



Federation of Dutchess County Fish and Game Clubs, Inc.

P.O. Box 3201, Poughkeepsie, New York 12603
www.dutchessfishandgame.org

Delegates Meeting Copperfield's July 12, 2018

Meeting called to order by Pres. Tom Holsopple at 7:40 PM

Pledge lead by Chris Villa

Attendance – 19 members, 17 clubs represented

EnCon Officer Deo Read attended. He reported that there will be an effort made to have an officer in attendance at each meeting, resources and time permitting.

Officer Read informed us that physical endurance tests are underway to help select candidates for the next training academy tentatively scheduled for early in 2019.

An item (position) for a DLE Investigator is now available in Region 3. No candidate has been announced.

The DLE remains without a Director due to the retirement of Joe Schneider. Hopefully, the selection will be made by the end of the summer.

Dutchess County will likely lose an officer pending the retirement of one of the more senior officers.

ECO Reed reported that there has been a steady stream of nuisance black bear complaints throughout the county.

Hudson River patrols remain high because of the availability of Homeland Security funds. The patrols have remained steady following the seasonal slow down in striper fishing. Obviously boat traffic has come down since the striper fishermen came off the river.

Skip March (Millerton Gun Club) asked what the EnCon officers are doing about the bear complaint. Apparently, he thought he was looking at a mirror only to discover that it was a bear looking through his window at him. Officer Reed said that they do as much education as possible and they also try to see that attractants are removed. If necessary they will refer the more problematic bear complaints to Matt Merchant of the Bureau of Wildlife.

There was a question regarding radiation from one of the members because Officer Read said that boat patrols routinely check for radiation while patrolling. One member asked if there any anything “special” going on. Read

said that there was not, but that the officers are compact detectors on them and they use them as a matter of course (while on patrol). The additional boat patrols will continue until the end of the month.

Minutes of the last meeting – motion to approve by Scott Emslie, unanimously adopted.

Minutes of last BOD meeting – motion to approve by Scott Emslie, unanimously adopted.

Treasurer's Report – motion to approve Scott Emslie, unanimously adopted.

Communications:

NRA – Pres. Tom Holsopple reported that we – The Federation – has received its membership certificate from the NRA. The Board will address our affiliation as a yearly routine.

Holsopple reported that he received information from “Outdoors Agency USA” – an insurance brokerage. The agency represents carriers what cover sporting club activities.

Note: member clubs of the New York State Conservation Council (the Federation is a member, your club may not be) are discounted on their premiums if they purchase club insurance from the United Insurance agency of Amherst, NY. There are several Dutchess county Clubs that are insured through the United agency. We encourage our member clubs that are looking for insurance to contact the NYSCC office in Ilion, NY and ask for contact info for the agency. The NYSCC Office number is 315-894-3302.

Hunters Helping the Hungry - Scott Emslie reported for Penny Hickman. She reports that we have distributed just 6,030 pounds this year. The freezer has the meat from one processed deer.

Conservation Education – we have not been informed of any “no shows” among our sponsored kids. Peter Kraayenbrink reports that the Hunter Ed classes at camp (DeBruce) have been well-attended and the kids are doing very well in the classes.

Jr.PH – Anthony Pittore distributed applications for the hunt to everyone attending the meetings. There are 22 Jr. hunters eligible to participate this year. We will have 35 – 36 openings, including those still eligible from last year. The hunt will be held September 29 at Lafayetteville.

The fields were cut this spring at Lafayetteville. They are scheduled to be cut again just ahead of the youth hunt. We'll work with DEC to see that the lanes are cut properly to facilitate the hunt.

NRA Grant - Pittore said that we purchased 7 shotguns with funds from the last NRA grant. The guns are available for youth shooting programs at the clubs. Contact Pittore for requirements and additional info.

Youth League - Pittore said there seems to be some interest in a youth trap league. The subject is open for discussion at a board meeting. If you want to discuss it, contact him at 914-755-9667.

County Fair – Ken Foster reports that advance tickets are available. Contact him if you ordered tickets for the workers from your club.

There are still 6 slots that have not been filled. Contact Ken at 845-452-8968.

Content for the booth is being developed. Hopefully, it will be more interactive as compared to prior years.

A Kids' Activity Guide is being produced. It will be distributed at the booth. There will be a looped slideshow and various literature. There will also be a tutorial will be available for workers at the booth.

Questions about being more proactive about sporting – especially gun issues. The advice was to reach out, write letters.

As an interest group, we have to push back more. There is no one path that will work.

FWMB - Bill Conners said that the plan to close 458 square miles of northern NY woodlands to grouse hunting has been put on hold. There is a concern about problems with the introduction of spruce grouse. FWMB, NYSCC, and CFAB all collaborated to have the plan looked at more closely.

NYSCC – Bill Conners announced that he will not be running for the Region 3 Director's slot. An effort will be made to recruit a replacement.

Reynolds Game Farm – Bill Conners said that the DEC is going ahead with plans to develop a walking trail (rail trail) through the RGF. Comments are being solicited on a draft agreement between the Town of Dryden and the DEC. Conners has pointed out a couple of problems with the agreement.

Storm surge containment plan for lower Hudson River – Conners attended a community meeting in Poughkeepsie where the Army Corp reviewed 6 options on storm surge containment. Attendance was heavy and there were MANY concerns with the offerings. We will distribute more information as the plans develop.

Conners' concern is what impact pushing the surge back in the lower river will have on up river communities.

Old Business: None reported

New Business: None reported

Meeting adjourned at 8:40 PM

Bill Conners
Secretary Pro Tem