



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 11, 2019 Regular Delegates Meeting

Jason Patricks on 44 Restaurant, Poughkeepsie, NY

The meeting was opened at 7:35 PM by President Chris Villa.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Bernie Walker.

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

Roll Call: 35 people were in attendance, representing 25 clubs.

Guests

President Chris Villa recognized numerous guests from West Mountain Rod & Gun Club, Southern Dutchess & Putnam Sportsmens Association, and Northern Dutchess Rod & Gun Club.

The minutes of the previous delegates meeting on March 14, 2019 were approved upon a motion by Scott Emslie (DCPA) and a second by Ken Rose (Director). All-in-Favor (AIF)

The minutes of the Board of Directors meeting on March 25, 2019 were approved upon a motion by Scott Emslie (DCPA) and a second by Ken Foster (Pleasant Valley). AIF

The Treasurer's Report was accepted as presented upon a motion by Scott Emslie (DCPA) and a second by Bernie Walker (Southern Dutchess). AIF

Communications

1st VP Anthony Pittore asked for each person in the room to stand up and give their name and brief information about themselves to facilitate greater unity among the Federation members. Due to the poor acoustics in the room, this was suspended until a future meeting.

An email was received from SafeShootNY, a new indoor shooting complex in Kingston NY, advertising an upcoming Gun & Knife show at the facility on May 4th & 5th. (Website: www.safeshootny.com)

Committee Reports

Hunters Helping the Hungry

Director Penny Hickman reported that 6,950 pounds of game meat has been distributed so far this program year.

Fish

Director Ken Rose reported that the 1st round of trout stockings was completed. The 2nd round of stockings are scheduled as follows:

Webutuk Creek, - April 18th

Fishkill Creek, Sprout Creek, Sylvan Lake, Whaley Lake - April 29nd

Wappingers Creek, Roeliff Jansen Kill, Upton Lake– May 3rd

Morgan Lake – late April or early May

1st VP Anthony Pittore reminded everyone of the Family Fishing Day on April 28th at Overlook Park in LaGrange. All are welcome.

Publicity/Promotions

2nd VP Ken Foster passed around a sign-up sheet to volunteer at our information booth at the Dutchess County Fair this summer. There are 3 time slots per day (10:00-2:00, 2:00-6:00, 6:00-10:00) and we would ideally like to get 3 volunteers for each time slot. \$5 discounted tickets will again be available for the volunteers.

Bill Conners stated that we will again supply Kids Activity books to hand out at the fair and they will have refreshed content. As voted on at the Board of Directors meeting, we will not be including advertisements in this publication at this time.

Legislation

Legislative VP Bill Conners stated that it will be a tough year to gain favorable legislation (and prevent unfavorable legislation) on sporting issues. Bill provided a list of bills identified by the New York State Conservation Council. Unfortunately it is a long list. So Bill encouraged the members to identify one of particular interest to them and call their legislators or the Environmental Committee chairman. Bill highlighted and discussed several of the bills.

You may call or email Bill if there are any questions. (845-635-1606 or conners@billconners.net)

Rich Poluzzi (Mid-County) stated that there is a proposed bill in Connecticut that would ban all trapping, and that we should be on alert should a similar bill surface in NY.

Other Conservation Related News

Bill Conners stated that sportsmen should not formally boycott Dicks Sporting Goods in light of the company's recent decision to stop selling firearms and ammo at a number of their stores. However he strongly encouraged everyone to no longer purchase anything from there.

New York State Conservation Council

Bill Conner stated that he will be attending the upcoming Spring meeting of the Council, but anticipated that it would not be a very productive meeting. Bill also discussed Conservation fund issues.

Unfinished (Old) Business

Jack Evans (Northern Dutchess) asked about the Upton Lake and Silver Lake properties.

Tom Holsopple responded that there is no new activity around the recent neighbor complaints at Upton, and provided some of the history and information of that property. Tom confirmed that it is available for use by all Federation members, which means any club member and their guests. Please follow the rules posted on the sign at the property. (Park in the designated spot, only non-motorized car-top boats, etc...) The same information was provided about Silver Lake. However there is no signage at that property, but the same rules apply, specifically non-motorized car-top boats only.

New Business

Hank Eichenhofer (Chestnut Ridge) applauded the well-deserved election of Bill Conners into the NYSCC Outdoor Hall of Fame, and read the article from NY Outdoor News about Bill's selection. The induction ceremony will be held upstate on 4/27. After a round of applause, Bill stated that while he does not do it for the recognition, he appreciates it and thanked everyone.

President Chris Villa encouraged all to get involved in sportsmens issues, follow the political issues and legislation, and make calls to your legislators to make sure we are heard.

Jack Evans (Northern Dutchess) inquired about interest of the Federation sponsoring a youth trap shooting league (high school age), given the recent legislation that essentially prevents that activity on school grounds. This was a growing league in upstate NY.

Hank Eichenhofer (Chestnut Ridge) made a motion for the President to appoint a committee to determine the viability of a starting youth trap shooting league. The motion was seconded by Bernie Walker (Southern Dutchess). After much discussion, the motion was passed – AIF.

The President appointed the following people to the committee: Tom Gannon (Northern Dutchess), Anthony Pittore (Whortlekill), Jack Evans (Northern Dutchess), and John O'Donnell (110 R&G). They may recruit several other members as they see fit.

Director Scott Emslie asked about the name of "Hudson Valley Federation of Sportsmans Clubs" that is listed as a co-sponsor of an upcoming Kids Fishing Day event at Morgan Lake, being held by the City of Poughkeepsie Police Athletic League. It was unclear whether that name meant the Federation. We no longer sponsor that event there. Bill Conners will follow up.

The new meeting venue was discussed and the Board of Directors will address the issues at their next meeting.

Announcements

None that were not already reported.

The winner of the 50/50 drawing was John O'Donnell (110 R&G).

Next meeting date: May 9th

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Tom Holsopple,
Secretary