



## **Plymouth County League of Sportsmen**

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## **Old Colony Sportsman Club**

**March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2017**

**At 7:02pm 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 March meeting and thanked the Old Colony Sportsman Club for a wonderful meal. OCSC member and a PCLS delegate Don Hammond spoke on behalf of the OCSC welcoming all in attendance and thanked the PCLS for all they due for the sportsmen and hoped that everyone enjoyed their meal. He also thanked Nikki Bayles, “ The Biggest Little Kitchen”, for cooking the meal. President Johnson also thanked the OCSC kitchen crew for a wonderful meal and thanked Old Colony for all the work that they do in support of sportsmen and sportswomen. President Johnson then announced that the Sippican Rod and Gun Club has now joined the ranks of the PCLS.

**Roll Call:** There were 40 delegates representing 15 clubs and organizations in attendance along with 2 guest.

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

**Treasurer's Report:** Treasurer Dee Bonney gave a complete report. A motion was made, seconded and passed to accept the treasures report.

**Bills to be paid:** There was one bill submitted to be paid. There was a motion made,

seconded and passed to pay said bill.

**Massachusetts Division of Fisheries & Wildlife Report:** Jason Zimmer reported that there will be a public hearing, at HQ, to address some changes to Wildlife management areas, zones and boundaries. New Water Fowl regulations are, Black Duck limit 2, early Goose season will be extended until one half hour after sunset, plug regulations and change the age regulations for youth hunts. The age will now be 12 thru 17. Jason informed us that a committee has been developed to address the Rattle Snake issue. There will also be some public hearings held on this topic, in which two meetings have already been held with the next one to be held in Ware on March 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2017. Check the MDF&W web site for dates, times and locations. Hearing's purpose will be to address conservation and population. The new dog regulations is now waiting for a public hearing before it can move forward. New policies for prescribed burns is now being developed and should be complete and in management hands within the next month. The beginning of the Spring Trout stock had some set backs but now is fully underway and the first stocking should be complete by the end of March. The Black Duck banding is now complete with 511 ducks banded and 96 previously banded ducks captured. When time and conditions allow we are checking Wood Duck boxes. The division is now gearing up for Plover monitoring. Boundary work is continuing with surveying by contractors and division. Elm St. parking area to Burrage Pond is one location of interest. The division is waiting for the engineers revised plan for the parking area at Elm St. so that it may be submitted to the town. The trail cams that are being used to monitor activity at this site has been helpful in watching the comings and goings of users and has shown that there has been no illegal activity. There has been a severe encroachment at the Peterson Swamp. The division has a meeting with persons responsible this week to find a reasonable solution. The division is receiving reports of Eagle sightings. With the annual Eagle survey coming up soon the division is requesting any sightings to be reported to the division to help them with the survey.

**Communications:** President Johnson informed us that the invitations to this years banquet has been sent out to the people mentioned at the last meeting. President Johnson has spoken with the Monponsett Inn about dates for our 2018 banquet, acquiring dates in April of next year. In response to President Johnson request for support of the new Sunday Hunting legislation the NRA Headquarters and the National Shooting Sports Foundation has resulted in a promise for both organization to provide support for the PCLS efforts. As a result of the efforts of these organizations Pittsfield Sportsmen's Club has reached out to join our efforts. President Johnson also reached out to The Mass Bowhunters Association. In response the Mass Bowhunters invited President Johnson to their banquet unfortunately he was unable to attend due to conflict and the short notice of the invite. He provided a statement to be read at their banquet. Also thru President Johnson's out reach he has received statements of support from Ann Gobi and John Scibak, co-sponsors of the Sunday Hunting bill, Sue Gifford 1/19, Marc Pacheco 2/23,

Keiko Orrall 2/23, Michael Rodrigues 2/28 and Patrick O'Connor 3/9. A communication received by Secretary Armburg from GOAL informing us of an Activist Workshop being held on April 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2017. This workshop is to enlightening us on methods to be used in supporting or opposing legislation. Please refer to the GOAL's web site for more information.

**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:** GOAL and the NRA have introduced bills into legislation. These bills are S.1322 - An Act relative to the lawful sale of handguns, S.1326 - An Act clarifying firearms oversight and S.1316 - An Act relative to the sale of firearms and letter opposing S.1298 - An Act relative to firearms and firearms violence.

