



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
June 2018 Delegates Meeting

Attendance 33 Members Guest 2 ECO Zack Crain, Bill Hunt,
President of Green Haven Club

The meeting was opened at 7:37 PM by Tom Holsopple

Pledge of Allegiance observed

A moment of silence observed

Regular Delegates Minutes Motion to approve made by Scott Emslie, seconded by Bernie Walker. Approved

Minutes of Previous Board of Directors meeting Motion to approve made by Scott Emslie, seconded by Bernie Walker. Approved

Financial Report Motion to approve made by Scott Emslie, seconded by Brenie Walker. Approved.

Guest Reports: ECO Zack Crain reported the Striper season is over. Boat patrols of waterways are increased on the Hudson during the month of June with the assistance of the Coast Guard to enforce Conservation laws.

Committees

Annual Dinner Report

Hunters Helping Hungry: Penny Hickman reported there's approx. 6000 pounds distributed YTD.

Fish Stocking

Jr. Pheasant Hunt: Anthony Pittore reported he went up to the hunting property in Lafayetteville the brush was completely level and the new growth is beautiful. It should be a good hunt for the kids and it should cut down on the dogs being injured. Applications for the kids to participate will be distributed in the coming months. The event will be held on Sept. 29th.

Conservation Education: Scott Emslie reported kids will be heading to camp in the next couple of weeks.

Legislative Report: Bill Connors reported on the Reynolds Game Farm Commuter Trail. The DEC staff have completed an assessment of Commuter Trail Options for the proposed community trail through the Reynolds Game Farm in Ithaca. Reynolds is the last DEC game farm owned by the State of New York. Three options were considered, one that would be adjacent to the roads on the perimeter of the farm, one that traverse a field inside the farm, and the last would utilize an abandoned rail bed. While the department did conduct a stakeholder meeting at the farm in September 2017 (earlier meeting was held 2-4 years ago, at which time the plan was shelved). The department recently informed CFAB and FWMB that the option 3- rail bed , was the preferred plan. Upon reviewing the assessment report, it is Connors opinion that the Sept 2017 meeting was moot; the department staff had already arrived at the conclusion they wanted the trail on the rail bed. The department reinforced the perception that our input was relevant when they failed to reconvene the Ithaca meeting as promised and when they failed to circulate a draft of the implementation plan and Memorandum of Understanding stipulating where the trail would be placed, how it would be developed and what the requirements for maintenance would be. At this time, it is not clear what the next move will be. Until a draft is circulated Connors is not sure anything will happen.

Hatcheries lost 675 walleyes in Oneida Lake when live trap nets failed due to high winds. Fishery technicians were still able to strip 325 million walleye eggs for next year's stocking program. The County lost 250,000 landlocked Salmon fry due to equipment failure (transfer switch) during cutoff from when systems were going from emergency power back to the grid. It is not clear if

staffing issues contributed to the problems. The hatchery is short of hatchery staff right now and the problem is being addressed by the Commissioner.

Extreme Risk Protection Order message comes via the NRA. Take heed and call your state senator and tell him/her that you want them to vote NO on Program Bill A11148. Referred to as the "Red Flag" could be used to strip gun owner's rights without benefit of due process. If you live in Dutchess County (except Towns of Beekman or Pawling, call Senator Sue Serino's at (518) 455-2945. If you live in Beekman or Pawling, call Senator Terrance Murphy at (518) 455-3111 TELL THEM TO VOTE NO ON THE RED FLAG BILL! New York: Urge Senators to Oppose Governor's Anti-Gun Program Bill, A.11148. a.11148 creates an "extreme risk protection order", and the bill sets up a process for gun confiscation that lacks due process for those who are subject to these temporary and permanent orders. This is a troubling bill that would allow teachers, coaches, guidance counselors and even part-time employees to petition to have firearms surrendered. This can all be done with ex-parte where a person is not entitled to notice and a hearing. This bill contains a very low notice of proof, probable cause. A.11148 directs courts to consider innocuous circumstance like simple firearms ownership when ruling on whether a threat exists. When a person petitions to have the order lifted, the burden of proof is improperly reversed so that the respondent is now forced to prove by "clear and Convincing" evidence that the order should be lifted. This type of order is rife for abuse. Teachers with differing political opinions or personal opinions could initiate these court proceedings with little proof that an actual threat exist. It also creates serious Fourth Amendment infringements whereby parents and legal guardians could be forced to surrender their guns. The bill does nothing to punish those who makes false allegations. Finally, this bill will do nothing to improve school and public safety. It is focused entirely on firearms to the exclusion of other weapons including knives, automobiles, improvised explosives or other weapons. If a person is truly a threat, the person should be arrested or involuntarily committed and there are processes under current law that would that would allow for that under normal legal channels. This bill is nothing more than anti-gun Gov. Andrew Cuomo pushing his extreme political agenda and continuing wage war on law abiding New York gun owners. Please contact your state Senator and respectfully request that this legislation be defeated. The mere fact that Gov. Cuomo continues to call for more gun control is simply an admission that 2013 Safe Act was an utter failure and did nothing but harass and punish gun owners in New York. The Governor should follow the lead of the Senate and get serious about school safety by hardening schools with actual security measures instead of more political pandering.

