



Plymouth County League of Sportsmen

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Scituate Rod and Gun Club

January 17th, 2018

At 7:00 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 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 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 and informed us that the meal was provided by Suddenly Simple Events Catering. President Johnson also thanked the SR&GC kitchen crew for a wonderful meal and thanked SR&GC for all the work that they do in support of sportsmen and sportswomen.

Roll Call: There were 32 delegates representing 12 clubs and organizations in attendance along with 1 guest.

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

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

Bills to be paid: There were 3 bills presented to be paid. One for the gift certificates for the Standish Sportsman Show and 2 for printing for our annual banquet. A motion was made to pay all bills and was seconded and passed.

Massachusetts Division of Fisheries & Wildlife Report: Jason Zimmers began by informing those in attendance that the Cotton Tail trapping has been completed with 8 rabbits caught. The division has just started its annual Black Duck banding. Do to last years banding the MDF&W was able to increase the number of harvest by hunters to 2 birds. The preliminary Deer harvest totals have not been established yet but the projected count will exceed 13 thousand. The most ever harvested in one season for the state. A reminder of the public meeting on dog regulations is coming up on February 6th, 2018 at the MDF&W HQ at 7:00 pm. It was recommended that all interested parties attend this meeting. Also there is a public meeting in March 7th, 2018 at the MDF&W HQ at 7:00 pm concerning the extension of two weeks for the Archery season. Check the MDF&W for snow date. There is also a Water Fowl public hearing set for April 10th, 2018 at MDF&W HQ at 7:00 pm. Fire break and herbicide work is still in progress at Crane Management Area. Jason will be conducting a talk on Eagles at the Cape Cod Brewery on January 24th, 2018 at 7:00 pm. The MDF&W, at the request of the National Wild Turkey Federation, will be reviewing our states Turkey regulations. Jason informed us that a large number of Turkey Vultures were rescued due to them freezing in Westport after a recent ice storm and revived and then released. Comments from Ernie Foster pertaining to complimenting Jason Zimmer for the work that he has accomplished in his division and for the leadership that he brings to the MDF&W.

Communications: President Johnson informed us of a Goal Alert, please insure you advise your membership that you cannot posses bump stocks or trigger cranks even in your home. The new law makes it illegal to purchase, sell or offer to sell either of these regardless of what license you posses The only legal path to follow is to turn them in to the police. Mere possession beyond the 90 day grace period subjects you to severe penalties. Please get a receipt if you turn them in. President Johnson received a communication from Jim Wallace requesting the County League Leadership group meet after the GOAL Annual Meeting to discuss petitioning the MDF&W to close Wildlife Management Areas on Sunday in response to a lack of progress on Sunday hunting.

MSC Report: There was nothing presented.

Seven Man Board Report: For a review of the complete latest published report go to our web site.

Legislative Report: Don't stop our efforts of supporting Sunday Hunting with your personal letters to committee members.

Old Business: President Johnson informed us that invitation letters have been written and mailed, for VIP invites, Rep. Susan Gifford, Rep. Kieko Orrall, Rep. Shaunna O'Connell, Rep. Geoff Diehl, Rep. Marc Pacheco, Rep. Vinny DeMarcedo, Jim Wallace (of Goal), MDF&W Commissioner Ron Amidon, DF&W Director Jack Buckley, Jim Nishan (of the Worcester County League of Sportsmen) and Jason Zimmer.

New Business: President Johnson requested volunteers to work the PCLS Booth on January 20th and 21st, 2018 to sell Grand Raffle tickets for guns and Bass Pro gift cards. A motion was made, seconded, and passed to discuss the closure of MDF&W management area's on Sundays by attending delegates. After the discussion a motion was made, seconded and passed to oppose the closure of MDF&W management area's on Sunday. Another motion was made, seconded and passed to inform all the other Sportsmen leagues on our position on the Sunday closure of MDF&W management areas. President Johnson attended the hearing at the Mass Maritime Academy on 1/9/2018 to provide public comment regarding Draft Addendum XXX to the summer Flounder, Scup, Black Sea Bass fishery management plan for 2018. *SUPPORTED - regional management over coast wide management, SUPPORTED - allocation of recreational harvest limits based on exploitable biomass and historic harvest option, SUPPORTED - regional alignment option (3 regions North MA-NY, South NJ, South Delaware-North Carolina), SUPPORTED - the five year option for specifying regional allocation in years 2011-2015, SUPPORTED - management measures within the region with conservation equivalency allowed, SUPPORTED - evaluation measures Option B - which allows adjusting management measures to ACL and Supported Option A - 2 year time frame for Addendum Provisions (2018-2019).* PCLS expressed concerns that field observation of more fish than stock assessment shows is born out by harvest data, that actual number of fish in fishery is understated resulting in seasons that are to conservative, expressed concern that discard mortality is overstated for shallow water fisheries like Massachusetts and expressed concern about over fishing by other states and requested efforts to reduce non-compliance without penalizing compliant states in a region. There will be a public hearing on leash and waste regulations on February 6th, 2018 at 7:00 pm at MDF&W Headquarters in Westborough, Ma. President Johnson read

a proposed public comment letter, for the PCLS, and requested as many delegates attend the hearing as possible. A motion was made, seconded and passed to send per-read letter. A motion was made, seconded and passed to reprint more folded fliers of the PCLS accomplishments.

Good of the Order: . Call Mike Dunn at 781-858-8586 for Hunter Safety Class, at Hanson Rod & Gun Club, February 5th, 8th, 12th, & 15th, 2018 at 6:00 pm – 9:30 pm. Hunter Safety Classes at Monument Beach Club on February 15th, 17th, 20th and 22nd of 2018. Call 508-389-7830 to enroll. To check other upcoming classes go to <https://www.mass.gov/service-details/basic-hunter-education-course-offerings>. Carver Sportsmen Club Game dinner January 26, 2018 at 6:00 pm. For tickets please call Larry at 508-947-3583. From Jim Augenti, President of T U and PCLS delegate, reminded us of upcoming events for T U is listed on the PCLS web site. The Scituate Rod & Gun Club is holding their annual game dinner on January 27th, 2018 at 11:00 am at 965 Chief Justice Cushing Hwy. (Rt 3A) Scituate Ma.

Adjournment: The meeting came to a close at 8:31 pm. Our next meeting will be at the Marshfield Rod & Gun Club, February 21st, 2018. Comradery at 6:00 pm and agenda at 7:00 pm located at 300 School Street Marshfield, Ma.

PCLS Secretary

Mike Armburg