

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

Council Minutes: May 22, 2007

Meeting called to order at 7:37 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; Jason Marshall, NWCSA; Chris Marino, NVBC; Tony Chianese, BWCC; Tom Accuosti, Goshen Sportsmen; Jim Fedorich, Sharon F&G; Jim Fairchild, Bethlehem WWCC; Mike Fusco, Harwinton R&G; Jake Parmalee, NW CT R&G; Dominic Basile, Chase R&P; Seamus Muzzulin, Rocky River Coon Club; Clyde Breakell, Foothill's Sportsmen; Craig Nelson, New Preston R&G; Dean Fraley, CT Classic Bucks; Jim Bower, NWTU.

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

Secretary's Report:

Minutes for the April 24, 2007 meeting were e-mailed to delegates. Copies available at meeting. Jason Marshall **motions** to, "accept the minutes" Mike Fusco seconds. Discussion. Motion approved.

Treasurer's Report:

Tom reported all account balances. Tom suggested that the Finance Committee discuss moving some funds from the checking account into one or more of our income producing accounts.

Phil Mauriello **motions** to, "accept the Treasurer's Report" Second by Mike Fusco. Discussion. Motion approved.

(The following is provided by the Secretary for informational purposes. This information was not discussed at the May meeting.)

The Secretary's review of previous meeting minutes indicate that the Council has no formal Finance Committee. We did initiate an Investment Committee at the March meeting in 2005. The committee consists of the Treasurer, (Clyde Breakell in 2005) Joe Rinaldi, and Jason Marshall. The charge to this Committee was to investigate various investment instruments and make a recommendation to the Council. This charge was fulfilled.

The June 27, 2006 minutes provide some insight into budget issues. At that time, the Council President suggested that our Officers attempt to address financial policy. It was also noted that our by-laws charge the board of directors with the duty of preparing an annual budget for the Council by December of each year. The by laws also provide the Treasurer with the responsibility of overseeing all Council financial activities.

Correspondence:

Received a request for donations from the Wamogo Task Force on Prevention regarding "Project Celebration." The project is to provide safe entertainment and facilities for seniors on graduation night. Motion by Chris Marino, "not to consider this request because it does not relate to the purpose of NWCSA" Second by Mike Fusco. Approved. A Thank You letter for our support was received from Bob Crook of CCS.

Committees:

Conservation Advisory Council:

Jason Marshall reported on the May meeting of the CAC.

- Legislative Review.
- Law Enforcement: Looking for more input from sportsmen through reporting and the TIP program to help identify game law violators.
- A proposal to form a "Wildlife Advisory Council" and re-constitute the CAC with fewer meetings was raised by BNR Chief Edward Parker. The delegates of the CAC are to consider this over the next month for discussion at

the June meeting. A short discussion of how the CAC operates followed, along with an explanation of proposed recommendations for change from our members who serve on this Council.

Old Business:

- Chris reported on the current status of our “Range Disclosure Bill. HB 6895.” It has passed all relevant committees and is awaiting action on the floor.

New Business:

- Tom Accuosti reported that City of Hartford officials have given City lawyers authority to sue state residents that fail to report their guns have been lost or stolen. The ordinance requires gun owners to report lost or stolen guns within 72 hours or face civil penalties.
- June 2nd is the date for NW TU's, annual River Cleanup. Those attending will meet at the Sullivan Senior Center at 8:30 AM.
- June 24th, CT Waterfowlers will be at the Ripley Wildlife Center in Litchfield for “Duck Day.”
- Lion's club will host a talk by Natural Resource Teacher Jennine Thomas, from Wamogo Regional High School. Ms. Thomas will be speaking about a program entitled, “Trout in the Classroom.” This is an educational program that is run in the fall, having the students raise trout from eggs to fingerling size and then releasing them in area waters in the spring. Ms. Thomas is considering an aquaculture program to be run along the Naugatuck River. She will apparently be speaking on this topic at the Lion's Club sometime in June or July. Jim Bower to get the date for those interested.
- Phil Mauriello brought up the idea of letter writing campaigns within our clubs to help promote our legislative interests.
- Seamus suggests a review of all legislation considered during the current session that is relevant to sportsmen. We should chart the votes of all local representatives and develop a report to our sportsmen so they are aware of how their representatives vote.
- Dom reported meeting new 5th district Representative Chris Murphy at a recent Meet & Greet event. Dom spoke to Mr. Murphy regarding proposed federal gun bills. Mr. Murphy stated that he is not very knowledgeable on the gun issues and promised to consider the info Dom provided.
Dom feels that other sportsmen from the 5th District should be advised to contact Chris Murphy and let him know how they feel about proposed federal legislation regarding firearms. There is a movement in Congress to re-authorize the Assault Weapon Ban, and now is a good time to help our freshman legislator form his position on this subject.
- Chris Marino spoke about Council activity in regard to fish & wildlife habitat. We have sponsored programs and projects throughout the years and currently have allocated funding for a cooperative habitat project with DEP for the Housatonic WMA this fall.

With the ongoing nature of our projects and funding in mind, Chris proposed that the Council consider inviting representatives from the Wildlife and Inland Fisheries Divisions of DEP to act as advisors to the Council in regards to fish, wildlife and habitat funding issues.

Chris moves to, “invite biologists Peter Picone and Tim Barry to act as advisors to the Council on matters of fish, wildlife, habitat and projects and funding issues.” Mike Fusco seconds. Discussion. Motion approved.

- Tom Accuosti reported on an article he read regarding commercial fishing and abuses that occur in the commercial fishing industry. Chris retained the article for use at the CAC.
- Western CT FNRA Banquet. Motion by Phil Mauriello to, “donate \$100.00 to the banquet.” Motion receives a second. Discussion. Motion approved.
- Jason reports on NW Claybusters donation and promotion.

Motion to adjourn by Phil Mauriello. Second by Chris Marino. Approved.
Adjourn: 8:48 PM

Respectfully Submitted
Chris M. Marino
Secretary: NWCSC