



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

July 11, 2019 Regular Delegates Meeting

Maura's Kitchen Restaurant, Millbrook, NY

The meeting was opened at 7:34 PM by President Chris Villa.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Scott Emslie.

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

Roll Call: 23 people were in attendance, representing 18 clubs.

The Treasurer's Report was accepted upon a motion by Scott Emslie and a second by Ken Rose. All-in-favor (AIF).

The minutes of the previous delegates meeting on June 13, 2019 were approved upon a motion by Scott Emslie and a second by Jim Guyette, as amended with a correction as noted. (AIF)

Correction: The Trappers Education course at Millerton Rod & Gun Club will be held on July 27th and not on July 22nd.

The minutes of the Board of Directors meeting on June 24, 2019 were approved upon a motion by Scott Emslie and a second by Ken Rose. AIF

Guests

None

Committee Reports

Annual Dinner

Penny Hickman stated that the dinner will be held on January 25th, 2020 at the Villa Borghese banquet facility. The contract has been signed and returned.

Anthony Pittore stated that the award that was to be presented at last year's dinner to John Barry for his many years of service as a Hunter Education instructor was never presented, since Mr. Barry was not available then or recently. So Anthony presented the award to delegate John Darcy of East Hook Sportsmens Association to give to Mr. Barry at soonest convenience.

Hunters Helping the Hungry

Penny Hickman reported that the total distributed game meat this year remains at 6,995 pounds. Based on her records, 120,179 pounds have been distributed since 1998.

Junior Hunter Pheasant Hunt (JHPH)

Anthony Pittore reported that he has applications available. The hunt is open to licensed youth 12-15 years of age, who have submitted applications, on a first-come, first-serve basis. As always, it is a rewarding day for the kids and volunteers alike, and help is always needed and appreciated.

Conservation Education

Scott reported that one kid had to cancel camp attendance due to an unanticipated medical reason. Pete Kraayenbrink volunteered at the Hunter Education class today at Camp DeBruce and stated that 15 kids attended the class; 11 girls and 4 boys.

Publicity/Promotions

Ken Foster reported that there are still 6 volunteer time slots open for the Dutchess County Fair booth, in order to have 3 people per time slot for the desired coverage. Ken has the discounted admission tickets available. 110 Rod & Gun Club has some tickets available for the unfilled slots that they could not fill, so contact delegate John O'Donnell at 845-559-7912 if you can fill a slot and want a ticket. Skip North was recognized and thanked for Millerton Rod & Gun Club's donation of a bear rug that may be used for the booth display.

Club 36 Annual Raffle

Anthony Pittore reported that many tickets have been distributed and he will be mailing tickets to clubs who have not yet received any. Anthony reminded everyone that this is the main (and only) fundraiser that the Federation holds every year, so he encouraged all clubs to participate by selling or buying tickets.

Youth Trap Shooting

Committee chairman Tom Gannon reported that they have found a source for liability insurance, which should alleviate a lot of the clubs' concerns. The cost is \$30 per instructor and \$20 per youth shooter. Anthony Pittore stated that he is working on scheduling an NRA RSO (Range Shooting Officer) class, so that there will be certified instructors overseeing the kids on the range. Tentative course dates are 8/25 (all day) in Highland or on 7/30 – 7/31 (2 evenings) at Whortekill. Anyone interested in becoming an RSO should contact Anthony.

Legislation

Bill Connors reported that not one hunting-related bill that sportsmen favored, passed in the recent legislative session, with the exception of several home-rule bills for rifle expansion in hunting seasons.

But fortunately for sportsmen, some of the "fringe" bills that were unfavorable to sportsmen did not pass either. These included the lead ammo ban on public lands bill, and the bill to outlaw hunting contests.

It was a rough legislative session. Bill handed out a report of bills of interest, and discussed several on the list. One was the Safe Storage Act, which passed, but was amended to exempt kids with hunting licenses or on the range with an adult (NYS Assembly bill A8174). See the Assembly Legislature web site for the full text of that bill or any of the bills. Most are awaiting the Governor's signature, which he is likely to do.

Bill noted that people can now buy gift cards for sporting licenses, to give as gifts.

New York State Conservation Council

Bill Connors stated that as treasurer of the Council, he has spent a lot of time on their fiscal viability problems. His honest assessment is that the Council will absolutely have to change how they do business to remain solvent long-term, especially if the desire is to increase outreach, legislative lobbying, and communication with their members.

Bill Conners, reporting on CFAB issues, stated that he is still working on expanding the investment choices of the lifetime license fund.

Speaking on FWMB which deals with access, habitat, and biology, Bill is currently planning the fall meeting. The DEC is starting to look at creating a new Stream Management Plan and Bill asked Mike Butts, Trout Unlimited delegate, to be involved and represent our interests. Bill has been providing input on the Forest Action Plan which expires in 2020.

Communications

None reported

Unfinished (Old) Business

None reported

New Business

None reported

Announcements

Viola Rod & Gun Club is hosting two more NSSF FirstShots events for first-time shooters on 8/3 (Youth only) and 9/14 (all ages).

Scott Emslie – the Friends of NRA Committee is holding a gun raffle.

Northern Dutchess Rod & Gun Club – Steel plate shoot on 7/14

Pleasant Valley Trout and Game Club – 3D Bow shoots on 8/3 & 9/8, gun raffle drawn on 11/14, Open to the Public Trap Shooting Mondays & Thursdays, and Hunters Education classes in July & August.

The winner of the 50/50 drawing was Jim Guyette.

Next meeting date: August 8th at Maura’s Kitchen Restaurant in Millbrook.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Tom Holsopple,
Secretary