

RECEIVED  
SEP 27 2024  
SULLIVAN COUNTY  
LEGISLATURE

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

Minutes for Sept 11, 2024  
Delegates present 25

The meeting began at 7:20 pm with a salute to the flag of the United States of America & a moment of silence for Jack Danchak & Sept. 11, 2001 remembrance

**Guest(s):** ECO Lovgran from Orange County; Paula Kay, Legislature

ECO Lovgran introduced himself and was warmly welcomed. He updated the delegates on a few of the newer issues he knows are near and dear regarding the upcoming hunting seasons. He answered several questions and clarified his information.

Paula Kay gave Delegation her point of view on several topics and explained what office she's running for. The floor asked several questions.

**Report of retired DEC Officer: Carl Lindsley** Carl's items are in areas below. Regarding Camp DeBruce, there is a major amount of money to upgrade the camp, \$100,000. Some of the areas would be the dining hall and kitchen & some of living quarters for this fall. If they don't do capital construction, they won't be able to open next year & do not foresee another season open. Carl gave Marlene an address and wants to send a letter about why Camp DeBruce should reopen and the impact of closure, especially to local youth. They'll meet about this separately.

**Report of retired DEC Officer: Deming Lindsley** Deming absent.

Motion was made to dispense with the reading of the August 2024 meeting minutes, since all clubs receive a copy. Seconded and CARRIED.

**BILLS AND COMMUNICATIONS:**

Communications: Jack Danchak's passing, motion to do something for family. Second, Approved for \$100.00 fruit basket or flowers for the family.

Marlene Osterhout, Secretary: Nothing in this area.

John Van Etten: John did a brief talk about all Jack Danchak did for the Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs of Sullivan County, Inc. in the past, and what a good guy and sportsman he was.

Marlene Osterhout, Secretary/Treasurer; Katie Dauch, Assistant Treasurer: Katie - absent. Thank you to the clubs that have turned in their raffle tickets and payments.

August 2024 Income:

Sweepstakes \$6,619.00

August 2024 Expenses:

Sec./Treas. postage, etc. \$ 17.42  
Scholarship \$3,500.00  
Sweepstakes - raffle tickets \$477.78

## REPORT OF STANDING AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES:

**Council Delegate:** Gary Muthig Gary stated fall convention Sept. 6 & 7 was Rome, NY.

A lot of good speakers attended. Gary was elected Region 3 Director. John Van Etten congratulated him and suggested to the delegation that we have an alternate delegate.

Bruce McGowan is now Executive Director of the NYS Conservation Council.

**Trustees:** Keith Krauss; Gary Muthig; Hank Samyn Nothing to report.

**Fish: No committee chair** John Van Etten asked if anyone would head this committee, with no reply, in August 2024 meeting. Gary Muthig stated done until fall, \$4,000.00 ordered.

**Small Game:** Hank Samyn nothing to report.

**Big Game:** John VanEtten John and others stated several seen bucks, doe and fawn.

**Bow Hunting:** Ray Otto Opening day 10/01/24. ECO Lovgran clarified crossbow disability permit by DEC. ECO Lovgran reminds people applying for this that their Doctor has to sign off and that has to be sent in. He also recommends taking a picture of the permit to carry. Harry Walker stated there are several 3D hunts/courses still going on in the area. Tri-County has one as well. Harry spent time at All Things Accuracy where he met a man that had fallen out of a tree. Several delegated reminded hunters to be careful, falling out of trees and stands is much more common than people realize.

**Trapping:** Carl Lindsley Carl says nothing new.

**Legislative:** John Van Etten Bill Gates brought up there is a new bill coming out to ballot, Equal Rights Amendment. It's an initiative to look into the teaching of our kids. Please look into it if you are interested in learning more.

**Conservation Education:** Keith Krauss/Carl Lindsley - John says Camp DeBruce wasn't opened this summer, again. John has been contacted for next year, for various safety education courses. Pretty much at all camps, except Camp DeBruce, have contacted John regarding his safety education work.

**FWMB:** Gary says they are still working on public fishing access, in Albany. There's a meeting next week in New Paltz.

**HABITAT:** Fred Bosch Fred reminds everyone Habitat applications will no longer be accepted for 2024. Inspectors are to turn in the applications that have been dispersed at the Annual Banquet; to him. Payments are to go out in October 2024, after Fred has done the breakdown of funds, and Marlene has reviewed qualifications. \*Each club must sell at least \$260.00 of Raffles to receive habitat payments.\*

**Sportsman Education:** John Van Etten upcoming Trapping Class and Hunter Education is October 12th from 8 am to 3:30 pm at the Sullivan County Conservation Club. Look on the DEC website to sign up.

