



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

July 14, 2022 Regular Delegates Meeting

Short Hills Restaurant, Washington Hollow, NY

The meeting was opened at 7:54 PM by President Anthony Pittore

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Anthony Pittore.

A moment of silence was observed for armed services personnel, first responders, and past Federation members.

Roll Call: 29 people were in attendance, representing 20 clubs.

Guests

None mentioned.

The Treasurer's Report was accepted upon a motion by Scott Emslie and a second by Adam Yasiejko. All-in-favor (AIF).

The minutes of the previous delegates meeting on June 9, 2022 were approved upon a motion by Scott Emslie and a second by Adam Yasiejko. AIF

The minutes of the Board of Directors meeting on June 25, 2022 were approved upon a motion by Scott Emslie and a second by Adam Yasiejko. AIF

Committee Reports

Annual Dinner

Anthony Pittore reported that Villa Borghese is not being considered for the Annual Dinner next year due to the cost. But another venue has not been found yet. Please contact Anthony if you can help find a new place.

Hunters Helping the Hungry

Nothing new was reported. All meat has been distributed, and the coolers and freezers are empty.

Jr. Hunter Pheasant Hunt

Anthony Pittore reminded everyone that the hunt will be held on Sept 24. He has received 3 applications so far.

Conservation Education

Scott Emslie had nothing new to report, other than the DEC conservation camps are in session.

Publicity

Ken Foster stated that we will not have a booth at the Dutchess County Fair this year. The Board decided that it was not worth the cost and effort given the small amount of traffic through the booth. The intention is to produce some Kid's Activity booklets to give to Northern Dutchess Rod & Gun Club, to hand out at the fair.

Fundraising

Ken Foster reported that the annual 50/50 raffle tickets are on order and will be available at the next meeting. After the delegates have an opportunity to take tickets to sell to their clubs, 6 tickets will be sent to the presidents of the remaining clubs.

Youth Trap Shooting

Tom Gannon reported that a shoot was held recently at 100 Rod & Gun Club. Tom thanked everyone who helped at that event.

Legislation (and other conservation news)

Bill Connors spoke about all the new state laws passed for further firearms restrictions and the varied interpretations and unknowns. He recommended erring on the side of caution until things become better known and understood.

Bill provided a copy of a statement from the NYS Sheriff's Association stating that they do not support the new punitive licensing requirements, and their overall concern about how the laws were passed.

Bill also provided copies of his synopsis about the new Concealed Carry Restrictions and the list of "sensitive" locations where firearms can no longer be carried, including parks.

Expect challenges to these new laws from the various firearm advocacy groups.

Bill took many questions from the floor about these new laws.

John O'Donnell, 110 Rod & Gun Club delegate, raised a question about whether the Federation should be doing more for gun rights advocacy, possibly changing its mission. Bill responded that would negatively impact our ability to advocate for conservation related issues, which is our core mission. We do some advocating for gun rights, mostly as it pertains to conservation and outdoor sports. There was a lot of discussion on this topic.

Given the many gun rights groups out there, President Anthony Pittore suggested that gun owners and gun clubs do more to personally support those groups with monetary donations, and that on our part, we could provide a list of those groups to the membership.

New York State Conservation Council

Bill Connors noted that Council cancelled its golf tournament fundraiser due to lack of interest. Bill made a motion to leave our sponsorship donation that we made for the tournament, as a general donation to the Council. Upon a second by Scott Emslie, the motion passed AIF.

Communications

A letter was received from Dutchess County informing us of planned road work and paving of a portion of Slate Quarry Road, near our Silver Lake property.

Unfinished (Old) Business

Anthony Pittore stated that our new meeting venue, Short Hills Restaurant, requires the count of dinner reservations by the Monday morning before the meeting. So we will need reservations to us by Sunday night. Anthony reviewed the new reservation policy, including that there may be a charge for a dinner if a reservation is not honored. Anthony asked everyone to sign a copy that was passed around, acknowledging that they have read it and agreed.

New Business

Washington Hollow Rod & Gun Club is looking for a new insurance provider, and is seeking information about the companies or agents that other clubs use.

Jackie Emslie discussed the proposed gun shop signage bill that was introduced in the County Legislature. It was not passed. She thanked everyone who sent in their comments, and stated that it was evidence of what can be accomplished by banding together, of which we will need to do more in the future.

Jackie also spoke about the upcoming special election on August 23rd for Congressional District 19, to fill the vacated U.S. House of Representatives seat. There will be several days of early voting and it is an open election and not a primary.

Then in the November 8th regular election, the winner will run again in the newly redrawn District 19. She recommended considering early and absentee voting opportunities. Everyone should when able.

Announcements

Tom Fiumarello stated that there will again be a benefit clay shoot on July 31st at the Mid Hudson Sporting Clays range in New Paltz to benefit canine cancer research.

50/50 raffle winner – Don Carr.

Next regular meeting date: August 11, 2022.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:13 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Tom Holsopple,
Secretary