

Northwest CT Sportsman's Council

NWCSC
3 Bare Hill Road,
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nwcsc.org
Phone: (860) 491-4867

Council Report: January 25, 2005

Meeting called to order at 7:40PM by Council President. All rise for Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll of Clubs, Delegates and Officers:

New Preston R&G, Craig Nelson: Woodbury/Southbury R&G, Phil Mauriello: Olde Newgate Coon Club, Elise Mauriello: CT Classic Bucks, Dean Fraley: Goshen Sportsmen, Tom Accuosti and Jim Upton: Ousatonic F&G, Rick Buckley: Harwinton R&G, Mike Fusco: Sharon F&G, Jim Fedorich: Waterbury F&G, Gerry Ciarcia: Torrington F&G, Joe Rinaldi: NW Chapter Trout Unlimited, Jim Bower: Foothill's Sportsmen, Clyde Breakell: Northwest R&G, Andrew Cote: NVBC, Chris Marino: NWCSA, Jason Marshall: Bell City Rifle & Chase R&P, Dominic Basile.

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

Council report for December reviewed and accepted.

Financial Report delivered and accepted.

Discuss Banquet bills that need to be paid.

Correspondence:

Letter received from CT Chief State Forester Donald Smith, inviting Chris Marino to serve on the State Forestlands Committee, which is now being formed. This committee will monitor and facilitate implementation of the latest ten-year Statewide Forestry Resource Plan. Chris also represented sportsman interests during the development stages of this plan. A letter accepting the invitation has been submitted.

Committees:

Office Management:

We have received several donations of office equipment for our headquarters. We thank Mr. and Mrs. Kirt Valentine for the donation of a copier and Jason Marshall for donating a printer/scanner, fax machine and telephone.

We now have a computer available at the office for Council use. We are set up for DSL Internet service. A phone has been installed for Council use. Our new phone number is: (860) 491-3116. This phone has an answering service for recording messages.

A motion was made by Jim Fedorich, to: **"Have the Council assume financial responsibility for phone/internet service."**

Motion received a second by Phil Mauriello, and was **approved**.

A safe has been provided for securing documents. The office also now has such amenities as a coffee pot, microwave and refrigerator for our use.

Rapid Response:

Jason read an Occupational Health Safety Notice that is being distributed to shooting clubs throughout the state. This notice is from the CT Dept. of Public Health. The main focus of the notice is lead exposure risks at indoor firing ranges and is informational in content regarding safety and possible health problems. Lead remediation and neutralization is something all our clubs should be aware of.

Membership:

Discuss Metacon application for membership. There is some confusion as to who the primary delegate will be. **Motion to "table action on this application to a future meeting when the delegate issue is resolved"**. Seconded. **Approved**.

Note: We have discussed Metacon with Bob Crook of CCS. Bob believes Metacon is a good club and deserving of support regarding the issues it faces. CCS has been a supporter and will continue to support the club.

Banquet:

Discuss merchandise donations to date. Discuss purchases to date. Discuss Banquet program for the event. Arrangements for Credit Card processor have been completed. Set a pre-event meeting date to finalize arrangements. Meeting to be held February 11th at Council office.

We reviewed the status of our complementary invitations as best possible. Gerry Zordan is handling this effort and has checked with the state ethics commission to be sure we can legally make these invitations.

Conservation Advisory Council Report:

The January 18th CAC Minutes can be found on the NWCSC web site. Of interest to our members was a presentation by deer management biologist Howard Kilpatrick on the evolution, status and objectives of the state deer management program. Current and future management strategies were discussed. Of interest to sportsmen was the agencies support of zonal application of Sunday Hunting as a management tool and revisions to the Hunters for the Hungry Program to facilitate an increased deer harvest in the southern zones.

Another interesting comment made during this presentation regarded how inaccurate the deer census numbers may be. Mr. Kilpatrick reported that the flyover surveys could misrepresent the deer count by 50%. These surveys apparently are not as accurate as we were once led to believe.

Old Business:

We are still working on a traditional Muzzle-loader component to the fall firearms turkey season. This effort is an example of our attempts to expand sporting opportunity in CT, so far not very successfully.

New Business:

Our CAC delegates brought up an issue that is to be debated and acted upon at an upcoming CAC meeting. The concept is to require all hunters from Sept 1st through December to wear a florescent orange hat while hunting, as part of the mandatory 400 square inches. We presented this concept to our delegates for discussion. Comments included: some people do not like to wear hats. If a person removes his hat on a warm day, is he in violation?

We prefer to continue and possibly expand upon the policy of our hunter/safety educators who do recommend to all of their students that a fluorescent orange hat be worn while hunting because of the visible height involved. DEP could reinforce this concept by suggesting in their field guides that a florescent orange hat be worn by all people in the outdoors, (hunters and non-hunters alike) as a safety measure during any fall hunting season.

Discuss current legislative agenda and our response. We also discussed the Legislative Sportsman's Caucus and how we would like to see this caucus develop to best represent our interests. Two policy issues that we need to take a position on and become active are legitimate ATV use in CT and Range Protection from frivolous accusations and lawsuits.

New hunting areas are now open. Kent/Cornwall WMA on east side of Housatonic River and Camp Columbia in Morris have been opened.

Legislative:

The legislative e-mails and committees are all listed on the CCS web site: www.ctsportsman.com. All proposed bills are also listed. Please take advantage of this information.

Good of the Organization:

March 12th, Trout Unlimited Banquet. To be held at the Litchfield Inn. Anyone interested in attending should contact Jim Fedorich or Chris Marino. Cost \$35.00.

March 12th, Game Dinner at the Grand oak Villa. Sponsored by Woodbury/Southbury Rod & Gun.

Feb 26th CT Classic Bucks Dinner.

Adjourn: 9:45PM