

**Conservation Advisory Council  
Minutes  
March 11, 2008 Meeting**

Chairman Chris Marino called the meeting to order at 7:04 PM.

**Attendance:** See attached attendance list.

**Secretary's Report:**

\*Minutes of the February 5<sup>th</sup>, 2008 meeting were distributed to members who did not receive them electronically. The chairman requested a motion to accept the minutes.

A motion to accept was made by Phil Mauriello, seconded by George Finch. Minutes accepted with a comment from Fred Frillici about how the February Minutes were so well done by Dave Proulx, and set them as an example of how minutes should be done.

\*The Secretary handed out draft copies of a letter that is to be sent out to absentee delegates for members of the C.A.C. to review.

\*An email was received from CT Forest & Park Association informing the C.A.C. that Bob Andrews will not be able to attend Tuesday's C.A.C. meeting. To provide continuing attendance at these meetings by representatives of CT Forest & Park Association, John Larkin will be attending the March 11th C.A.C. meeting as an alternate member. If CFPA should decide to change the designation of Mr. Tait, Mr. Larkin or Bob Andrews as member or alternate, The C.A.C. will get communication of that from the Executive Director of CT Forest & Park Association.

**Chairman's Report:**

None

**DEP:**

**Conservation Environnemental Police Report:**

\*Sergeant Jim Wolfe presented the monthly Wildlife Hotline Activity report. Sgt Wolfe reported that the TIP trailer was at the Hartford hunting and fishing show in February. "T.I.P." branded License holders were handed out to attendees. The show was well attended.

**BNR Report:** Bureau Chief Ed Parker

\*Ed introduced Deer Biologist Howard Kilpatrick who did a presentation on deer population status in the northern management Zones 1, 2, 3, 4A and B of CT. He described how the D.E.P. looks at population trends and how the agency makes decisions on how they will manage hunting seasons in CT.

Ed parker summarized that the management tools available to the B.N.R. are working to keep deer populations in check.

**Forestry:**

\*Candidates are being interviewed to replace Don Smith, retiring Forestry Director. Mr. Parker is heading the selection committee. A new Forestry Director should be in place by April 1, 2008.

**Marine Fisheries:**

\*Ed reported that there was a Summer Fluke public hearing that evening in Old Lyme. Fisheries will be accepting written testimony on these regulation changes until March 18<sup>th</sup>. Fred Frillici asked if in the future that the agency could schedule the public hearings so they don't conflict with C.A.C. meeting nights. Ed agreed.

\*New requirements for Scup are pending. There are identical regulations for Ct., RI. & NY on creel, length limits and seasons.

\*Marine Fisheries Director Eric Smith will be retiring this summer.

\*Ed Parker reported that DEP has received 26 endorsement letters to date from organizations that support the proposed, marine licensing system. Sportsmen and conservation groups are encouraged to continue to send endorsements of the Marine Fishing License proposal to BNR.

### **Inland Fisheries:**

\*Trout stocking for the spring season is underway.

\*The D.E.P. is planning a Statewide closure on River Herring again this year. George Finch made a motion that the C.A.C. endorse the regulation for 2008. Ray Szajkowski seconded the motion and it passed.

\*Four informational public meetings were held to discuss possible regulatory changes for trout fishing on the Farmington River. 82% of the responses favored that Fisheries Division go with "**Option 2**", which proposes only three alternate regulations for the six sections of the Farmington River between The Goodwin Dam in Riverton to the RT. 177 Bridge in Unionville.

### **Wildlife:**

\*Ed reported that the Bluff Point deer management operation has been completed. The culling was completed in three nights with 12 deer harvested. All deer were processed and donated to area soup kitchens. Ed reported that this is the first year there was no media coverage of deer management activity at Bluff Point.

\*Ed reported that Dale May is very interested in meeting with the C.A.C.'s Pheasant Committee. Dale asked that the committee members have a list of talking points prepared for the meeting. The Committee members in attendance agreed to a meeting date of April 10<sup>th</sup> at Sessions Woods WMA. The meeting is scheduled for 7:30 pm.

Chris Marino said that he would contact Dale & the Committee members to inform all of the date, time and place.

\*Ed reported that the On-line Licensing System is operational and is working well with only a few minor glitches.

\*"The Archery in the Schools Program" is being setup to get more schools involved with the program. Ed said that he was looking forward to this being a success.

\*Ed reported that the Agency's "Dog Regulations" have been approved by the Legislative Regs Review Committee. This regulation addresses all Wildlife Management Areas with the exception of Nod Brook, which will be addressed at a later time, as a separate issue.

### **CAC Committee Reports:**

#### **Legislative:**

\*Bob Crook was ill and not in attendance. Ed Parker noted the D.E.P. handed in written testimony to the Environment Committee on the Marine Licenses bill. Representatives' Chapin & Miner said that they saw

no problem with it getting out of committee. Ed said that he was optimistic that it would be passed by the Legislature.

\*Written testimony was also given on a bill about allocation of timber sales. This bill would require that the first \$1,000,000 of timber sales go to timber management of state lands in CT. This would allow the hiring of more Foresters.

\*D.E.P. also gave testimony against a bill that would give two extra deer tags to hunters who donate their deer to food charities. This bill would work against Zone 11 & 12 deer tags.

### **Old Business:**

A motion was made by Ray Szajkowski to send copies of the letter presented at the meeting, to absentee delegates, with the minor change of a return address to the Secretary. The motion was seconded by Phil Mauriello.

The motion was voted on and passed.

Phil Mauriello asked if there has been an agency evaluation of Minetto State Park yet. Ed Parker said the evaluation team had not visited the site yet and that it would probably be some time before it was done.

### **New Business:**

None

A motion to adjourn was made by Gary Sylvester and seconded by Dave Proulx. Motion passed, meeting adjourned at 9:55 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Jason Marshall  
Secretary: C.A.C.