

Plymouth County League of Sportsmen

@

Marshfield Rod & Gun Club

February 15th, 2017

At 7:00pm 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 that have died or have been injured to protect our Country and for Bill Taylor of Holbrook Sportsman Club.

Opening Statement: President Paul Johnson welcomed all in attendance at the Plymouth County League of Sportsmen February meeting and thanked the Marshfield Rod & Gun Club for a wonderful meal. MR&GC member and a PCLS delegate Jason Zimmer spoke on behalf of the MR&GC welcoming all in attendance and thanked the PCLS for all they due for the sportsmen and hoped that everyone enjoyed their meal. President Johnson also thanked the MR&GC kitchen crew for a wonderful meal and thanked Marshfield for all the work that they do in support of sportsmen and sportswomen. President Johnson extended a thank you to the MR&GC for their donation from the 50/50 raffle.

Roll Call: There were 30 delegates representing 14 clubs and organizations in attendance along with 7 guest.

Secretary's Report: The January meeting minutes was accepted as published by a motion that was seconded and passed.

Treasurer's Report: Do to the absence of our treasurer, there was no report for this meeting.

Bills to be paid: There were no bills submitted to be paid.

Massachusetts Division of Fisheries & Wildlife Report: Jason Zimmer reported that the Black Duck banding is continuing with low numbers due to the warm temperatures. The banding should be concluded in another week. The New England Cotton Tail trapping has concluded with 2 females and 1 male. They were submitted to the Roger Williams Zoo for testing. Trout stocking will begin the first full week of March. The mowing at Crane Management area is now complete and the equipment is now on its way to Burrage for dyke maintenance. The bids for completing the parking area at Burrage will be going out soon. A trail cam has informed us that the area has been used

by some people. Hopefully the work that needs to be accomplished will be finished this spring. There is a new Western District Board member, Steve Sears, who is an avid sportsman. A request for quotes has gone out for riverside work at Crane and Burrage to improve fire breaks. Jason informed us that there will be another open house at the MDF&W HQ on June 10th, 2017. The MDF&W are considering making this an annual event. He also commented on the Deer harvest for this past season saying that Archery and Muzzle Loaders set new records. On the Blue Hills hunt, that only 54 Deer were harvested. A few delegates that participated in this years Blue Hills hunt commended the organizers for a wonderful and safe hunt.

Communications: President Johnson informed us that he sent letters of thank you to Marshfield, Upland, Scituate, WR&GC and Standish for their table raffle donations. He also informed us that 2 invitations were received from Worcester County League of Sportsmen to their annual banquet. President Johnson informed us that he was sending out invitations for our banquet to WCLS (2), Director of MF&W Jack Buckley (2), Rep. Susan Gifford (2), Rep. Geoff Diehl and MDF&W SE District Manager Jason Zimmer. President Johnson, in regards to the Wareham property acquisition, said that he has not received an answer back from MDMF Ross Kessler for the e-mail he sent. President Johnson received a communication from MDF&W informing the PCLS of a hearing about the removal of the Cotton Mill Dam on February 28th, 2017 at 7:00 pm at East Bridgewater Town Hall. President Johnson has approached the Worcester and Barnstable County leagues, The Mass Sportsmen's Counsel as well as the Mass Bow Hunters Assn. asking that they send letters as well Joe Gilmarten contacted Berkshire County league for support and letters. He is now reaching out to previous co-sponsors and perspective new co-sponsors. He has drafted up a letter on behalf of the PCLS, to be sent out to all legislative Representative and Senators, for their support . He is also asking all of the PCLS affiliates to do the same.

MSC Report: It has been several months since our letter requesting that our affiliation with same be removed and that no action taken as of this date has been taken.

Seven Man Board Report: Please refer to the latest 7 Man Board Report on the report page in the PCLS web site.

Legislative Report: No report was given.

Old Business: President Johnson reminded everyone of the importance on selling our Grand Raffle tickets. Do not forget to get more tickets from Vice President Gilmartin when you need them. Secretary Armburg inquired from those clubs who have not yet given a count on banquet tickets they need for their club. Rather than wait for the normal

cycle of legislative business President Johnson convinced the membership of Carver and Holbrook to act now by sending letters to their legislators requesting that they sign on as cosponsors of (SD 402). The idea behind this is to get the attention of legislators early in the process and to pull together our network of support for the fight to come. President Johnson asked the delegates of the PCL to sign onto this effort. Thus far roughly 50 letters have been mailed to area legislators . He brought letters ready to mail to all legislators of Plymouth county plus previous co-sponsors of other Sunday hunting bills. There are a number of legislators in this area that should sign on with a minimum of effort. We have nothing to lose and no one else is working on a strategy to pass this bill. We cannot afford to follow the usual template or we will get the same result. President Johnson read the letter. There has been progress on the PCLS video draft pertaining to the Carver Club.

New Business: President Johnson thanked Vice President Joe Gilmartin, Secretary Mike Armburg, Dick Thorne, Bill Doherty and Bob Perrault for volunteering their time to help at the Standish Sportsmen Show. He also thanked John Fabroski and the Standish Sportsmen Assoc. for hosting the event. A motion was made, seconded and passed for the PCLS to pay for up to three more people to attend the WCLS annual banquet. A motion was made, seconded and passed to send out letters to legislative Representatives and Senators pertaining to the support of the Sunday Hunting bill (SD 402).

Good of the Order: Mattapoisett Fin Fur and Feather will be holding a Woman On Target on May 20th, 2017. Contact. Linda Meredith at lindam1002@comcast.net for application and more info. Also the MFF&F will be holding their 3rd annual Walter Gajewski Fishing Derby on April 9th,2017. Contact Scott at 774-271-0485 or Hank at 508-728-0372 for more info.

Adjournment: The meeting came to a close at 7:42 pm. Our next meeting will be at the Old Colony Sportsman Club March 15th, 2017 at 6:00 and agenda at 7:00 pm located at 159 Forest St. Pembroke, Ma.

PCLS Secretary

Mike Armburg