

# **Plymouth County League of Sportsmen**

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## **Scituate Rod & Gun Club**

**January 18<sup>th</sup>, 2017**

**At 7:30pm 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.**

**Opening Statement:** President Paul Johnson welcomed all in attendance at the Plymouth County League of Sportsmen January meeting and thanked the Scituate Rod & Gun Club for a wonderful meal. SR&GC member and a PCLS delegate Ernie Foster spoke on behalf of the SR&GC welcoming all in attendance and thanked the PCLS for all they due for the sportsmen and hoped that everyone enjoyed their meal. He also informed us that the Minots Ledge Chapter of Ducks Unlimited was instrumental in providing tonight's meal and thanked the kitchen help for the work they did preparing tonight's meal. Vice President, of the SR&GC, Kenny Crowell was then introduced by Ernie, a long time member of SR&GC. Kenny then spoke about his affiliation with the SR&GC and the MLCDU. Ernie then spoke about some of the clubs improvements that have been accomplished in the past few years. A few tokens were then passed around to the attendees. President Johnson also thanked the SR&GC and the MLCDU kitchen crew for a wonderful meal and thanked Scituate for all the work that they do in support of sportsmen and sportswomen. President Johnson then introduced Ed Snyder and Rick Vincunas, from the Sportsmen's National Land Trust and President Jim Augenti for the Trouts Unlimited SE Chapter and delegate from the Standish Sportsmens Club.

**Roll Call:** There were 43 delegates representing 15 clubs and organizations in attendance along with 6 guest.

**Secretary's Report:** The December meeting minutes, after an amendment, was accepted as published by a motion that was seconded and passed.

**Treasurer's Report:** The Treasurer gave a complete report. A motion made, seconded and passed to accept. A reminder from the treasurer, Dee Bonney, that yearly dues are now due. Please submit as soon as possible. See our treasurer for an appropriate form.

**Bills to be paid:** There were three bills for printing and paper to be paid. A motion to

pay was made, seconded and passed.

**Guest Speakers:** At this time President Johnson entertained a motion to suspend the agenda to hear from our guest speakers. A motion was made, seconded and passed. Ed Snyder and Rick Vincunas, from the SNLT. Rick began by informing the attendees about the beginning of SNLT and their mission. He informed us on their new project of special license plates, in Massachusetts, which will help fund their mission of purchasing land for sportsmen's use. He spoke of the beginning of efforts here in Massachusetts. Ed, the artist of a special print that will accompany the sale of the Sportsmen's Plate, then spoke of his background and how he came to the decision on the subject of this print. Rick then spoke on how you can obtain one of these plates and that the first 850 applicants can receive it free along with a print. You can go to their web site, [snltmassachusetts.org](http://snltmassachusetts.org). You can also go to the information page of the PCLS web site for the application. This plate will only be obtainable for passenger vehicles only. President Johnson then returned us to our regular order of business. President Johnson then introduced Jim Augenti for the Trouts Unlimited SE Chapter. He then spoke briefly on his affiliations with the sportsmen community. He also mentioned what the TU does to support sportsmen.

**Massachusetts Division of Fisheries & Wildlife Report:** Jason Zimmer will lend help to the SNLT in getting their message out to other sportsmen of Massachusetts. He reported that at this time there has been no new appointment to the 7 Man Board for the Western District. Jason extended accolades to Trout Unlimited for their support to the MDF&W and is happy to see them become affiliated with the PCLS. Jason informed us that the work that needs to be done at the parking area at Burrage Pond on Elm St. has begun by the necessary removal of some hazard trees. Although not complete the parking area is open with limited parking and the road is still not paved. Jason spoke of appreciation he has for all of the support that has been received from the sportsmen and the administration for the town of Halifax. Jason reported that the Deer biologist for the MDF&W is still compiling numbers to come up with the final total of Deer harvest from this past season. It appears at this time that it will probably be a new record for the state. The division is now working on the mowing of fields and trail on wildlife management areas. Some well placed remote camera's have produced vital information in policing wildlife management areas. This endeavor has helped the EPO's. The division is now gearing up for the annual winter Black Duck banding. They are also doing some in house and some contracted boundary marking and surveying of problem lines. There has been a new trail policy implemented to address issues that have developed from other users of the trails on wildlife management areas. Visit the MDF&W web site for more information concerning locations and changes to policies.

