



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

August 8, 2024 Regular Delegates Meeting

JB's Bar & Grill, James Baird State Park, Pleasant Valley, NY

The meeting was opened at 7:32 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: 26 people were in attendance, representing 18 clubs.

Guests

None.

Financial Report and Minutes

The Treasurer's Report was accepted upon a motion by Adam Yaszewski and a second by Dave Compton. All-in-favor (AIF).

The minutes of the previous delegates meeting on July 11, 2024 were approved upon a motion by Dave Compton and a second by Adam Yaszewski. AIF

The minutes of the Board of Directors meeting on July 22, 2024 were approved upon a motion by Jim Guyette and a second by Adam Yaszewski. AIF

Committee Reports

Hunters Helping the Hungry

Anthony Pittore reported that there are 2 deer in the freezer. The DEC asked if we would take geese from a cull in Putnam County. The answer is yes, we will.

Jr. Hunter Pheasant Hunt

Anthony reported: we currently have 21 kids registered for the September 28th hunt. We need 14 more to meet our target of 35, although we often take more. We try not to turn any kids away. They all need to have their hunting license. All food, dogs and handlers, and shirts are provided; all for free.

All paperwork has been filed. We are still awaiting our event to be listed on the DEC registration web site, where kids are supposed to register. That determines how many birds we get from the state. But if that hampers us in getting kids to participate, we will buy the birds ourselves. A committee meeting will be held next Monday.

Conservation Education

Dave Morrison reported that 6 kids that we sponsored were purported to have attended.

Publicity

Anthony Pittore: We will again not have a display at the Dutchess County Fair this year. But Northern Dutchess Rod & Gun Club will still have various outdoors related displays within their exhibit. If anyone wants to help them, please contact the club. Club delegate Tom Gannon noted that DCPA usually supplies some volunteers.

Fundraising

Tom Fiumarello reported that 92 shooters attended the Federation's Best of the Valley Sporting Clay Shoot in July, which raised about \$13,000. This was less than last year, but all similar fundraisers seemed to be down from last year. He attributed that to the economy, at least in part. There were 14-15 of our clubs represented, which was very good.

Youth Trap Shooting

Tom Gannon reported that the program keeps moving along with varying levels of participants week to week. He thanked the clubs hosting the meets, and reiterated that it is open to all kids 12-17 years old.

Anthony Pittore noted that the Federation supplies the ammo, at no charge, but that we were running out of 12-gauge size. So, we purchased 10 flats from Mid-Hudson Sporting Clays Club, at a very good price.

Anthony thanked Tom Fiumarello who provides instructions to the kids at the shoots.

By-Laws

The committee will be meeting soon to continue work on proposed revisions.

Legislation (and other conservation news)

Tom Gannon noted that there are about 525 bills awaiting the governor's signature; many of which do not bode well for the sporting community. The new legislative session will be starting back up soon.

Anthony Pittore reported that he, and Tom Gannon as alternate, are expected to be nominated to replace Bill Conners as the county representative to the Region 3 Fish & Wildlife Management Board (FWMB). Then the Dutchess County Legislature will need to vote on that nomination. Region 3 FWMB meetings are held at the DEC regional office in New Paltz.

New York State Conservation Council

No report.

Communications

A letter was received from member club Trout Unlimited Mid-Hudson Chapter, announcing the 2024 Stewardship Dinner fundraiser on October 4th, from 6:00-10:00, at Coppola's Restaurant in Hyde Park. The cost is \$50 per person. Proceeds go toward funding their programs. Questions can be directed to Pat Crisci: patcrisci@aol.com or 845-489-6883, or also on their website, where tickets may be purchased.

Anthony noted all their help they provide to our programs and he will be attending.

Hank Eichenhofer noted a nice Op-Ed article in the New York Outdoor News about Bill Conners.

Unfinished (Old) Business

Hank encouraged more involvement from clubs to spread out the work load of the Federation.

Anthony Pittore reported that Tom Williams of Paradox Consulting, a marketing firm, attended the last Board of Directors meeting, to re-engage a marketing proposal. The Board decided to have his firm revamp the web site, instead of a full marketing initiative as was originally considered. The cost will be around \$2500-\$3000.

New Business

Anthony reported that the NRA grant process is now open for this year. But we first need to finalize the paperwork to complete last year's grant that we received for ammo for the youth trap shooting program.

Anthony stated that he purchased his 2024-2025 season hunting license at the Pleasant Valley town clerk's office. She printed it on water-resistant paper, that Bill Conners may have donated to the town.

Announcements

Anthony reported that he visited Bill Conners' wife and she is recuperating nicely at home

Tom Fiumarello announced a Gun Dog Advanced First Aid Clinic for owners of gun dogs to learn canine first aid for in the field. A Cornell veterinarian and veterinary techs will be presenters. Attendees will be given a fully stocked first aid kit. The clinic will be held on Sept 14 from 9AM – 4PM at JB's Grill in James Baird State Park, with breakfast and lunch provided. The cost is \$100 and attendance is limited to 35 people. All proceeds will be donated to the 2024 Cornell K9 Cancer Fundraiser.

Tom knows of 3 dogs that were lost in the field last year, and the information provided at this clinic could have prevented those deaths.

Northern Dutchess Rod & Gun Club in Rhinebeck will hold a Steel Plate Shoot on Sept. 8, and a .22 Silhouette Woods Walk Shoot on Sept. 15, starting at 9:00 AM. www.ndrgc.com

Manchester Hunt Club will hold a Pig Roast on Sept. 7 from 1:00 PM - 5:00 PM at the American Legion at 55 Overlook Road in Poughkeepsie. Questions: contact Scott at 845-416-0233

Jim Guyette mentioned that the DEC reported a beaver in Tivoli Bays with confirmed rabies.

Next regular meeting date: September 12, 2024.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Tom Holsopple
Secretary