Northwest CT Sportsman's Council 3 Bare Hill Road, Goshen, CT 06756 nwcsc.org 860 491-3116

Council Minutes: November 28, 2006

The November meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM by Council President Craig Nelson. All rise for Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll of Delegates, Clubs, Officers and Guests:

Elise Mauriello, Newgate Coon Club & Bristol F&G; Phil Mauriello, Woodbury/Southbury R&G; Dean Fraley, CT Classic Bucks; Peter Thomas, Ousatonic F&G; Jerry Ciarcia, Waterbury F&G; Dominic Basile, Chase R&P; Mike Fusco, Harwinton R&G; Seamus Muzzlin, Rocky River Coon Club; Jason Marshall, NWCSA; Chris Marino, NVBC; Jim Fairchild, Bethlehem WCC; Tony Chianese, BWCC; Tom Accuosti, Goshen sportsmen; Clyde Breakell, Foothill's Sportsmen; Craig Nelson, New Preston R&G.

Officers in attendance: President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer.

Secretary's Report: Chris Marino

Chris reported that he is behind in completing the minutes for September and October due to his workload during hunting season. He is in the process of catching up and presented the completed minutes for September for Council approval. Phil Mauriello motions to, "Approve the September minutes as written." Mike Fusco seconds. No discussion Motion approved.

October minutes should be available; along with the November minutes, in December.

Treasurer's Report: Tom Accuosti.

Bank balances were reviewed.

Reported profit this year's M1-A in-house raffle is \$2895.00.

Cost to conduct 2006 Junior Hunting Day reported to be \$963.00.

Tom reports that no reimbursement was received from the NSSF Stepping Outdoors grant. Jason Marshall reports that his club received a \$300.00 reimbursement from this fund. We are unaware of any other clubs that received reimbursement from this grant. It was understood that Warren Speh would use these limited funds to help the small club events. JHD reports must have been submitted to Warren in order for the club to be considered. We will check with Warren Speh to enquire how these funds were distributed.

Chris Marino motions to, "accept the Treasurer's Report." Phil seconds. No discussion. Motion approved.

Correspondence:

Letter received from Harding Trout Hatchery explaining federal restrictions regarding transportation of fish across state lines from certain states, as well as ordering an immediate stoppage on fish from Ontario and Quebec. This order is due to a viral infection known as VHS that can affect all fish species. The affected area seems to be within the Great Lakes Region. Efforts to prevent the spread of this disease may affect club stocking programs next year.

Two gift certificates from Orvis were received for the banquet. Joe Rinaldi is responsible for the donation.

Committees:

Rapid Response: None

Conservation Advisory Council: Jason Marshall.

Jason reviewed Law Enforcement and Bureau of Natural Resources Reports.

Of interest was a report that funds from the Housatonic River settlement with GE are to be distributed to groups submitting grant applications for conservation projects and research within the Housatonic drainage area. It was reported that there is over 8 million dollars in this fund.

Banquet:

Update activity to date. With the exception of the Orvis donations, there has not been a lot of activity

Tickets are now available. Any delegate needing tickets should see Chris at Autumn Gun Works. Jason is making up a flyer for mailing. Tom has the mailing list.

Elise Mauriello brought up an idea for a "Theme Basket Raffle." Chris Marino **motions** to, "Authorize Elise Mauriello to create a "Theme Basket," cost not to exceed \$75.00." Mike Fusco seconds. Discussion. Motion approved. Elise is further encouraged to look into other theme type ideas and report to Chris or Jason.

All delegates encouraged to look through their liquor cabinet for possible donations to the "Cooler of Cheer."

Elise asks if any delegate can purchase goods for the banquet and expect reimbursement. Jason answered that those of us who have done so, did so with the stipulation that if the purchase was rejected by the Council, the purchaser would not be reimbursed. Therefore it would be prudent to get the opinion of a committee member before making a purchase. Delegates can check with Chris, Jason or Craig for this purpose.

Old Business:

No old business.

New Business:

Phil Mauriello brought up the subject of pheasant stocking. We are hearing from many hunters and one person involved with the pheasant program that the manner of stocking, i.e. releasing birds in full flight at the parking areas, is causing the loss of 25% to 40% of the birds due to many flying out of the huntable area. Other comments include the low weight of many birds, and their ability to fly further than normal. The Wildlife Division needs to hear from sportsmen who witness these events first hand. No changes will occur unless DEP hears from the sportsmen!

Dean Fraley reported on the Lake Waramaug boat ramp. The cost of the project is now estimated to be \$600,000, of which the state has promised to contribute \$100,000.

The Treasurer brought up the issue of reimbursement for banquet tickets from Council members. Tom states that only a few members regularly reimburse the Council when we purchase a table at any particular function. He suggests a new policy to address this situation. It was also observed that quite often when the Council pays for a table at a banquet, many seats are unattended. This is not only an expense to us, but a loss of revenue to the sponsoring organization since they have to pay for the meals anyway.

Clyde Breakell **motions** to, "Take a head for count before committing to any banquet, to determine the level of interest. We can than decide whether to purchase a table and/or make a direct donation to the event." Seamus seconds. Discussion. Phil thinks it is important to get our name out there. He feels that even if we do not purchase the table outright, we should let the sponsor know that we are making a contribution and that several of our members will attend. This will insure recognition of the NWCSC. **Motion approved.**

Good of the Council:

Motion to Adjourn: Approved.

Adjourn at 8:45 PM.

Respectfully Submitted Chris M. Marino Secretary, NWCSC