

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

**Council Minutes: April 24, 2007**

Meeting called to order at 7:40 PM by Council Vice-president Jason Marshall. All rise for Pledge of Allegiance.

**Roll of Delegates, Clubs, Officers and Guests:**

Elise Mauriello, Newgate Coon Club & Bristol F&G; Phil Mauriello, Woodbury/ Southbury R&G; Jerry Ciarcia, Waterbury F&G; Jason Marshall, NWCSA; Chris Marino, NVBC; Tony Chianese, BWCC; Tom Accuosti, Goshen Sportsmen; Jim Fedorich, Sharon F&G; Jim Fairchild, Bethlehem WWCC; Mike Fusco, Harwinton R&G; Tom Small, Ratlum Mtn. F&G; Jake Parmalee, NW CT R&G; Dominic Basile, Chase R&P; Seamus Muzzulin, Rocky River Coon Club; Clyde Breakell, Foothill's Sportsmen.

Officers in attendance: Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer.

**Secretary's Report:** Minutes for the March 27, 2007 meeting were e-mailed to delegates. Copies available at meeting. Mike Fusco **motions** to, "accept the minutes" Received second. Discussion. Motion approved.

**Treasurer's Report:** Tom reported all Account balances. Tom reports that all tax information has been supplied to our accountant for our income tax return. Tom also thanked the Bethlehem WCCC for their \$350.00 check to cover a table at the last Council banquet. Phil Mauriello **motions** to, "accept the Treasurer's Report" Second by Mike Fusco. Discussion. Motion approved.

**Correspondence:**

Letter received from CCS Sportpac. Discussed our annual donation to CCS. Jim Fedorich moves to, "donate \$500.00 to the Coalition of CT Sportsmen." Second by Jerry Ciarcia. Discussion. Motion approved. Tom to ask CCS to send twenty copies of Hook & Bullet to Council HQ for the delegates. Motion approved.

**Committees:**

**Conservation Advisory Council:**

The Bristol F&G Club has appointed Phil Mauriello to be their representative to the CAC. Phil was asked to relate his impressions of his first meeting.

- Discuss the possibility of a bear season proposal for CT and the potential challenge by animal rights groups to such a proposal.
- Dog leash regulation proposal for wildlife management areas will be going to the Regs Review Committee soon. This is a controversial issue that will require sportsman support to win approval.
- Jim Fedorich asked that Council delegates to the CAC inquire regarding the agencies view towards a regulation requiring the use of circular hooks only in TMA 'Catch & Release Areas.' Jim reports the use of these hooks by bait fishermen will reduce the loss of fish that swallow hooks. Jim reports that Trout Unlimited has been asked to support this concept.
- Discuss bass tournaments and parking provisions for participants. Mr. Parker reports the 50% parking rule only applies from Memorial Day through Labor Day. Exceptions to the parking rule can be made outside primary fishing season. {We need to inquire what agency fishery resources are devoted to; and what the agency is doing to assess the immediate and long-term impact of each of these tournaments.}

**Old Business:**

Metacon: Dominic reported that Metacon has won the federal lawsuit against the club. The opposition has filed an appeal and retained a new lawyer. A state case regarding water pollution remains. Jim Fedorich mentioned interest on the part of Trout Unlimited regarding the wetlands and drainage on and from club property. Jim inquired as to whether there was a regular drainage into the Farmington River. It appears that the area in question is a flood plain that receives overflow from the Farmington, but there appears to be no regular drainage back to the Farmington. The club does not shoot into the wetlands. The shooting range is separated from the wetlands by a high impact berm, which keeps all projectiles out of the wetlands.

Discuss voting procedures on Council matters. Our by-laws provide for voting procedures per Robert's Rules of Order.

Chris reported writing letters to the legislative Committee on General Law regarding Council support of SB283, the real estate disclosure bill. Copies were provided the delegates. A second letter addressed three topics; the DEP bill, SB283, and the various gun bills. We support the Gun Trafficking Task Force and are opposed to all other gun bills. This letter was sent to all Northwest area legislators.

Jason reported that the Council sponsored, early successional wildlife habitat project for areas of the Housatonic WMA has been deferred to the fall of 2007 because the project plan could not be approved before the nesting season this past spring. With this delay in mind, we have asked the biologist in charge of the project to apply for additional grant money for habitat improvement based on our approved donation of \$2500.00. Using the Council donation as matching funds, we should be able to leverage two to three times the original amount from a federal grant.

Jason provided pictures of habitat project work being conducted by DEP at the Mad River Flood Control area in Winsted. Jason reports approximately 15 acres have been cleared to date to create early successional habitat. This project will provide quality opportunity for hunters in the future. It does seem that the State DEP is involved in more active habitat management now than it has in the past.

Jason reported that he has not yet been able to get together with the NW Clay Crushers group to present our donation. He is still trying to arrange a meeting.

Chris reports that he has not had time to complete a budget proposal for the Council. We may be two months out on this proposal.

#### **New Business:**

Chris reported attending the Duck's Unlimited banquet in Litchfield in April. While there Chris brought up the subject of DU sponsoring or getting involved with the Council and DEP in a wetlands habitat project in Northwest CT. (Minetto Flood Control Area was suggested.) This suggestion was well received by the leaders of the local chapter. Chris was later informed that the regional biologist for DU; Mr. Craig Ferris, would be contacting DEP biologist Pete Picone to discuss possibilities. We will keep members informed of any progress as we move forward with this.

The new Litchfield Hills Chapter of NWTF will be holding their first banquet at the Painted Pony in Bethlehem on April 27.

Phil mentioned the response to his inquiry to DEP regarding land-locked areas of state land. Mr. Parker responded by saying maps of all state lands are available at the DEP store or online through the DEP web site.

Jake Parmalee reported on the State land fronting on Lakeville Lake. Jake checked with the Town and went online to get elevations of the area. It is a steep piece of property with abutting neighbors. A reasonable project to create access from this area does not appear to be possible. There appears to be encroachment from the abutting neighbors onto the state land. Jake to check tax records for this state property.

Chris inquired if anyone could provide picnic tables for the Goshen WMA. The tables present are deteriorated. Jim mentioned that three are available at Thomaston Dam.

**Motion** to adjourn by Chris Marino, second by Mike Fusco. Approved.

#### **Adjourn 9:15 PM**

Respectfully Submitted

Chris M. Marino  
Secretary: NWCSC