

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

Council Minutes: May 27, 2008

Regular meeting 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:

Phil Mauriello, Woodbury/Southbury R&G; Elise Mauriello, Olde Newgate Coon Club & Bristol F&G; Chris Marino, NVBC; Tom Accuosti, Goshen Sportsmen; Tony Chianese, Bethlehem F&G; Jim Fairchild, Bethlehem F&G; Jason Marshall, NWCSA; Richard Pilch, NW R&G; Craig Nelson, New Preston R&G; Seamus Muzzulin, RRCC.
All Officers in attendance.

Secretary's Report:

Minutes for the April 22, 2008 meeting were e-mailed to delegates. Copies were available at the meeting. Seamus Muzzlin **motions** to, "Accept the minutes as delivered." Motion receives a second from Jason Marshall. Discussion. **Motion approved.**

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

Treasurer's Report:

Tom Accuosti reported all account balances.

Phil Mauriello **motions** to, "Accept the Treasurer's Report as received." Second by Seamus Muzzlin. Discussion. **Motion approved.**

Correspondence:

E-mails received from American Sporting Dog Alliance and NYSCC. Nothing of importance.

Committees:

Membership:

Rapid Response:

Discuss candidacy of David Cappiello for the fifth district congressional seat. All agree that this candidacy is worth our support.

Banquet:

Raffle:

Jason announced the start of our annual in-house NWCSC raffle. An NWCSC benefactor donated two custom flintlock rifles for this raffle. He asked that proceeds of the raffle be dedicated to our fish & wildlife habitat endowment fund for Northwest CT. Jason has tickets and raffle brochures available for delegates to take back to their clubs. Ticket cost is \$10.00 and the drawing will take place during the first week in November. The success of this raffle will depend on the dedicated efforts of our delegates to sell tickets to their club members.

Conservation Advisory Council:

- Vice-Chairman Tip Garritt chaired this meeting in the absence of Chairman Chris Marino who was away on vacation.
- Jason reported ongoing discussions regarding membership issues at the CAC.
- New Wildlife regulation proposals will be ready for Public Hearings in June.
- Pheasant bids have been received by the State for 2008. Bids came in at \$10.20 per bird with three vendors selected to supply birds. All vendors are reported to be CT based.

- Susan Flechette has been hired as Deputy Commissioner of DEP; a position previously held by David Leff.
- Bob Crook gave a post session report on legislative activity. No gun bills passed this year. The DEP licensing bill did not pass.
- A Forestry Bill sponsored by Rep. George Wilbur did pass that reallocates revenue received through forestry practices of the DEP. Previously, the first \$800,000 of revenue derived from forestry sales went to the general fund. The new bill reduces the General Fund contribution to the first \$600,000 in forestry revenue. All earnings in excess of the initial \$600,000 will be allocated to the Env. Conservation Fund to be used only for forestry management. The revenue that will now be going back to forestry should enhance the division's ability to manage State Forests.

Old Business:

- Jason reported that he brought the Council idea of a Lottery Ticket to benefit wildlife management up at the CAC meeting. This idea did not generate much excitement among those in attendance. The BNR Chief said that he would take the idea under advisement. We will continue to research the Maine lottery program and if the results in Maine prove to be positive, we will bring our data and this proposal back to the CAC.
- Seamus, Jason and Phil led a lively discussion regarding the Marine Fisheries Bill and how it would impact CT sportsmen. Several rumors pertaining to this bill were discussed and disposed of.
- Jason reviewed a report from the CAC Pheasant Committee pertaining to a May meeting between the Committee and the Wildlife Division. The report highlights some of the problems sportsmen see with the current pheasant program, as well as possible solutions to several of the major problems. The objective of all parties involved is to improve and enhance this program to encourage more sportsmen to participate and enjoy the sport.
- Jason reports that Larry Timmerman and Bill Vanderbeek are trying to resurrect the CT Woodcock Council as an active wildlife organization. This organization is involved with DEP efforts to establish demonstration plots of woodcock habitat at two locations in CT. They are also working with the Army Corp to incorporate habitat projects on lands managed by the Corp.
- Seamus brought up the work he did compiling voting records of legislators during last year's legislative session. He accurately pointed out that nothing has been done with this information to date. In light of the previous discussions regarding lack of legislative initiative and action on conservation and funding issues, Seamus's point of getting the legislative record out to our members is well taken and something we should pursue. The Secretary will try to get this info to our web master.

New Business:

NWCSC Elections 2008:

Tony Chianese reported for the Nominating Committee. The Nominating Committee nominated the current slate of officers for another term in their respective offices. The Committee also nominated for re-election; Clyde Breakell and Phill Mauriello to serve another two-year term on the Board of Directors.

The Chairman asked for any other nominations for each position from the floor. There were no additional nominations. Nominations were closed. Phil Mauriello moved to, "Have the Secretary cast one vote for the slate of nominees." Second by Jason Marshall. Motion approved. The Secretary cast one ballot electing the entire slate of nominees to a new term of office. The Chairman closed the elections and dismissed the Nominating Committee.

Good of the Organization:

Phil commented on the Western CT FNRA banquet held May 29th. Phil congratulated Chairman Craig Nelson on doubling the number of attendees and running an excellent event.

Phill Mauriello moved to, "Adjourn." Second by Jason Marshall. Motion approved.

Adjourn: 9:07 PM

Respectfully Submitted

Chris Marino
Secretary: NWCSC