**Communications:** President Johnson informed us that the SE Chapter of Trouts Unlimited has joined the organizations of the PCLS. Concerning parking at Burrage

Pond President Johnson reached out to both Halifax residents that are in the Carver Club and both agreed to make calls in support of the parking lot. He also reached out as well to our Halifax resident delegates Eli Perrault and Peter Stuart. He thank Peter who volunteered to make a trip personally to Town hall to support the issue. He asked others to contact their Halifax residents to make calls He knows Holbrook made calls to their Halifax residents. Thanks to all who made the efforts. There has been some tree clearing work to show for our efforts. Concerning the Sunday Hunting bill President Johnson reached out to Worcester County, Barnstable County leagues as well as Gun Owners Action League and Mass Bow Hunters Association. He has been told that the bill stalled in the Senate. There are allegations that the bill was scuttled by some resistance by hunters who were opposed to it. GOAL is going to come out with a Sportsman's bill soon that is likely to include some form of Sunday hunting provision. He asked Jim Wallace to include us in deliberations on that package. He spoke with Dennis Boomer Hayden President of the Mass Bow Hunters Association he is going to be speaking with Matt Beaton Secretary of Environment and will call me after that conversation. He is reaching out to others as well with political skills that can give us advise. President Johnson has spoken with Senator Ann Gobi's assistant finding out that the bill has been refiled this year. The present bill number is SD 402.

**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 7 Man Board Report on the report page in the PCLS web site.

**Legislative Report:** No report was given.

**Old Business:** Secretary Armburg conducted a roll call inquiry for the banquet tickets needed. He also reminded us to be sure that the tickets remain together for entrance to banquet. Reminder to sell raffle tickets if you have not picked up tickets please do so and begin selling them. Jack Buckley is going to replace George Peterson due to conflicts with the Mass Sportsmen's Council. There has been no progress on our informational video.

**New Business:** The Marshfield Rod and Gun Club has donate funds to help the PCLS Annual Banquet success. Vice President Gilmartin is going to provide a list of legislators that supported the Sunday Hunting bill last year and forward it to President Johnson. President Johnson will be asking everyone to start making calls to our legislators for support of the Sunday Hunting bill once the has been officially filed. President Johnson

will continue with efforts in finding information and support for the Sunday Hunting bill. From delegate Ernie Foster, of SR&GC, saying that we all, including other county leagues, should become familiar with MDF&W Director Jack Buckley's opening remarks in this years abstract and support his endeavors. He also commented on Youth Hunting programs saying that all sportsmen and Sportsmen's Clubs should become more pro-active in mentoring our youth to hunting. Joe Gilmarten is going to get advertising rates on the radio as an informational exercise. Delegate John Fabroski, of the Standish Sportsmen Club, informed us of a new Archery organization in Boston. He said that he will look into this organization and get more information. President Johnson is looking for volunteers to help at the booth at the Standish Sportsmen Show February 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>, 2017. Anyone available to help please call Vice President Joe Gilmartin at 781-389-0228 to schedule time available. It was the consensus of the delegates not to have a second raffle at the Standish Sportsmen Show. A motion was made, seconded and passed to only sell the Grand Raffle tickets at the Standish Sportsmen Show. A motion was made, seconded and passed to return funds to the treasury that was appropriated for our show raffle. A comment was made by delegate John Fabroski about the timing of our attendance at our monthly meetings. It was asked that we all arrive one hour before the meeting to partake in the host's club dinner. A motion was made, seconded and passed to be sure that the monthly meeting's start promptly at 7:00 pm.

**Good of the Order:** The Standish Sportsmens Club will be holding their 38<sup>th</sup> Annual Sportsmen Show. It will be held February 11<sup>th</sup>, at 9:00 am to 5:00 pm and 12<sup>th</sup>, 2017 at 9:00 am to 2:00 pm. The SNLT donated a couple of wildlife prints for our annual banquet.

**Adjournment:** The meeting came to a close at 9:20 pm. Our next meeting will be at the Marshfield Rod and Gun Club February 15<sup>th</sup>, 2017 at 6:00 and agenda at 7:00 pm located at 300 School St. Marshfield, Ma.

PCLS Secretary

*Mike Armburg*