

FEDERATION OF SPORTSMEN'S CLUBS OF SULLIVAN COUNTY, INC.---

Minutes of November 14, 2018. The meeting began at 7:30 p.m. with a salute to the flag. 20 delegates were present.

Guests: Retired DEC Officer Carl Lindsey & Bill Conners, of the NYSCC.

Carl Lindsley reported that the number of hunters out there is very low. Businesses are reporting that sales are way below average & the meat cutters also have no or very little business.

Bill Conners, the current Treasurer of the NYS Conservation Council, visited to inform us of the troubles that the council is currently feeling. He said that license sales are down by 20-30%. A child lifetime license isn't recorded until that child reaches his 12th birthday. The Council revenues are down, with no new hunters & fewer clubs joining. The annual maintenance cost of the Council is \$70,000. He is currently working on a contract with a professional fundraiser. For clubs and/or individuals to donate \$5.00 or \$10.00 a month, it could greatly help. He advised us that he would very much like to come back again and speak to the membership.

A motion was made to dispense with the reading of the October minutes since all clubs receive copies. Seconded and CARRIED.

BILLS AND COMMUNICATIONS:

Treasurer Linda Loughrey presented the monthly bills. Motion was made to pay the bills. Seconded, CARRIED.

Pres. Jack Danchak had no communications.

REPORT OF OFFICERS:

PRES: JACK DANCHAK – Pres. Danchak reported that he has sent out coyote applications to hunters that participated the last 4 years – 628 e-mails & 248 by regular mail. He has also sent out 50 letters requesting donations for the coyote hunt raffle tables. He has requested that the secretary include 3 raffle tickets along with the minutes & hopes that the clubs will purchase same.

V.P.: JOHN VAN ETTEN – John had 50/50 tickets available for the S.C. Friends of the NRA. Discussion was had regarding insurance for clubs. It was suggested that a search of "Hunting Club Liability Insurance" could show what is out there.

ACTING SECRETARY – LINDA LOUGHREY – Nothing to report.

TREAS.: LINDA LOUGHREY – Linda reported that she has sent another request to the County for reimbursement in the amount of \$12,420.22 for youth programs. She reported that after paying the pre-approved bills, there is a balance of **\$14,450.06**. The 9/30/18 balance forward was \$26,276.97. October expenses were \$18,286.91, (which included \$5,227 paid out for the sweepstake bonuses & \$6,975.00 for habitat); income was \$6,460.00. Motion was made to accept Treasurer's report- Seconded, CARRIED.

REPORT OF STANDING & SPECIAL COMMITTEES:

COUNCIL DEL.: Rich Post – No report.

FISH: Harold Buley – Reported that stocking has been done at Silver Lake, Morningside Park and Waneta Lake. Town officials showed up at Silver Lake & Morningside & were thrilled with the stocking. They both said that in the spring & fall, they will be doing a "pole lending" program.

SMALL GAME: Hank Samyn – Some of the released pheasants are still being seen.

BIG GAME: John VanEtten – The take numbers are way down. He passed an article around from the S.E. Hudson Valley Wildlife Management, which reported that hunters are voluntarily choosing to pass up on shooting young bucks

CONSERVATION EDUCATION: Keith Krauss – stated that his contact in Albany has retired and hopes that the new one is as good as the previous one. Start thinking about who you would like to send to camp this summer and let Keith know.

FWMB: Rich Post & Carl Lindsley: Carl reported that the next meeting is in December.

HABITAT: Fred Bosch – Reported that few clubs requested anything for planting trees. He suggested that the Kieffer Pear Tree & the Northern Spy Apple are good ones to consider.

SPORTSMAN EDUCATION: Carl Lindsley – Stated that attendance is very low at all classes being held and & they are losing instructors.

DEP: Harold Buley- Reported that the city is buying land in Greene & Ulster Counties. If the acreage is high enough, it could be open to hunting. The City currently had thousands of acres available for hunting.

GRAHAMSVILLE FAIR: --

YOUTH DAY—

NRA: J.P. Pasquale reports that the deadline on the Safe Act has passed & some judges are now enforcing it. The lawsuit by the NRA vs. Cuomo regarding insurance is being allowed and they can now take this action to court.

SWEEPSTAKES--

ANNUAL BANQUET: --

SCHOLARSHIP:---

ICE FISHING DERBY: -Donations of Tip-ups or anything else related to ice fishing is needed. Anything that you can donate, please bring to the next meeting. Carl reported that he hopes to have a head count of the number of Boy Scouts that want to attend by Jan. 1st. The scheduled date is Jan. 26, 2019, weather permitting.

SPORTSMAN OF THE YEAR: --

COYOTE CONTEST: Dates set for Feb. 8,9,10, 2019 – the application is on our web site. Pres. Danchak reported that he will start the magazine & newspaper advertising in Dec. & Jan. It is requested that the clubs start making their booze donations now. Please start bringing liquor, wine, etc. to the next meetings.

DEER FEEDING: --Please do not feed during hunting season.

CHESTNUT TREES: -- Susan Otto will be looking into the Kieffer Pear & Northern Spy as alternatives.

UNFINISHED OR OLD BUSINESS:

Nothing to discuss.

NEW BUSINESS:

Pres. Danchak received a letter from Paul Annetts (845-674-7299), who has a 50 caliber Thompson Muzzleloader with scope and many extra components for sale. If interested, contact him direct.

Bruce Miller of the Nominating Committee, made the following nominations for the 2019 officers: Jack Danchak, President; John VanEtten, Vice President; Linda Loughrey, Secretary/Treasurer. Bruce was up for re-election as a director and will not be putting his name in. Instead, he has nominated Gary Muthig for this 3-year term. Voting will take place during the December meeting. Also, the December meeting will be the Holiday get together. Please bring something for everyone to enjoy.

Motion to adjourn at 9:01PM, Seconded, CARRIED.

Next meeting: **December 12, 2018** at 7:30 PM, **WHITE LAKE FIRE DEPT. HALL**

Respectfully Submitted,
Linda M. Loughrey,
Acting Secretary & Treasurer

