

Northwest CT Sportsman's Council
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nwcsc.org 860 491-3116

Council Minutes: November 27, 2007

Board of Directors:

BOD Attendance: Jason Marshall, Chris Marino, Clyde Breakell, Tom Accuosti, Phil Mauriello, and Mike Fusco. Meeting of the Board called to order at 7:00 PM by Council Vice-President Jason Marshall. A budget proposal for 2008 was prepared. The Board approved proposal will be presented to the delegates at the December meeting for final approval. Board meeting adjourned at 7:35 PM.

Regular meeting called to order at 7:40 PM by Council Vice-President Jason Marshall. All rise for Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll of Delegates, Clubs, Officers and Guests:

Phil Mauriello, Woodbury/ Southbury R&G; Elise Mauriello, Olde Newgate Coon Club & Bristol F&G; Jason Marshall, NWCSA; Chris Marino, NVBC; Tom Accuosti, Goshen Sportsmen; Jim Fedorich, Sharon F&G; Clyde Breakell, Foothill's Sportsmen; Joe Rinaldi, Torrington F&G; Edward Cormiel, Bell City Rifle Club; Mike Fusco, Harwinton R&G; Tony Chianese, Bethlehem F&G; Jim Fairchild, Bethlehem F&G; Dominic Basile, Chase R&P; Tom Small; Ratlum Mtn. F&G; Jerry Gourd, NW TU.

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

Secretary's Report:

Minutes for the October 23, 2007 meeting were e-mailed to delegates. Copies were available at the meeting. Mike Fusco **motions** to, "accept the minutes as delivered" Motion receives a second from Clyde Breakell. Discussion.

Motion approved.

Agendas for the October meeting were also e-mailed and provided at the meeting.

Treasurer's Report:

Tom reported all account balances.

Clyde Breakell **motions** to, "accept the Treasurer's Report as received." Second by Jim Fedorich. Discussion. **Motion approved.**

Correspondence:

- Tom Accuosti presented two cards received at the Torrington F&G thanking the volunteers that organized and conducted the 2007 Junior Hunting Day.
- Tom distributed a DEP flyer regarding Chronic Wasting testing in CT. DEP is asking hunters to donate the heads of deer for testing this year. A call number was provided.
- Tom Accuosti introduced a biographical article about Dean Fraley that appeared in the November 2nd edition of the Danbury News Times.

Committees:

Rapid Response: N/A

Membership: N/A

Banquet:

- Jason to contact Lightning Press to have tickets printed. Date set at February 29th 2008. Tom to call Grand Oak to verify date and pricing.
- A more descriptive flyer is to be developed.
- Donations are still needed.
- Joe reports that Sandanona will donate again. He needs to send request on NWCSC stationery.

Conservation Advisory Council:

Chris Marino reported on the November 13th meeting. Wildlife Director Dale May attended this meeting for BNR. Highlights included:

- Based on CAC input, a site survey of the Minetto State Park in Torrington has been scheduled. Purpose is to understand specific issues affecting the site and to assess opportunities for improvement. Waterfowl enhancement and sportsman interest will be represented.

- A new 5-year plan for the Hunter Education Program will be conducted over the next several months. The International H/E Assoc. has been asked to assess our state program and make recommendations. The focus of the new plan will be on hunter recruitment.
- Dale May gave a short presentation regarding proposed wildlife regulations changes that will be introduced in 2008. Various changes are being developed to increase hunter opportunity, expand seasons and reduce restrictions on take methods as a means of effective management on various game stocks, such as resident Canada geese and deer in high density areas.
- The National Archery in the Schools program is coming to CT. The BNR is in the process of selecting 10 schools to participate in a pilot program.
- At the request of the delegates, a CAC committee is being formed to work with the BNR on pheasant program issues.
- Check the NWCSC web site for the full report.

Old Business:

- Chris updated progress on establishing a NWCSC Conservation Trust Fund. Chris has been looking for professional help to guide the Council in forming a legal trust. After some consideration, a call was made to the Housatonic Valley Association to ask if that organization could provide any help. The HVA representative was very interested in our proposal and offered assistance in creating the trust. A meeting has been arranged to discuss the particulars for December 4th. The Council President, VP and Secretary will attend.
- Jason reported on the Legislative, Coverts Field Walk held at NWCSA on November 4th. Sen. Roraback and Rep. Wilbur attended, along with 26 other interested people. Steve Broderick of the UCONN Ext Service, Pete Picone, Tm Barry and Larry Rousseau of DEP were in attendance. The focus of this tour was to demonstrate the activities and benefits of the active land management conducted by this club. This was a very good tour that pointed out what can be done to enhance forest and wildlife diversity.
- Phil reported on the Dean Fraley memorial picnic.

New Business:

- Phil Mauriello moves to, “**Change the date of the December NWCSC meeting** from the 25th to the 18th, to avoid conflicting with the Christmas holiday.” Motion receives a second. Approved.
- Jason reported that a Coverts Program would be conducted in the spring for volunteer conservationists. Anyone interested in learning about forest management should consider attending this three-day event.
- Jason volunteered to create a visual display for our upcoming banquet in honor of Dean Fraley. Anyone with pictures or ideas for the display should contact Jason Marshall.
- Gerry Gourd reminded all that NW TU meets the first Tuesday of each month at the Elk’s Club in Torrington. All NWCSC delegates are invited to attend. Meeting starts at 7:30 PM.
- The December 4th meeting of TU is important in that Kim Barberi of the Torrington Conservation Commission will be on hand to discuss plans by the Corps of Engineers to clean the banks of the Naugatuck River. The plan apparently calls for removal of all trees from bank to bank. Kim is looking for support to amend this management plan. This meeting will also feature NW TU’s Xmas party. All delegates are welcome to attend.
- Discuss recent home invasions and the possibility of introducing pro-gun, and affirmative defense legislation. Chris mentioned that Bob Crook of CCS is working on introducing Castle Doctrine legislation. Dom reported that Rep. Piscopo from Thomaston introduced this legislation last year. Although the bill failed; because of recent events, he is willing to bring it up again next year and needs support. It was felt by the delegates that any effort of this nature should be of a statewide nature. It was agreed that Dom should contact Rep. Piscopo and Bob Crook in this regard and invite them to a future meeting of the Council to discuss this issue.
- Tom Small brought up the Shepaug River Decision. Funding has been released to update Dam controls this year. We should check on plans and progress at the next CAC meeting.
- Also for CAC, proposal to allow Muzzle-loading hunting for deer at the Roraback WMA.
- Range Safety Officer training to be scheduled for Harwinton R&G. Clubs are invited to send people for course.

Mike Fusco moves to, “adjourn.” Second. Approved.

Adjourn 9:45 PM

Chris M. Marino
Secretary: NWCSC