

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

Council Minutes: December 18, 2007

Regular meeting called to order at 7:40 PM by Council President Craig Nelson. All rise for Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll of Delegates, Clubs, Officers and Guests:

Seamus Muzzulin, RRCC; Phil Mauriello, Woodbury/ Southbury R&G; Elise Mauriello, Olde Newgate Coon Club & Bristol F&G; Chris Marino, NVBC; Tom Accuosti, Goshen Sportsmen; Jim Fedorich, Sharon F&G; Clyde Breakell, Foothill's Sportsmen; Tony Chianese, Bethlehem F&G; Jim Fairchild, Bethlehem F&G; Craig Nelson, New Preston R&G; Bob Andryzeck, CT Trapper's Assoc.; Jerry Ciarica, Waterbury F&G.

Officers in attendance: President, Secretary and Treasurer.

Secretary's Report:

Minutes for the November 27, 2007 meeting were e-mailed to delegates. Copies were available at the meeting. Seamus Muzzulin **motions** to, "accept the minutes as delivered" Motion receives a second from Phil Mauriello. Discussion. **Motion approved.**

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

Treasurer's Report:

Tom reported all account balances.

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

Correspondence:

Rapid Response:

Chris Marino reported on a meeting attended by DEP Commissioner McCarthy, BNR Chief Parker, several Division Heads, Advisory Council Chairmen and Bob Crook. The meeting involved a discussion regarding the prospect of re-introducing and passing last year's License and Sport Fee proposal, including the Marine Fishing License. The participants discussed how the bill fared last year and the importance of re-introduction as a means to benefit natural resource management in CT. Members of the sporting groups all agreed there is widespread understanding of the rationale behind this bill, as well as support for its passage. Sportsmen felt that it would be important to let our legislators know that we, along with many of the various conservation and environmental organizations throughout the state support this bill. With that in mind, we offered to draft and collect, statements of support for the Licensing Bill. The drafts will be circulated throughout our clubs and the conservation community for endorsement. It will be a simple statement of support providing that key provisions of the original bill are retained.

Chris Marino motions to, "Authorize the Council President to sign a "statement of support for the DEP proposed Recreational Licensing Bill, as drafted and read by the Council Secretary at the December 18, 2007 Council meeting." Jim Fedorich seconds. Discussion. Motions passes with unanimous approval.

Committees:

Membership:

Banquet:

Donations from Phil, Tom and Jim. We need our delegates to be very active in securing more donations. The verified date of the Banquet is Feb 29.

Conservation Advisory Council: Minutes will be posted to the NWCSC web site.

Chris Marino reported on the December 11th CAC meeting.

- The current slate of officers was nominated for re-election.
- New regulations for the Farmington River Trout Management area are being formulated. DEP wants to hear from sportsmen for advice in developing proposals.
- DEP is looking for sources of portable refrigeration units to be used by Hunters for the Hungry in southeast CT. Jim suggests contacting Stop & Shop for a donation.

- Automated licensing system should be available early in 2008.

Old Business:

- Chris and Jim reported on the December NW TU dinner meeting. Guest speaker Kim Barberi with the Torrington Conservation Commission gave an excellent presentation on flood control mandates for the Naugatuck River that are being pursued by the Army Corp of Engineers. This is an issue that could cost Torrington and municipalities throughout the country millions of dollars in updating maintenance on flood control projects located within their jurisdictions due to many years of inactivity and little or no follow-up by the Corp. The Corp appears to be relying on pre-1950 agreements to come up with their demands. Kim points out that conditions have changed and a review by the Corp of Torrington's situation is in order before any drastic activity affecting the river should be started.
- The Secretary reported on a meeting with Lynn Warner of HVA regarding help in setting up our Sportsman's Heritage Trust Fund. The outcome of this meeting was received in an e-mail from Lynn stating that HVA's Director of Finance will help us in identifying the proper course of action to set up a 501 (C) 3 nonprofit trust and the Fund. This will be a set of recommended steps to follow in establishing our fund. Lynn reports that we should hear from HVA after the holidays.

New Business:

- **2008 Budget Proposal:**
The BOD proposed budget for 2008 was distributed to the delegates. Discussion of the budget proposal ensued. Phil Mauriello motions to, "Accept the BOD proposed 2008 budget." Jim Fedorich seconds. Discussion. Approved.
- Craig Nelson provided information and updated progress regarding the Shepaug River "flow of the river agreement."
- Chris gave an update on our Council sponsored Habitat Enhancement project with DEP at the Housatonic WMA. Biologist Pete Picone dropped off project information for the Council and will attend an upcoming meeting to report on the project further. Chris also reported on an article regarding our project that was published in the Sunday edition of the Waterbury Republican newspaper.
Site work was begun in early December but had to be cut short when snow and ice precluded further machine operation. Hartford Cat picked up the machine after two days of work but agreed to commit 4 more days of machine time to this project when weather permits.
Chris also mentioned that the DEP is considering purchase of a skid-steer with fecon head in 2008.
- Jim Fedorich motions to, "Authorize our CAC delegates to bring the issue of "further reductions in hunting related, permit-required areas on state land where possible." before the CAC." Jerry Ciarcia seconds. Discussion. Approved.

Good of the Organization:

- Craig read a card received from the Fraley family thanking the Council for our donation to the Dean Fraley memorial picnic.
- Bob Andryzeck distributed posters for the Hartford Sportsman's Show. February 15th through the 17th.
- Jim reported that Trout Unlimited is requesting the State develop an auto license plate for TU. Jim suggests other organizations might benefit from such a program.
- Reminder that NWTU will be hosting a Game Dinner at the Torrington Elks Club Feb 9th. Tickets available from Jim and at Autumn Gun Works.

Clyde Beakell motions to, "Adjourn." Seconded. Approved.

Adjourn: 9:30 PM

Respectfully

Chris M. Marino
Secretary: NWCSC