**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 and confirmed from those clubs who have or have not yet given a count on banquet tickets they need for their club. The Standish Club has provided zip codes and President Johnson is working with John Fabroski to provide 35 letters for them to send advocating for more cosponsors of the Sunday Hunting bill. President Johnson would like to see more of our clubs join in. All he needs is a zip code listing of your membership. Delegate from Fin, Fur and Feather, Ed Birch, suggested that we look for support of the Sunday Hunting bill and Archery meets through our Face Book page. President Johnson will speak to Vice President and our Face Book editor Joe Gilmartin on implementing these endeavors. President Johnson, John Fabroski, Jim Augenti, from the PCLS, and Mike Thomas from the Carver Club went to the hearing. Ross Kessler Public Access coordinator Division of Marine Fisheries spoke on the project and President Johnson spoke on behalf of Area Sportsmen and the PCLS and provided a written letter to each member of the Board in support of the project. President Johnson indicated the letter is non controversial and in the interest of time would not be read unless specifically requested by the delegates. Thanks to the Barnstable County League for writing a letter of support to the Board. The Wareham Board of Selectmen voted unanimously to support the purchase and signed an agreement to manage the property. There was hearing before the East Bridgewater Ma. Conservation Commission regarding the first environmental permit for the project concerning the Cotton Mill Dam restoration on Feb 28<sup>th</sup>, 2017 at 7 pm. Present and speaking on behalf of the project were President Johnson and past President Fabroski also in attendance Trout Unlimited Delegate Jim Augenti. President Johnson submitted a

written letter of support on behalf of the PCLS. President Johnson indicated the letter is non controversial and will not be read unless requested by the delegates. The permit was unanimously approved on a motion made by East Bridgewater Conservation Commission member Craig Winsor, who is also a member of the Carver Sportsmen's Club and Old Colony Club member. President Johnson mentioned all the hard work that Past President and Standish delegate John Fabroski has done to bring this project to this position. A well deserved applause was given to John Fabroski by the attending delegates. In regards to the PCLS video President Johnson asked for volunteer help from two clubs to provide people to help with draft versions of other clubs spots. In order to finish this project this year we need to begin producing drafts for two clubs a month. This is an aggressive plan but we won't meet our goal unless we do it.

**New Business:** President Johnson and Secretary Armburg are working on table tents for this year. They are also working to provide a table tent that can be used for many years to come. President Johnson thru solicitations has already received a \$50 gift certificate from Outback Arms. He plans to continue his efforts. He also suggested that anyone of us can do the same with businesses that you do business with. President Johnson plans to recognize donors with a plaque on the tables at the banquet. A motion was made, seconded and passed to keep next years banquet at the Monponsett Inn. Another motion was made, seconded and passed to keep next years banquet meal the same. After President Johnson read a letter he drafted in support of bills S. 1322, S. 1326 and S.1316 a Motion was made, seconded and passed to send letters to respective legislators. Treasurer Bonney informed us that the time for our annual donations were upon us. A bundled motion was made, seconded and passed to donate the same as previous years to NRA-ILA, GOA, USSA, GOAL and COMM 2 A.

**Good of the Order:** Carver Youth Turkey Program training is on 3/18/2017 at the Club 8 am Must be 12-17 inclusive and have taken a hunter ed course to qualify contact Paul Johnson 508-241-2333 or show up the day of the event. The Fall River Bowling Green Fishing Club is hosting a Fisherman's Flea Market April 8<sup>th</sup>,2017 at 8:00am to 3:00pm and April 9<sup>th</sup>, 2017 at 8:00am to 1:00pm at the V. F. W. Post 8502, Rt. 6 Westport, Ma. Also the MFF&F will be holding their 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Walter Gajewski Fishing Derby on April 9<sup>th</sup>,2017. Contact Scott at 774-271-0485 or Hank at 508-728-0372 for more info. The Salt Water Lure Collectors Club is hosting its 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Show and Swap Meet on Saturday April 29<sup>th</sup>, 2017 at Trowbridge Tavern & Canal Club, 100 Trowbridge Rd., Bourne, Ma. time 8:00am to 3:00pm. Mattapoisett Fin Fur and Feather will be holding a Woman On Target on May 20<sup>th</sup>, 2017. Contact. Linda Meredith at lindam1002@comcast.net for application and more info. The Monument Beach Sportsman's Club is hosting its Annual Sportsman's Show September 9<sup>th</sup>, 2017 at 9:00am to 4:00pm and September 10<sup>th</sup>, 2017 at 9:00am to 3:00pm at Monument Beach Sportsman's Club 199 MacArthur Blvd. Bourne, Ma. From President of TU and

Standish delegate Jim Augente reminded us of Fly Fishing and Fly making classes are now underway. For more information visit their web site at [www.tu.org](http://www.tu.org). Hanson Rod & Gun in Hanson, Ma. will be holding a Hunter Education program on April 17<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup>, and the 28<sup>th</sup>, 2017. This is a 6 day course beginning at 6:00 pm each night and ending at 9:00pm. For more information or to enroll call 508-389-7830 or call Mike at 781-293-5313.

**Adjournment:** The meeting came to a close at 8:06 pm. Our next meeting will be at the Standish Sportsmen Assoc. April 15<sup>th</sup>, 2017 at 6:00 and agenda at 7:00 pm located at 1 Burr Ln. East Bridgewater, Ma.

PCLS Secretary

*Mike Armburg*