



## Federation of Dutchess County Fish and Game Clubs, Inc.

P.O. Box 3201, Poughkeepsie, New York 12603  
[www.dutchessfishandgame.org](http://www.dutchessfishandgame.org)

*The Voice of the Sportsman since 1932*

### **February 8, 2024 Regular Delegates Meeting**

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

The meeting was opened at 7:30 PM by 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Ken Foster.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Ken Foster.

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

Roll Call: 18 people were in attendance, representing 14 clubs.

#### **Guests**

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

The minutes of the previous delegates meeting on January 11, 2024 were approved upon a motion by Jim Guyette and a second by John Lucas. AIF

The minutes of the Board of Directors meeting on January 22, 2024 were approved upon a motion by Jim Guyette and a second by John Lucas. AIF

#### **Committee Reports**

##### **Publicity/Promotions**

Bill Conners discussed the presentation to the Board by Tom Williams of Paradox Consulting Group, based out of Hudson NY. He is a marketing and web design consultant who works with commercial businesses and non-profit sporting groups on their public and community presence. The Board is seeking to improve and increase our community outreach and view of the sporting community. Mr. Williams, who is an avid sportsman and advocate himself, is putting together a proposal toward that goal. It is still too early to predict the cost. This is just a heads up of what the Board is considering, and will put forth recommendations after review of the proposal.

##### **Annual dinner**

Bill Conners stated that he has recently encountered a BBQ caterer from the sporting community. The Board has considered replacing our traditional formal and costly annual dinner, with something like a more casual BBQ summer event. This may be pursued further, given this new catering contact.

### Hunters Helping the Hungry

Ken Foster, reporting for Anthony Pittore, stated that almost all of the processed meat has been distributed, except for about 57 pounds. 19 deer were processed in the last several weeks. Most came from the Vassar College and Westchester County culls. Bill Conners thanked all the volunteers who keep the facility very clean.

### Fish

Ken Foster reported that Morgan Lake was stocked on January 11<sup>th</sup>. Planning for spring stocking is in the early stages. If help is needed this year, Mike Butts will reach out.

Ken reminded everyone of the Family Fishing and Veterans Fishing days in April at Overlook Park in Lagrange.

The Lagrange town board approved the installation of a concrete pad at the site, and the Federation will supply a pavilion. A gun raffle is planned to help offset our cost of the project. The raffle will be co-chaired by Tom Gannon & Bruce Hotaling. Details forthcoming.

### Jr. Hunter Pheasant Hunt

The hunt is scheduled for September 28<sup>th</sup>. Anthony Pittore is the chairman. Volunteers will be needed.

### Conservation Education

Camp registration opens on March 24<sup>th</sup>. Chairman Dave Morrison will be sending out the information and sponsorship codes to the parents of the 16 kids who have been awarded sponsorships. They should do the prep work beforehand to make for a quicker and easier registration the day it opens.

### Fundraising

Tom Fiumarello spoke about defining and organizing the tasks for this year's Federation Sporting Clays shoot on July 27<sup>th</sup>, which will help to better engage and use volunteers workers at the event. Asking clubs to sign up to cover specific tasks will probably be better than time slot signups. A committee will soon be formed and a flyer soon produced.

### Legislation (and other conservation news)

Bill Conners:

- Discussed bill A8443, which is being pushed by the NY Attorney General. It would allow her to sue or criminally charge out of state sellers of ammo and firearms who sell to NY residents in other states. Due to infringement on interstate commerce, it is very unlikely to progress. So far, it is a 1-house bill.
- Will soon publish the Legislative Guide, once he receives the last pieces of information. Bill will email out when ready.
- In response to a question on the Over-60 crossbow bill, Bill stated that it is dead for now, so would have to be resubmitted. Folks can still get a medical exception to allow use a crossbow.
- Discussed the new stocking protocols that are based on stream access. DEC now needs to have confirmation from the landowner that the public has access to the PFR (Public Fishing Right). The FWMB is tasked with getting volunteers to verify the access. Dutchess County has the most parcels (122) of any county in the state to confirm. Will need support from the clubs once the details are finalized.

### New York State Conservation Council

Bill Conners stated that the Council has hired a new Executive Director: Bruce McGowan, who is the former NRA field rep for upstate NY. The Council's finances finished in the black for 2023. Bill encouraged clubs to participate in the Buck-a-Member fundraising program.

### Communications

None reported.

### **Unfinished (Old) Business**

Dave Compton read the proposed By-Laws changes for the 3<sup>rd</sup> reading. After some discussion, and after a motion by Dave Compton and a second by Dave Morrison, the delegates voted all-in-favor to adopt the changes.

Reporting for Pete Kraayenbrink, Tom Holsopple named the clubs from whom the 2024 dues have not yet been received: 110, East Hook, Northern Dutchess, Pawling, Trout Unlimited, and Whortlekill.

### **New Business**

Tom Fiumarello provided flyers for the Canine Cancer Research Sporting Clays Benefit Shoot fundraiser to be held on June 15<sup>th</sup>. The large amount of funds raised in previous years, and donated to Cornell research, has established a great relationship with the college to assist dog owners with canine advanced medical care. Some of the funds raised this year may go toward a targeted study on canine lymphoma. The registration fee was only raised \$5 this year, which was only to cover the increased cost of targets.

Hank Eichenhofer stated his opinion that we need to increase attendance at these meetings and engagement of the less active clubs. He would like to see more outreach to those clubs. The Board will discuss at their next meeting.

### **Announcements**

The Ruffed Grouse Society is holding a gun raffle, and a game dinner in Bedford NY.

Manchester Hunt Club has an upcoming game dinner, at the American Legion in Poughkeepsie.

Green Haven delegate Steve Grotzinger introduced new alternate delegate Anthony Savastano.

50/50 raffle winner – Rich Poluzzi.

Next regular meeting date: March 14, 2024.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:09 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Tom Holsopple,  
Secretary