**BOW:** nothing new.

**DEP:** Gary Muthig Nothing new in Sullivan, mostly in Ulster County.

**Grahamsville Fair** Was Aug. 15, Sat., Aug. 16 & Sun. Aug. 17. Hank brought side-by-side & picked it up at his convenience; Gary Muthig dropped off tables, chairs, etc. & picked up at his convenience. The double easy up (canopy) was destroyed by a wind and rain storm Saturday night. Volunteers were Marlene Osterhout ; Carl Lindsley; John Van Etten; Fred Bosch; Gary Muthig; Ray and Susan Otto, Seymour Streigold & Mark Puerschner. Thank you to all that showed up and helped. Brian Bunce was also with us all three days and his birds were a huge hit with children and adults, like always.

**Youth Day:** Hank Samyn, Chair and Marlene Osterhout, Asst. Chair September 14th, 2024, 11am - 3pm. Mike Curry asked if he can do a trappers presentation. Andy Boyar let Hank know he'll attend

Sulphur Springs is on board to host the dinner for around 150. John added the name will be the "Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs Annual Dinner". The meal will be a roast beef dinner. We're still looking for ideas, suggestions, and help to run it and/or people to get donations. This needs to get started ASAP, as that date is quickly approaching.

**Budget Committee:** Nothing until January 2025.

**Opposing the Ban for Ammunition with Lead:** Eric Akerley absent. Update by John says DEC has opened up ammo for hunters using copper bullets to limit exposure to Eagles. They'll reimburse up to \$60.00 for a box of copper bullets.

**UNFINISHED OR OLD BUSINESS:**

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Destruction of the tent (ez up) at the Fair. Many vendors lost had theirs ruined, as well. Gary Muthig purchased a replacement using the Federation debit card for \$205.19 from Amazon, replacing the 10 X 20 that was destroyed by high winds & rain at the Grahamsville Fair. A brief discussion ensued. Motion to pay, second and approved.

**Other:**

Otisville Sportsmen's Gun Raffle tickets available tonight.

Jake's Event September 21, 2024 in Roscoe, NY.

Wood Pond Trap Shoot, Thursday eves from 7:30 - 9 pm - 11/14/24. Woods Pond Rd. Woodridge, NY.

Tractor Show at Grahamsville Fairgrounds Sat., Sept. 21, 2024 10am - 6 pm.

Rain date is Sun., Sept. 22, 2024. Federation will be represented by Mountain View selling raffles.

Motion to Adjourn: 8:45 pm, Second and CARRIED.

Next meeting: **Wednesday, October 09, 2024; 7:00 pm** at the White Lake Fire Department

Located at 1596 NY-17B White Lake, NY

Submitted by;

Marlene Osterhout, Secretary/Treasurer

E-mail: [FederationofSportsmensClubs.sec@gmail.com](mailto:FederationofSportsmensClubs.sec@gmail.com)

[www.SportsmensFederation.com](http://www.SportsmensFederation.com)

facebook: Federation Of Sportsmen's Clubs of Sullivan County

*Marlene Osterhout*

## A Tribute to John "Jack" Danchak

It is with great sorrow that I have learned of the passing of Jack Danchak. He was the President of the Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs of Sullivan County, Inc. for 30 years and I served as the Vice President with him for the last few, before he stepped down due to health reasons. Jack dedicated the major portion of his life to the Federation during those 3 decades and grew it into the largest such organization in the entire State of New York. He was instrumental in legislation on the State and local levels on behalf of sportsmen, using the weight of the Federation to influence politicians to pass laws and regulations for our benefit.

Jack was a good writer and penned a weekly column for the *Sullivan County Democrat* newspaper. When I say that he was a good writer, I'm not talking just about spelling or grammar. Many of us can handle that. Rather, I'm speaking of the ability to make a rational argument for his opinions and providing sufficient supporting data in a logical and straightforward manner that the reader could easily follow. He also had a radio show on a local station many years ago.

Jack was an avid bass fisherman and a dedicated whitetail deer hunter. The NY DEC Hunter Education Program teaches us that there are 5 stages in the progression of an outdoorsman, the ultimate being called Sportsman. It's that time when the individual doesn't care so much about harvesting game or catching fish. Rather, the goal becomes simply the sheer enjoyment of being outside in nature, and joy is found in the success of others in addition to one's own. Jack Danchak was a true Sportsman. He was a good person and I will miss him.

John S. Van Etten, President  
Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs of Sullivan County, Inc.