



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

November 9, 2023 Regular Delegates Meeting

JB's Bar & Grill, James Baird State Park, Pleasant Valley, NY

The meeting was opened at 7:38 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: **23** people were in attendance, representing **17** clubs.

Guests

Adam Johnson – DEC Environmental Conservation Officer (ECO), spoke on the following topics:

- There are 5 ECO positions covering the new Ulster & Dutchess County “unit”, with 4 ECOs currently.
- His activity is starting to increase given the current and upcoming hunting seasons.
- He has not yet encountered any issues with the new crossbow permits.
- He answered numerous questions regarding topics including crossbow usage regulations, landowner posting requirements and trespassing, nuisance permit regulations, his ability to confirm a person's licenses when in the field.

The Treasurer's Report was accepted upon a motion by Jim Guyette and a second by Tom Gannon. All-in-favor (AIF).

The minutes of the previous delegates meeting on October 12, 2023 were approved upon a motion by Jim Guyette and a second by Ralph Hafner. AIF

The minutes of the Board of Directors meeting on October 23, 2023 were approved upon a motion by Jim Guyette and a second by Dave Morrison. AIF

Committee Reports

Hunters Helping the Hungry

Anthony Pittore: There is 1 deer (a big buck) in cooler awaiting butchering and another in the freezer. It will be processed next Tuesday. The 550 pounds of meat that was in the freezer was distributed.

Fish

Anthony Pittore: The 2024 Veterans Fishing Day at Overlook Park will be held on 4/20, and the Family Fishing Day on 4/21. He is working on setting up a gun raffle, the proceeds of which will go toward funding a fishing pavilion at the park.

The pre-winter stocking of trout in Morgan Lake will likely occur in late December, or possibly early January.

Jr. Hunter Pheasant Hunt

Anthony and Bill Conners presented a plaque to the Milan Fire Dept in recognition for their many years of supplying cooling-off water for the dogs at the hunts. They were very appreciative.

Conservation Education

Dave Morrison: There were 14 kids that did not get to go to camps this year, who are still eligible for sponsorships next year. He has sent them emails and will have an update at the next meeting.

After some discussion, even though the 14 available slots could be filled by those kids, it was decided to still provide sponsorship applications to the clubs to increase the pool of applicants.

Youth Trap Shooting

Tom Gannon: The season is now done for this year. A full squad of 5 kids participated in the last 2 shoots. Tom thanked everyone and the clubs who helped this year.

Bill Conners noted that at a recent meeting he attended, a presenter stated that 1 upstate county had 13 schools sponsor and support youth trap leagues. The higher participation in upstate counties vs. Dutchess County is basically due to the culture in the area.

Legislation (and other conservation news)

Bill Conners: Not much new regarding legislation. There are still bills awaiting the Governor's signature. He suggested that in the future, may want to concentrate a little more attention with the governor's office than with the state assembly.

Bill and Anthony recently attended a meeting chaired by Elmer Lasuer of Ulster County to focus on gun and conservation issues. It included a variety of folks, including Federation presidents, gun rights group representatives (like GOA), and state assembly members. While it is not a formal group yet, it may be worthwhile to continue participating to start collaborating and sharing information on our common issues. They may explore using the NYSCC as a facilitating platform.

New York State Conservation Council

No report.

Communications

None reported.

Unfinished (Old) Business

Anthony Pittore reminded the delegates that if they use Facebook, to friend our page named Federation of Dutchess County Fish & Game Clubs Inc. If clubs have upcoming events they want to publicize, Anthony can post it there.

New Business

Anthony noted that the DEC emailed out a request looking for turkey hunters to attend a forum in New Paltz the last week of November. He will attend.

Anthony reported that a new organization has requested Federation membership. The Board will review.

Hank Eichenhofer encouraged the delegated to complete hunting and fishing surveys that the DEC sends out, since they help the department determine policies, recommendations, etc...

Tom Fiumarello reported that he recently attended a Cornell seminar on transmittable diseases between humans and animals. The highlights were:

- There is a strain of avian flu that is transmittable to humans, although it has not yet been seen in the area.
- There are some cases of deer surviving EHD and immunity to the disease being spread down to offspring.
- A study showed a high percentage (around 70%) of eagles and raptors with lead poisoning. While many attribute that to lead ammo, in reality it is unknown how much is attributable to lead ammo. Regardless, the recommendation (not a requirement) is to bury the entrails of animals shot with lead ammo.

Nominating committee:

Last year's committee chairman Ralph Hafner agreed to remain as chair this year. The other committee members will be asked to remain too: Mike Butts and Bruce Hotaling. They will present their recommended slate of officers at the next meeting.

Anthony listed the officers whose terms expire at the end of this year:

President	Anthoy Pittore
1 st Vice President	Ken Foster
2 nd Vice President	Ralph Hafner
Legislative VP	Bill Connors
Secretary	Tom Holsopple
Treasurer	Pete Kraayenbrink

Board of Directors (4 seats)	Tom Fiumarello Tom Gannon Kevin Haight Bruce Hotaling
---------------------------------	--

Announcements

None reported.

50/50 raffle winner – Jim Guyette

Next regular meeting date: December 14, 2023.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:58 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Tom Holsopple,
Secretary