



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

January 13, 2022 Regular Delegates Meeting

Elks Lodge, Poughkeepsie, NY

The meeting was opened at 7:43 PM by President Anthony Pittore

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by John O'Donnell.

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

Also noted was the recent passing of John Haight, father of Kevin Haight, a Federation Director.

Roll Call: 29 people were in attendance, representing 19 clubs.

Guests

State Senator Sue Serino was in attendance along with her husband Mark. Sue stated that she had no specific comments to make, but was available after the meeting for anyone wishing to speak with her.

Bill Conners stated that we will probably need her support for an upcoming bill that would allow the use of straight wall rifle cartridges (e.g. .350 Legend) to hunt deer in Dutchess County. It was explained that these calibers have about the same distance reach as shotgun rounds, but are ballistically more accurate.

Anthony Pittore introduced Tom Ford, a new delegate from Amenia Fish & Game Assn.

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

Treasurer Pete Kraayenbrink announced that the following clubs have not yet paid their annual dues: Dutchess County Sportsmen, East Hook Sportsmen, Hudson Valley BassMasters, Pawling Fish & Game, Red Hook Rod & Gun, Whortlekill Rod & Gun.

The minutes of the previous delegates meeting on December 9, 2021 were approved upon a motion by Scott Emslie and a second by Adam Yaszko. AIF

There was no Board of Directors meeting since the last delegates meeting, therefore no minutes presented.

Committee Reports

Annual Dinner

Anthony Pittore reported that the dinner was cancelled due to Covid concerns, as everyone probably knew by now. Villa Borghese will return our deposit.

Jackie Emslie recommended that the Board of Directors consider having some sort of dinner or event this year to maintain our relevance and connection with the politicians, especially in this mid-term election year. Upon a question about the bucket raffle donations already provided by clubs, Jackie stated that there are 2 options: the club can donate it to the upcoming friends of NRA banquet fundraiser, or she can wait until a Board decision about having an event, before returning any items that the clubs may want returned.

Hunters Helping the Hungry

Anthony reported that 11 deer were donated recently. Also, Vassar College did another deer cull, resulting in about 17 donated deer so far. The cull is still in progress.

Anthony stated that due to attrition, there is a large need for volunteers to help with this program. Needed are folks who can skin and butcher (debone) deer and help with cleanup. If not skilled in these tasks, they will be taught. About 6-8 people is ideal. Typically, the deer are skinned on Tuesday afternoon, then butchered afterward that afternoon and evening. The facility is located in Wappingers Falls. Please contact Anthony at 914-755-9667 if you can volunteer. Another day of week will be considered if needed.

Fish

Ken Rose reported that 250 12-14" rainbow trout were stocked in Morgan Lake on December 21st for ice fishing season.

Jr. Hunter Pheasant Hunt

Anthony Pittore stated that the date for this year's hunt is September 24th. This is another great program that can always use the help.

Upon a question asking if the goal of the hunt is to get kids to subsequently join clubs, Bill Conners responded that is not really the goal. It is to ensure that kids, many of whom may not have the opportunity, have a safe and enjoyable bird hunting experience. Hopefully both the kids and the parents or guardians will come away with an appreciation and understanding for the sport and continue with it.

Conservation Education

Scott Emslie reported that he has received some applications for the Conservation Camp sponsorships. He is still awaiting responses from some kids that did not go last year due to pandemic cancellations, but are still age eligible. He will know by the end of this month where we stand as far as applications. Fortunately, the DEC is not opening registrations until March, so we have some time to fill our available sponsorships.

Pat Crisci of Mid-Hudson Trout Unlimited, mentioned again that they are sponsoring 4 kids to a week long, TU-backed, kids fishing camp in the Catskills. They pay half of the camp fee for the kids. Anthony Pittore stated that the Federation will help sponsor a 5th youth, if one becomes available.

Youth Trap Shooting

Tom Gannon reported that the Boy Scouts were contacted and are interested in participating.

Legislation (and other conservation news)

Bill Conners spoke about EHD deer mortality problem. It is not really known how many deer died from EHD and there are still a lot of unknowns. But it is known that some deer survive the disease. There was a low return of the blood sample kits from Cornell College, but samples were taken from the deer culled at Vassar.

Also reported was that Covid was found in deer. One study done in another state showed that 38% had Covid. It is generally accepted that the meat from deer that may have had either disease is OK to consume, if properly cooked.

Bill noted that there is a bill at the Federal level that would fund more CWD research.

Fundraising

The drawing for the Annual 50/50 raffle was held at the end of the meeting. 352 tickets were sold resulting in total receipts of \$7040.

1st prize of \$3520 went to Dave Compton on ticket# 0429.

2nd prize of \$200 went to Mike Lowe on ticket# 0283.

3rd prize of \$100 went to Manchester Hunt Club on ticket# 0100.

New York State Conservation Council

Bill Conners – nothing new to report.

Communications

None reported.

Unfinished (Old) Business

Anthony Pittore thanked previous Federation President Chris Villa for all of his efforts throughout his term. This garnered a round of applause from the assembly.

New Business

Scott Emslie reminded New York State pistol permit holders that 5 years ago, license holders had to certify their licenses to meet the new state Safe Act requirement. So now, the 5-year recertification timeframe is here. Pistol license holders will need to re-certify within 5 years of their original certification date. It is up to the individual to remember to do so; the State Police will **NOT** send out a reminder.

The online form can be found on this State Police website: firearms.troopers.ny.gov/pprecert

Paper forms are also available at State Trooper barracks.

Announcements

Jackie Emslie stated that the Mid Hudson Friends of NRA Banquet will be held on April 8th this year. Details will be forthcoming.

50/50 raffle winner – Ken Rose.

Next regular meeting date: February 10, 2022.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:38 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Tom Holsopple,
Secretary