



Federation of Dutchess County Fish and Game Clubs, Inc.

P.O. Box 3201, Poughkeepsie, New York 12603

www.federationofclubs.com

Delegates Meeting Copperfield's September 13, 2018

Meeting called to order by Pres. Tom Holsopple at 7:35 PM

Pledge lead by: Rich Poluzzi

Minutes of the previous meeting: motion to approve was unanimous.

Minutes of last BOD meeting: motion to approve was unanimous.

Treasurer's Report: motion to approve was unanimous.

Tom Holsopple: Introduced ECO Josh Crane. The ECO reported that safety patrols involving ECO's are continuing on the river under the Tappan Zee Bridge. The patrols were ordered by the Governor because of concerns regarding possible structural defects in the old span that might cause debris to fall into the Hudson River. The patrols involve DEC DLE, Coast Guard and other Departments. DEC has at least two officers per shift. Regions 2 (NYC) and 3 (Lower Hudson Valley) are providing resources.

Officer Crain was informed of a problem at the Great Swamp in Putnam County. Bird hunters are taking more than the daily limit of pheasants. They have been observed taking birds back to their cars and then returning to the fields to continue hunting. He was informed of the location(s) involved. ECO Crain said he would relay the information to Lt. Filmore whose officers patrol that Zone.

Legislation: Bill Conners reported that the Legislature is in recess at this time. The NYSCC will be meeting over the next three days and the main issues that will be discussed are budget and revenue. For several years there has been a weakness in 4Q revenue, but this year it is particularly bad, in fact, it is dire. The situation is such that it may require a re-do of Council operations and it will definitely require some aggressive fundraising.

Conners said he will be conducting a gun raffle (muzzleloader) and hopefully other Regions and Counties will make donations and conduct fundraisers.

The Northern Dutchess Rod and Gun Club has pledged \$500 and on a motion by Ken Rose and with unanimous support, the Dutchess Federation pledged \$1000.

Conners said he would provide an overview of the Council's budget and finances at the next delegates' meeting.

Conservation Education: Tom Holsopple read letters from campers that the Federation sponsored to DEC Camps at DeBruce and Pack Forest. The kids see appreciative and their letters seemed to convey that they had a good time, and that it was a great learning experience for them.

Fair Booth: Ken Foster reported that the booth was well-staffed and that it was another successful year. We ran a photo slide show on a 40-inch screen. The photos were on a broad range of subjects: Family Fishing Day, Jr

Pheasant Hunt, junior hunters with their deer, pheasants, turkeys, waterfowl, etc. There were wildlife photos and other outdoor activity photos.

The Kid's Activity Book was popular (5,000+/- distributed), as were the NRA Eddie Eagle Coins and Stickers.

Prior to the 2019 County Fair, we will look at "freshening up" Judy the Bear. Our Fair Booth Bear was donated by Harold and Judy Coons and age and exposure has taken a bit of a toll. We want to give it some attention so that she was welcome kids to our display for many years into the future. We thought we would not have it there this year, but popular demand had us bring her to the Fair by midweek.

CFAB: Bill Conners introduced a new Tri-Fold CFAB (Conservation Fund Advisory Board) Brochure that helps explain the role that CFAB plays in monitoring and advising DEC of revenue, programs and expenses associated with the CF (Conservation Fund). All of the money from sporting license sales goes into the CF.

Hunters Helping the Hungry: Penny Hickman reported that just over 6,000 pounds of game has been distributed this year (the program year ends on September 30).

JrPH: the 24th annual junior hunter pheasant hunt will be held on September 29, at Lafayetteville Multiple Use Area on State Route 199 in Milan. Another Pittore reported that he had 30 applications on hand with at least 15 more out for which he awaits a response. He would appreciate having as many volunteers on hand as we can muster up. We have a commitment from DEC DLE for two ECOs for the day. We have volunteers to help with all operations, i.e., placing birds, hustling food and water to the various fields, the cook tent, and other ops, but we can always use more. We also have a good supply of field dogs this year.

Pittore said that he has ordered new orange "T" shirts and hats for the kids.

Club 36: Pittore is again the chairman of the Club 36 raffle. He reported that all but 14 tickets have been distributed. If all of the tickets come back it will be the most successful Club 36 effort in years. He asks that everyone holding tickets make an effort to sell them and delegates please get back to your respective clubs and ask them to buy the tickets that were mailed to them.

Old Business:

Tom Holsopple: Tom raised the of insurance carriers/brokers associated with NRA. New York State has taken action against the carriers and as a result, a half-dozen clubs in Dutchess County have had to shop for insurance elsewhere. There is insurance available, including through the United Insurance Agency in Amherst, NY (Buffalo). Make sure your club knows the status of its insurance coverage and reach out to your underwriter or broker if you are not absolutely certain that you have a policy in place. The problem is because of an issue with Carry Guard Insurance, but cannot assume you have no problem unless your carrier has told you that.

New Business:

Tom Holsopple asked that the Board recommendation that former Secretary **David Compton being placed on** the Board to fill a vacancy be affirmed by the body. The vote was unanimous.

Tom also informed delegates that he will be appointing a nominating committee for the 2018 election.

Clubs Members Attending: There were 20 clubs and 28 people in attendance.

Meeting adjourned: 8:35 PM

Respectfully,

Bill Conners, Secretary Pro Tem