

Northwest CT Sportsman's Council

NWCSC
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Council Report: September 23, 2003

Meeting called to order at 7:30PM by Council President, Chris Marino. All rise for Pledge of Allegiance.

The September meeting was held at Session's Woods Conservation Education Center in Burlington, CT. We extend our thanks to Western District Biologist, Peter Picone for offering the use of this excellent facility to our Council. Peter gave our delegates an extended tour of the facility including the wildlife displays and public resource areas. The resource area has a tremendous amount of information available to the public covering all aspects of CT environmental resources, as well as info of particular interest to sportsmen such as field guides, habitat projects, and maps of all state land areas. Definitely worth a visit.

Roll of Clubs, Delegates and Officers:

Woodbury/Southbury R&G	Phillip Mauriello
Olde Newgate Coon Club	Elise Mauriello
NW Chapter, Trout Unlimited	James Bower
Harwinton R&G	Michael Fusco
NWCSA	Jason Marshal, Peter Gray
Waterbury F&G Protective	Jerry Ciarcia
Sharon R&G	James Fedorich
NVBC	Chris Marino
New Preston R&G	Craig Nelson
CT Classic Bucks	Dean Fraley
Foothill's Sportsmen	Clyde Breakell

Officers present included: President, Chris Marino; V-President, Jason Marshall; Treasurer, Clyde Breakell.

Minutes of August meeting: Accepted upon review of Council Report.

Financial Report: No significant changes. Retail sales tax license has been received. Accepted as reported.

Correspondence:

Forests and Parks literature regarding State Forest Centennial received.

Committees:

Membership:

We need to update our member club data files. We have a single page information sheet available from Chris Marino, which we would like to see each club delegate complete. This is important work because this information forms the basis of our ability to communicate directly with the clubs.

Banquet:

Discussed banquet location. **Motion by Jim Fedorich, "to contract with the Grand Oak Villa for the 2004 banquet." Receive second by Jason Marshall. Motion approved.**

Member clubs to get early offer for table purchases.

Citizens Advisory Council: September 9th. Complete report under CAC Reports.

Pheasant Program Coordinator, Mark Clavette; and Fisheries Biologist, Rick Jacobs gave talks on current program conditions and initiatives. We asked about opening new lands to hunting program. Mark reports we have to address these questions to David Leff and Edward Parker.

Rick discussed water quality and quantity problems at the Quinebaug Trout Hatchery. There is no current funding to address the problems at this time. The short-term solution is to reduce the number of trout being raised at the hatchery in order to maintain size and health of stocked trout.

New baiting rules for deer in zones 11 and 12 discussed with focus on possible problems for turkey hunters who may inadvertently take a turkey near a bait setup. Sgt. Lewoc stated that CO's common sense in these cases will prevail. As long as no other violation is involved, there should be no problem.

It was reported that the Wild Turkey Federation purchased a "warm season grass seeder" for \$12,000 and donated it to the state for use on state and private lands.

New regulation package has been delayed by other problems and department priorities. Bob Crook discussed use of 17HRM cartridge in state forests. It looks like this issue will not be addressed by DEP until 2004. Bob also mentioned that this legislative session is shaping up to include some severe anti-gun proposals from the usual sources. We need to be prepared for legislative issues that will adversely affect sportsmen.

Old Business:

CT Forest Centennial Celebration.

Discussed setup and location for Council Display at this event. Dean Fraley is going to host his CT Classic Bucks display. Jason Marshall and Jim Fedorich to set up Council table and display board. We have Council literature for distribution.

Jim Fedorich drafted and sent a letter to Bill Hyatt regarding concerns of trout mortality in no kill trout management areas. No response as yet.

Junior Hunting Day: Sept. 27th, 2003.

Discuss arrangements for event and who will be helping for the Council. Event to be held at Torrington Fish and Game.

Discuss upcoming Moose management issue and what we want as citizens of Northwest CT.

Discuss ATV raffle. We still have to register with the state. Jason still interested in pursuing this fund raising project. We will start after the Centennial event. We will register and make up tickets. We will look at ticket sales to span three months from January through March and print 2,000 tickets.

Mike Fusco discussed running several in-club raffles for hunting and fishing outings. This would require little effort and would be easy to run. We need to look into sponsors for the prizes. Jim Fedorich mentioned the "Hungary Trout" on the Ausable River in New York as offering an excellent facility for a fishing trip with fine cuisine and lodging for two days. \$295.00 per person. Top shelf operation.

New Business:

Discuss conditions at both state trout hatcheries and possible solutions to the problems that have become apparent at both. There is some frustration on our part that problems; which were identified long ago, have not been addressed in recent years when the funding was available.

Dean discussed the political situation in New Milford and sportsman efforts to open up town owned land to bow hunting. The current mayor lost his primary bid to seek re-election by 54 votes. Dean believes sportsmen made the difference. Pat Murphy, who did get the party endorsement, is in favor of hunting. Dean also spoke about efforts to open up Steep Rock Association land to bow hunting. Dean is trying to get deer biologist, Howard Kilpatrick involved in talks with the town and Steep rock.

Good of the Council:

CCS Banquet: October 19th.

Northwest Friends of NRA Banquet: October 24th.

Consensus was to have Council purchase a table at each banquet. Members attending will reimburse the Council. We took a head count and found we had 6 to 8 delegates willing to attend each banquet. We are sure other NW Sportsmen will fill out our tables.

Peter Picone gave delegates a tour of the Session's Woods Facility after we adjourned.

Adjourned 9:55PM

Chris M. Marino
President, NWCSC