



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 12, 2023 Regular Delegates Meeting

Short Hills Restaurant, Washington Hollow, 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: 30 people were in attendance, representing 20 clubs.

Guests

Anthony acknowledged all guests that were present.

The Treasurer's Report was accepted upon a motion by John Lucas and a second by Skip North.
All-in-favor (AIF).

Treasurer Pete Kraayenbrink reported that he has not yet received the 2023 dues from 5 clubs:
Amenia Fish & Game, Hudson Valley BassMasters, Pawling Fish & Game, Red Hook Rod & Gun,
Whortlekill Rod & Gun

The minutes of the previous delegates meeting on December 8, 2022 were approved upon a motion by Ken Rose and a second by John Lucas. AIF

There was no Board of Directors meeting in December, therefore no minutes to approve.

Committee Reports

Hunters Helping the Hungry

Anthony Pittore reported that the program received 19 deer from the Vassar cull and 1 from a private donation. Anthony called a number of people to volunteer for butchering and received a great response; about 15 volunteers helped at the last butchering session, at which about 12 deer were processed. Another session is planned for next week. Since last meeting, about 1300 pounds of meat was donated to food kitchens serving their communities. We expect to get deer from an upcoming cull in Westchester County.

Fish

Ken Rose reported that Morgan Lake was stocked in December with about 230 trout. Ken noted that there were some very nice sized fish in the bunch.

Conservation Education

Bill Conners, speaking for Scott Emslie, stated that camp registrations are open on April 2nd. So, individuals and clubs will need to apply early that day, as slots fill up quickly. If anyone has applications for the Federation sponsorships, get them to Scott Emslie, or get them to Bill who will get them to Scott.

Publicity

Bill Conners talked about using QR codes as a new method to distribute information, like at our Dutchess County Fair booth. Clubs could also use that technology to direct people to their web sites, etc...

Legislation (and other conservation news)

Bill Conners spoke about the following:

- A state bill to ban the state pheasant rearing and propagation program, which would close the game farm and also ban farm raised birds from being stocked on state lands. It has been introduced every year and never has enough support to gain traction. But it should be watched more closely in the current legislative environment.
- Most of the current legislative focus in Albany is on the budget. Bill will have more information on bills important to us at the next meeting.
- Many facets of the CCIA gun laws are still being upheld at the supreme court levels, not because of lack of merit, but because they feel the mid-level courts need to address them completely first.
- Bill has been emailing out information on gun related legislation, but still feels that the Federation should continue putting its resources and energy into conservation related issues. Bill continued to encourage individual and club financial support of the groups leading the challenges, like Guns Owners of America.
- New York is expected to get around \$40 million this year from Pittman-Robertson funds, which comes from taxes on gun and ammunition sales, to be used for conservation programs.
- Some of the money from the recently passed Environmental Bond Act is earmarked for repairs and refurbishment of the state hatchery facilities.

New York State Conservation Council

Bill Conners reported that the Council financially survived 2022, but it remains to be seen how they will do going forward.

Communications

None reported.

Unfinished (Old) Business

Fundraising

Ken Foster thanked all who participated in the Annual 50/50 raffle, both selling and buying raffle tickets. There was only 1 club that did not participate out of those expected. A lot of money was turned in tonight. Estimated total receipts were \$6520, so the 50/50 grand prize will be about \$3200. But Ken will verify the actual amount in the next week, to be able to cut the checks by this month's Board of Directors meeting. The drawings were held and the following winners announced:

\$200 ticket# 0046 John Harkin
\$300 ticket# 0384 Mike Humbert
50/50 ticket# 0041 Richard Brown

New Business

Mike Butts stated that Trout Unlimited (TU) is seeking a place and volunteers to hold a veteran's fishing day event again this year. It was held at Whortlekill Rod & Gun Club last year and was a very gratifying event.

Mike also reported that TU helped the DEC to survey the upper Wappingers Creek, and they found wild trout. Mike noted that there are a lot of beaver dams in the creek and a lot of Giardia was found in the water. The Giardia parasite causes "beaver fever", so be careful not to ingest any water if you fish there.

Tom Gannon stated that a member of Northern Dutchess Rod & Gun Club (NDRGC) is trying to re-introduce American Chestnut trees and would like to address the delegates at a future meeting.

Tom also mentioned that NDRGC is planning a number of changes to their wildlife exhibit at the DC Fair. This is another result of the fact that no fur bearing animals are allowed there anymore.

Announcements

None reported.

Meeting 50/50 raffle winner – Matt Cousens.

Next regular meeting date: February 9, 2023.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Tom Holsopple,
Secretary