

FEDERATION OF SPORTSMEN'S CLUBS OF SULLIVAN COUNTY, INC. minutes of January 13, 2016. The meeting began at 7:30, P.M. with a salute to the flag. There were 19 clubs present. A minute of silence was held for David Aber who died of a massive heart attack a few days after our December meeting. He was a member of the Cahoonzie Club and the Tri-States Club and made 75 bird houses for our Youth Day last year. He also gave big donations in memory of his father, Bob Aber, for the Coyote Contest. We will miss him. Kay Danchak is being treated at Sloan Kettering for cancer and will be there several more weeks. She is responding very favorably to treatment. She sent a note to us to read at our January meeting: "Hi Federation Members: Well this letter is a surprise to some and not to others. I am in Sloan Kettering Hospital and battling acute myeloid leukemia. I am into week 3 of my treatments. I still have a rough road ahead of me but those of you who have worked with me know rough is just another obstacle to kick in the butt and get the project done. So please members, step forward and help with the Coyote Contest. Get out there, get donations, and pitch in wherever help is needed. Make me proud." Guests present: Deming Lindsley, DEC and Gene Benson, Legislative Representative. Deming indicated that during the last day of deer hunting a guy hunting squirrels shot himself in the foot. This was the third shooting in the region. He indicated that wild pigs are unprotected wildlife and if doing damage on your property you can shoot them day or night. Motion to dispense reading last month's minutes. Seconded, CARRIED. Motion to pay all bills. Seconded, CARRIED.

REPORT OF OFFICERS:

PRESIDENT: Coyote Contest is February 5, 6 and 7, 2016 is now on and we need lots of help. Weigh-in is Friday and Saturday 11a.m to 8 p.m. and Sunday 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Call Harold Buley, 985-2813, if you can help. Anyone who helped last year plus new folks, be at the White Sulphur Springs Fire House on Sunday 2/7 at 11 a.m. for lunch. Doors open to the public at 1 p.m. We are extremely short on prizes for the wheel barrow and may have to purchase some. Please call Jack or bring booze to the contest for this. We have 136 entered so far and had 140 last year at this time. Getting lots of inquiries from Pennsylvania. The Ice Fishing Contest is scheduled for 8am-2pm Saturday 1/30, weather permitting. There will be a budget meeting Sunday, 1/24, 1 p.m. at the White Sulphur Springs Fire House. Call if you can't make it. Habitat meeting will be at 2.p.m., 1/24.

TREASURER: We received \$5,091. for the Coyote Contest so far, \$1,100. for dues, \$60. for gun raffle and \$12,240 from Sullivan County. We have a balance of \$16,056.29.

V.P. – Absent. SECRETARY – No report. COUNCIL DEL.: No report.

REPORT OF STANDING, SPECIAL AND OTHER COMMITTEES:

FISH: Be extremely careful as there are lots of lakes that look frozen but have many unfrozen spots.

SMALL GAME: No report. SPORTSMEN'S ED.: No report. FWMB: No report.

BIG GAME: See attached report. NRA: See attached report.

CONS. ED.: No applications from campers so far. Applications must be in by Jan. 27. Contact Keith Krauss 932-8923.

HABITAT: Fred Bosch, Habitat Chair has many good ideas for improving you property. Call him at 557-8030.

DEP: Continuing to acquire land for public use.

SWEEPSTAKES: We have ATV from last year, winner took the cash. Other prizes shall remain the same.

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE: Will set award figure after our Budget Meeting.

YOUTH ICE FISHING DERBY: Please help if you can.

DEER FEEDING. Poor take last year. It's important to feed them so they survive the winter.

CHESTNUT TREES: Have enough orders so it's a go. Call Cliff Horton by end of January if interested. His number is 583-4282.

UNFINISHED OR OLD BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS: Cyrus Creek in contact with landowners for installing solar panels on their property. Much discussion pro and con. We need donations for the Coyote Contest and liquor for the wheel barrow. Motion to send Kay Danchak flowers and balloons when she returns home since they are not permitted in the hospital. Seconded, CARRIED. Motion to adjourn at 9:25 p.m. Seconded, CARRIED.

