Police program yesterday (4/13)!

He also reported: Current Academy class is down an additional four, to 33. It is not possible to backfill these openings. But, he was hopeful that there would be another class, very possibly next year.

Mike Zello has returned to the Sullivan position and is welcomed back. However, the overall shortage of officers continues to put a heavy burden on the existing staff.

Bear Take is available on-line. The largest bear taken in Region 3 (Forestburg) dressed out at 520# (bow). Other notes on the take: 3F – 1, 3G – 12, 1132 in Southern Zone, 583 in Northern Zone for a total of 1,715. The D.E.C. is seeking river monitor volunteers, see the details on-line.

But, the best news to report for the past hunting season: No Fatalities, which is the best year since the 50's. There were 10 self-inflicted reported injuries.

The Striper season has slowed with the onset of colder weather.

The minutes of the previous meeting on March 11, 2016 were accepted.

Motion: Skip North, 2nd Bob Pascoello Vote: All in Favor (AIF)

The minutes of the Board of Directors meeting on March 28th, 2016 were accepted.

Motion: Paul Annetts, 2nd Ken Rose Vote: AIF

The treasurer's report was accepted as presented. Motion: Bob Pascoello 2nd Paul Annetts Vote: AIF

Pete Kraayenbrink announced that he has hard copies of the 2016 Directory available.

Communications: No Report

Committee Reports:

Fish: Ken Rose reported that the first round of stocking was completed noting that the streams are low and the water temperature was up (44 was the coldest). The next round will commence on the 21st and wrap up on the 29th. In total 54,000 fish will have been stocked and the sizes are reported to be very good. This matches last year's stocking level.

Legislation: Paul Annetts reported that many of the proposed bills, primarily out of NYC, continue to be challenging, anti-gun and not workable. The gun lock legislation was defeated. Complete report attached.

Outdoor Journal: Bill Connors reported on an article by Dick Decker that will be included in the Journal. It covers a report on hunting safety, or the lack thereof, for the 1928 hunting season. It noted that there were 32 fatalities, 61 injured. Of the fatalities: 8 were mistaken for game, 7 were self-inflicted, 1 from a stray bullet and 1 by an angry farmer.

The journal ad sales are complete.

Conservation Council: The last meeting was held at Herkimer Community College. Bill Connors noted:

- the fiscal health of this organization is not healthy
- the Grassroots Quarterly paper is still being published, but he suggested that it would be beneficial to secure a copy electronically to help keep costs to the organization to a minimum.

Conservation Fund Advisory Board (CFAB): Bill Connors reported:

- CFAB met Monday and appropriated \$200K from the Conservation Fund to fight invasive species
- Legislation was discussed
- 480A funding is in question
- It is anticipated that within three years revenues will be lower than expenses, but there have been assurances from the governor's office that there will be no reduction in fish & wildlife resources
- NYS's formula for sale tax income estimates does not appear to imply reality
- Hatchery funding will again be \$4 million, matching last year's funding
- New bear rules should be expected
- Range grant program is complete. There is no known program planned to replace it
- Six new canines and 25 new vehicles have been approved, but none in place at this time
- Young forest initiative across NYS is in progress. 18 new permanent, fully funded, Forrester positions created
- Tivoli Bays is the only Dutchess County Wildlife Conservation area that qualifies for funding. This leaves the impact of the Great Thicket proposal in question (loss of tax revenue)
- No change in plans to allow convicted felons as sporting license agents
- Work Plan for Region 3 just received, but not yet digested. More to follow.

Hunters Helping the Hungry: Penny Hickman reported:

- 4,300# of meat have been distributed to date with another 7 deer in the cooler
- Anticipate a substantial donation of birds still to come, another very good year for HHH.

Junior Hunter Pheasant Hunt: Penny reported the initial planning meeting will be next month. The event is anticipated to be held at the end of this September. She also noted that there have been many reports of the birds surviving well due to the mild winter.

Unfinished Business Ken Foster reported that plans are underway for this year's Dutchess County Fair participation. More volunteer support would be appreciated.

Bill Connors noted that the Great Thicket initiative is a Federal level program. The impact of removing 1,500 Acres from the tax rolls in the Harlem Valley area is at stake. The program is designed to help the N.E. Cottontail population. Without our support there is the potential of a ban on hunting rabbits due to the difficulty in properly identifying them in the field (at speed). He suggested that there may be the potential to seek funding from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

New Business

Bob Jenks reported that 26,000 rounds of .22 Ammo was donated to support the youth program. He has new brochures available and they will have a presence at the D.C. Fair at the 4H building.

Club Announcements

- | | |
|-----------------------------|--|
| Pleasant Valley Rod & Gun | Free sight-in day, 4/16, 9 – 2PM
Senior Fishing Day, 5/14, Pre-Registration required, 50 MAX, on-line or call 876-6743, Free 60 and older. |
| Northern Dutchess Rod & Gun | Trout Derby, 4/17, Reg. @ 7AM, fishing 9 – 2PM Adults \$20, 12 and under \$5
.22 Walk Woods Shoot 22 Rifle/Pistol Only, NYS Pistol permit reqd., Reg. 8AM, Shoot 9 – 1PM. More info: www.ndrgc.com |
| Pawling Fish & Game | Trout Derby, 5/21, Murrow Park, Old Rt. 55, 7 – 2 PM, FREE |
| Whortlekill Rod and Gun | 3D Crossbow shoot from 8 – 2PM on 4/30, \$20/PP. The contact is George Hermann, 845-656-7375. |
| Millbrook Rod & Gun | Skeet Range is open for the season, Sundays. |

50/50 Raffle was won by Skip North

Next meeting date: May 12th

Meeting was adjourned at 8:47PM

Respectfully Submitted,
Robin M Moore, (Substitute Secretary)