



Plymouth County League of Sportsmen

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Standish Sportsmen's Association

April 21, 2021

At 7:05 pm we began our monthly business meeting with the pledge of allegiance and a moment of silence for all our family and friends who have died, and for service men and women in our armed forces who have died or been injured while protecting our country.

Opening Statement: President Johnson welcomed all in attendance, thanked the kitchen crew for a wonderful meal and thanked the Standish club for their support of the Sporting community. Standish Club President Art Cabral also welcomed all in attendance and thanked the Plymouth County League of Sportsmen for all the work we do representing the sporting community.

Roll Call: There were 23 Delegates and 4 Guests representing 11 clubs and organizations in attendance.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Bonney gave a complete report of our finances. A motion was made, seconded and passed to accept the report.

Bills to be paid: Secretary Birch presented a bill for postage stamps. A motion was made, seconded and passed to pay the bill.

Secretary's Report: A motion was made, seconded and passed to accept the October, November, December 2020, and January, February, March 2021 reports.

Communications: Received minutes report from Barnstable County League.

President Johnson sent a letter to Middleboro Sportsmen's club soliciting membership into PCLS.

Special Guest: Frank Dunphy, President and Joe Basile, Secretary of Middleboro Sportsmen's Club. President Dunphy Spoke briefly about the club and answered a few questions. A motion was made, seconded and passed to accept Middleboro Sportsmen's Club application for membership to PCLS. WELCOME ABOARD !

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries Report: Ross Kessler was unable to attend the meeting. President Johnson gave a brief report.

The Herring runs are off to a slow start this year. Commercial fishing for Striped Bass is opening 1 week earlier this year, and 3 days a week are allowed for fishing compared to 2 days a week last year. Commercial fishing for Striped Bass in the Canal is PROHIBITED. Anyone using bait while fishing for Striped Bass MUST USE CIRCLE HOOKS with the exception of pork rinds and tube & worm. The 2 L shaped piers at the narrows in Wareham river have been re decked and Handicap access has been improved. There is a high density of Right Whales in Cape Cod Bay and boat speeds have been reduced to 10 knots. The use of traps for Blue Crab is no longer allowed. The daily limit is 25 crabs per person with a minimum measurement of 5".

Massachusetts Division of Fisheries & Wildlife Report: Jason Zimmer was unable to attend the meeting, but forwarded a report. Please view the March 2021 report attached to end of this report.

Seven Person Board Report: No report

Legislative Report: No report

Massachusetts Conservation Alliance: MCA is leading an effort to hire a lobbying firm to represent Sportsmen in the legislature. MCA is asking each County League to donate what they can afford, additionally each club and Organization within the Leagues is being asked to donate whatever they can toward the effort. Fundraisers and an online donation website are being set up. MCA views this as a statewide coordinated effort by Sportsmen to change the way we are viewed on Beacon Hill. Failed attempts for changes to existing or new legislation in the past shows that we need to do something different in order to get better results. After a lengthy discussion a motion was made, seconded and passed to make a donation from PCLS. Trout Unlimited Delegates abstained from discussion and vote. Beaver Brook Beagle Club and Trout Unlimited are restricted by there Bylaws to make donations directly. However both organizations have committed to solicit their members to make personal donations.

Old Business: President Johnson read the letter that was sent in January to the Division of Fish and Wildlife on the topic of the Draft R 3 Plan. The letter was approved

unanimously by the Executive Board before being sent.

Jim Curtin from the Beaver Brook Beagle Club provided an update on the status of the club. They are bringing in new members, obtained the necessary insurance requested by the town, the Treasurer is working closely with the town's Attorney, the building is being cleaned out.

New Business: A nominating committee for annual elections was formed. Committee members are John Fabroski, Jim Smith, Sue Fernandes, Larry Harju, and Jim Augenti.

A finance Audit committee was also formed. Committee members are Art Cabral Sue Fernandes, and John Fabroski.