Communications: Tom Holsopple reported he and Anthony Pittore attended the Hudson Valley Federation and Presidents Summit hosted by Elmer Lesuer. It was a good meeting,

a few local politicians attended. Tom King, a representative for the NRA rifle and pistol association was a guest speaker. He discussed gun rights and second amendment issues. There were also discussions on senate turnovers that will happen this fall. Bottom line, Go Out and Vote. There was a special presentation to Jay Rusnick was presented an award for all his years of service as a NRA rep. Matt Merchant was in attendance. Presidents from other clubs in the different counties were able to meet and greet at the summit. Overall it was a good meeting.

Dutchess County Fair: Ken Foster reports he is working on changes to the fair booth. There will not be an Outdoor Journal Edition this year. There's other reading materials under consideration to be distributed. The checks that have been submitted for Journal Ad space will be returned, we are no longer accepting checks. We will focus on putting out a document in book form for kids with lots of puzzles an aspect of learning about the outdoors. We're also working on installing a video monitor showing lots of outdoor events and participations of the people that visits the booth. A map showing the different streams throughout the county is under consideration. There's only seven slots left to fill. The volunteer participation is much better than last year.

Old Business Fishing Day was a success, the Mayor was pleased. About 75-100 kids attended. The event will be repeated next year. Scott Emslie made a motion that Bernie Walker be appointed to the Board of Directors to fill Tom Holspple's vacant seat. Chris Villa seconded the motion it was voted on and accepted by the delegates. Anthony Pittore discussed a variance was submitted to the Clinton Town Bd. Requesting approval to convert a single-family garage to a single family dwelling next to our property. He mentioned a boat was chained to a tree blocking the access to allow other boats into the water.

New Business: Washington Hollow will host a Pig Roast on Saturday, September 8, 2018. Burgers and Hot Dogs will be served starting @ 1:00 PM, Dinner will be served@ 4:00pm. They will provide a Bounce House for the kids, along with games and a DJ. Beer and Salads will be served along with the roast. Washington Hollow Rod and Gun Club is located at 121 Tinkertown Rd, Pleasant Valley, NY 12569. Tickets: Adults \$40.00, Children 5-13 \$10.00 Children under 5 free. Contact Kevin Higgs @ (845) 224-6424 **Green Haven Fish and Game** will host the 2018 Steak Bake on August 4,2018 at 1PM. Hamburgers, Hot Dogs, Sausage and Peppers, Raw Clams, Steak, Baked Potato & Corn on the Cob will be served. Steaks served around 4PM. There will also be Beer, Wine and Water along with Raffles and Drawings and Games. **Tickets are \$50.00, 21 yrs. and over! (Tickets available only in advanced.) to purchase Call Bill Hunt @ (845)**

494-3772 or Jim Teeling @ (845) 629-2379----- Dutchess County Pistol Association will host an Outdoor Sports and Gun Show on Saturday, September 29,2018. Show begins @ 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM RAIN or SHINE. The club is located @ 47 Saint Nicolas Rd., Wappingers Falls, NY. Special appearance by The Wolf's 94.3 Morning Man CJ from Noon – 2:00 PM **FREE ADMISSION!!** New and Used firearms for sale as well as archery, fishing, and hunting items. Air Rifle shooting, Demonstrations, Food and Fun! **SILENT AUCTION. For more info, call (845) 297-4481 or email swapmeet@depistol.org** You can be part of this event. If you are a business, you will get some great advertising by sponsoring the event with a monetary donation, Donate an item for the silent auction, Participate as a vendor or Provide some kind of a demonstration. Call or email with information about the type of demonstration and any space or time requirements. **For applications for sponsor or donor forms contact Dutchess County Pistol Association.**

Motion was made to adjourn the meeting, Meeting adjourned 8:40 PM

Respectfully Submitted by Federation Secretary
David Compton