Respectfully submitted,

Edna Calkin, Secretary,

Sullivan County Sportsmen's Federation

BIG GAME REPORT 1-13-16

1. Preliminary summaries reveal that New York hunters reported taking 14% more bears in the Northern Zone and 3% fewer bears in the Southern Zone this past fall than in 2014. To date, reports of deer harvest declined by 13% in the Northern Zone and 11% in the Southern Zone in 2015 compared to 2014. Overall, declines were more pronounced for reported take of female deer as there was a reduction in permits for antlerless deer in most Wildlife Management Units. The DEC stated that unseasonably warm conditions and lack of snow during much of November and December also likely contributed to reduced hunter success in many areas.
2. The DEC is now accepting public comment on proposed regulation changes that would allow the use of big bore air rifles as a legal implement for taking big game at certain times and places in New York, beginning in the fall 2016 hunting seasons. Citizens who wish to make formal public comments through February 8 may do so by sending an email to: WildlifeRegs@dec.ny.gov (include "air rifle regulations" in the subject line) or by writing to: Bryan L. Swift, New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, Bureau of Wildlife, 625 Broadway, Albany, NY 12233-4754.
3. In an article in the Property Rights Foundation of America newsletter, a hearing about NY State's ten year wildlife plan was held in the Ray Brook Region 5 office on June 29, 2015. To the surprise of the representatives of the Property Rights Foundation of America the presenter for the DEC stated at the end of his presentation "In the department, our priority is restoration of large carnivores." The article continued that "the Property Rights Foundation of America has deciphered certain unnoticed DEC publications and actions that clearly present the agency's work for the restoration of large carnivores, namely wolves."
4. The DEC is taking a step toward scraping the DEC's citizen task forces on deer management and instead instituting webinars. The first two webinars will be on Jan.20th and 27th dealing with Central NY deer issues.
5. The word is that the DEC is crafting regulations that would prohibit the use of deer urine based scents and other such attractants by hunters in New York.

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SULLIVAN COUNTY LEGISLATURE

NRA REPORT 1-13-16

1. Obama's executive action on new gun control restrictions are unconstitutional as only the Congress has the power to legislate. Do not be fooled for his call for 'universal background checks' as it is code words for federal registration of all firearms owners. His executive action has also given new powers to doctors, psychiatrists and psychologists that allow them to report anyone to the FBI as potentially dangerous which will deny that person their Second Amendment rights without due process. To read the full information on Obama's executive orders go to the NRA website nra.org.

2. Wayne LaPierre, Executive Vice President of the NRA warns that if Hillary Clinton becomes President that there is a likely chance that she could have the opportunity to appoint four vacancies to the Supreme Court. Just imagine what will happen to our Second Amendment rights if Hillary appoints Eric Holder, Andrew Cuomo, Chuck Schumer or political operative John Podesta as Supreme Court justices.

3. On the campaign trail Hillary was asked if America could follow Australia's lead and "take away" handguns until they are all gone? Her response was "I think it would be worth considering doing it on a national level if it could be arranged."

3. History is replete with examples of how gun registration led to gun confiscation which led to extermination. Please read the excellent article "A Danger To Public Safety" by Stephen P. Holbrook on page 74 in the January issue of NRA's "American Rifleman" magazine.

4. Write a letter, email or call Congressman Chris Gibson's office to inform him that you oppose Obama's illegal executive action on gun control.

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email- rep.chris.gibson@mail.house.gov

5. Two New York legislators have announced that they are introducing legislation in 2016 that would severely limit ammunition purchases. State Senator Roxanne Persaud (D-19) and Assemblywoman Jo Anne Simon (D-52) want to pass a law that would limit ammo purchases to twice the capacity of the firearm during a 90-day period (3 months)!

SULLIVAN COUNTY MANAGER

JAN 19 2016

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