President Johnson presented a draft letter to be sent to the Division of Fish and Wildlife for the listening session on the proposed license and fee increases. After a discussion and suggested changes to be made, A motion was made, seconded and passed to make the changes, draft the letter and send to the Division.

President Johnson spoke about the proposed changes to Waterfowl Regulations. After discussion and reading of comments From waterfowl Hunters a motion was made, seconded and passed to support the proposed changes.

Scituate Rod and Gun Club sent a check to PCLS for support of the MCA Lobbying effort. A motion was made, seconded and passed to forward the check to MCA.

Annual Banquet: Our annual banquet will be held on April 24, 2022 at Camp Kiwanee in Hanson, Mass.

Good of the Order: All gun shows scheduled for 2021 have been canceled.

There is a fundraiser to support Mass Conservation Alliance Lobbying effort scheduled at Marlborough Sportsmen's club on September 19, 2021.

Adjournment: The meeting came a close at 9:07 pm. Our next meeting is scheduled at Upland Sportsmen's Club, 76 Upland Rd. Plympton, Ma. On May 19, 2021. Comradery at 6:00 pm and agenda at 7:00 pm.

PCLS Secretary

Ed Birch

.MassWildlife Southeast District Report – March 2021

- Trout stocking is fully underway and, as usual due to warmer weather and less runoff, Southeast District got a head start on the other Districts. Every waterbody has received multiple loads of fish at this point. Stocking will continue over the next few weeks.
- In addition to trout stocking, our fisheries biologist has been busy overseeing the Childs River Restoration Project and monitoring and maintaining the herring run/fish ladder at our Red Brook Wildlife Management Area.
- Several important habitat projects are either underway or in the planning stages including continued overstory thinning and understory mowing at the Camp Cachalot WCE and the creation and/or widening of fire breaks at the Mashpee Pine Barrens WMA and Hyannis Ponds WMA to reduce catastrophic wildfire hazard and allow for future management by prescribed fire.
- Annual wildlife surveys including woodcock, grouse and waterfowl have been completed throughout the District and some surveys will continue into late April and May.
- New WMA welcome signs have been installed at many WMAs across the District.
- Our stewardship biologist and technicians have been hard at work improving many WMA parking areas and/or planning for and constructing new parking areas to provide the public better access to some properties. New lots are in the process of being built at Burrage Pond WMA, Black Brook WMA and Taunton River WMA and many lots across the District have been graded and received several loads of gravel.
- The District Supervisor has continued to work with Commissioner Amidon, the City of Fall River and DCR to improve access to the Southeastern MA Bioreserve during deer hunting seasons.
- Maintenance mowing of fields continued at Frances A. Crane WMA, Burrage Pond WMA, Noquochoke WMA and Erwin Wilder WMA.
- District staff continued to address a significant issue at the Burrage Pond WMA where beavers were threatening the integrity of the main dike by blocking up the outlet flumes.
- District staff addressed an encroachment issue at Burrage by contracting out a formal survey of the boundary line and have successfully reached an agreement with the abutting landowner.
- Winter black duck and mallard banding was completed, and three satellite tags were put on black ducks as part of a flyway research project being headed by USFWS.
- Prescribed fires were completed safely and successfully at Frances A. Crane WMA and Penikese Island Sanctuary.

- A wildfire was discovered on part of our Mashpee Pine Barrens WMA and staff from the District and Westborough coordinated with DCR Forest Fire Control and the Mashpee Fire Department to respond to the fire and assist in putting it out and monitoring it.
- District staff continued their involvement in the agency's R3 and Relevancy efforts, taking part in trainings and group meetings.
- District staff attended informational meetings and assisted in the ongoing agency finances issue.
- The District coordinated with Camp Edwards Natural Resources staff and Range Control to plan and prepare for the upcoming Youth and Spring Turkey hunting programs on the base. attended the hunt AAR and established dates for all 2021 controlled hunting seasons on the base.

- o 2021 Dates

- § Youth Turkey Apr 24

- § Spring Turkey May 3-7