



## Federation of Dutchess County Fish and Game Clubs, Inc.

P.o. Box 3201, Poughkeepsie, New York 12603  
[www.dutchessfishandgame.org](http://www.dutchessfishandgame.org)

The Voice of the Sportsman since 1932

May 10, 2018 Regular Delegates Meeting

Copperfield's Restaurant, Washington Hollow, NY

The meeting was opened at 7:36 PM by President Tom Holsopple

Pledge of Allegiance observed

A moment of silence observed

Roll Call: 15 Clubs, 20 Members, 0 Guest

Guests Speaker: None

Minutes of the previous meeting: Accepted

Minutes of the Board of Directors meeting: Accepted

Treasurer's report: Accepted

Communications: Any delegates or officers interested in attending the HV Federation & Presidents Summit should contact Elmer Lesuer (914) 466-5940. It is imperative that all members interested in attending must RSVP Mr. Lesuer to inform him you plan on attending. If there is not enough interest by May 21<sup>st</sup>., they will cancel the date and re-evaluate. Email RSVP to [elmer.lesuer@gmail.com](mailto:elmer.lesuer@gmail.com).

WHO: Federation Officers, Club Presidents, 1 or 2 other club officers

What: Hudson Valley Sportsman Federation and Presidents Summit.

When: Saturday, June 2, 2018 Check-in/ Meet and Greet from 8 am- 9 am. Programming starts 9 am and runs till Noon. There is no charge to attend, but the breakfast will be available for a nominal charge from 8 till whenever.

Where: St. Mary's Banquet Hall, 196 North St. Kingston NY. 12401

Why: The Presidents Summit is like a mixer between counties and a chance for the Presidents can come together to present problems and uncover ways to work together.

**Hunters Helping the Hungry:** Bill Conners reports the same amount of game meat reported last month Approx. 6200 lbs. processed this year.

**Fish Stocking:** Ken Rose reports that all fish stocking has been completed.

**Fishing Day:** Anthony Pittore reports 160 people attended the event. Lots of food and fun for all. It was a huge success. Thanks to all volunteers for their help.

**Conservation Education:** Peter Kraayenbrink reported all but one slot is filled. Kids are ready to attend camp. Tom Holsopple suggested we consider allowing kids not in the clubs to fill unfilled slots.

**Dutchess County Fair:** Bill Conners reports signup sheet to man booth is filling up. We welcome suggestions from clubs as to how we can dress up our booth. Bill Conners stated we might not have a journal this year. We are working on other materials to circulate that will allow us to still include advertiser ads. Do not refuse any monies for ad space, we will work something out.

**Legislative Report:** Bill Conners reports in the Governor's budget bill is legislation that can strip you of your gun rights even if you broke any law!

**Domestic Abusers are Prohibited from Possessing Both Handguns and Long Guns**

Sue Serino contacted Bill Conners on a couple of issues. One was the "Gun Violence" legislation buried in the Cuomo budget bill.

As the Senator explained the problem, something as simple as withholding the car keys from your domestic partner could result in the police confiscating all your firearms, including your long guns. This presumably is done without due process. Gun owners in New York will have to be very careful in domestic situations and they are to have to defend their rights in court. Bill Conners will take a closer look at the legislation to see what the broader implications are. The Senator also inquired about a bill that she has been asked to carry that could suspend fox hunting.

**A09612- Authorizes the DEC to suspend fox hunting (No Same As)**

A09612- Relates to the biological control of Lyme Disease vectors; authorizes the department of environmental conservation to suspend any existing authorization for the taking of foxes when the department of health and environmental conservation certify that the health and welfare of the human population are in danger from Lyme Disease in the area.

Bill Conners suggested that the bill is not necessarily advisable. The legislation has already assigned the responsibility for wildlife management to the D.E.C. The legislation should allow DEC to use it's Regulatory Authority to manage this if it becomes necessary. The bill is an over-simplification of a very complex problem. There are many, many furbearers and raptors that feed on field mice (the vector that is of concern in the battle to control the spread of Lyme Disease).

**A10428- prohibits marksmanship and/or shooting programs in public schools.**

Bill informed the Senator of our concerns with the bill. This shuts down not just firearms programs, but it would also prohibit the National Archery in the Schools Program. There is no “SAME AS” bill currently.

**New York State Conservation Council:** Reynolds Game Farm- the DEC has announced that they will be allowing a community trail to cross the last Game Farm in New York State. The decision follows meetings and discussions about if/where the trail should enter and exit the farm.

Three options were discussed, the DEC went with the least desirable option under consideration. We advocated for a perimeter trail along the roads that border the property. One interior trail was given virtually no consideration at all.

The trail will be on an abandoned rail bed that already has a utility easement (buried).

Placement of the trail could impact future uses of the game farm (although DEC claims not.)

**Major Bills Pending in The 2018 Legislative Session**

This is becoming a very uncertain year for seeing of legislative goals being achieved. The Parkland shooting in February has stifled any programs with respect to anything involving firearms and has even had a negative impact on archery issues.

The turmoil surrounding control of the Senate that has resulted from the merger of the regular Democrats and the Independent Democrats leaves control of the Senate in Republican hands through the vote of a single Democrat who has joined the Republican conference. Plus, it is an election year – always a slow time for controversial topics.

The Federation will be pressing the legislature on those issues where we feel we can make some progress and advancement towards favorable results, if not this session, next session.

Crossbow Hunting Enhancements (A479A/S1386A)

Study Cost of Free Hunting and Fishing Licenses (A4844/S693)

Eliminate Back Tags (A6919/S2923)

Improving the Investment of the Conservation Fund (A5468/S4575)

There are lots of businesses withdrawing their support from the NRA mainly as a result of the Parkland shooting. Dick’s Sporting Goods removed all its AR-15’s Rifles from its shelves as a sign of solidarity with the anti-assault style rifles community. Dick’s is not alone. Travel companies have withdrawn their discount incentives to NRA members. As a result, we have the option to cease doing business with them. The NRA does not recommend that we destroy items previously purchased from some of these businesses. Yeti Coolers also cut ties with NRA. So instead of getting rid of the perfectly good coolers, the NRA has offered to send NRA stickers to cover up the Yeti Logos. So there’s lots ways to demonstrate our distaste for a unfortunate politically driven decision to part company with the NRA. We as supporters of the NRA can send a message back

to the companies that decides to dilute/stand against our Second Amendment rights and the NRA. WE STAND AGAINST YOU!

**Announcements:** John Darcy mentioned East Hook Sportsman Club is having a gun raffle 253 tickets @ \$20.00 each being sold. First prize is a Savage 20-gauge bolt action slug gun.

**Next Board of Directors Meeting:** May 21, 2018

**Next Regular Delegates Meeting:** June 14, 2018

**Meeting Adjourned 8:23 pm**

Respectfully Submitted  
David Compton, Federation Secretary.

Committee Reports

Hunters Helping the Hungry:

Dutchess County Fair:

Junior Pheasant Hunt:

Conservation Camps:

Legislation:

Bylaws Committee:

Annual Fundraising:

Fish Stocking:

Outdoor Journal :

New Business

Announcements

50/50 Winner:

Next Federation Board of Directors Meeting

Next Federation Monthly Delegate Meeting

The meeting was adjourned at

Respectfully submitted,  
David Compton, Secretary