

Massachusetts Sportsmen's Council, Inc.
P.O. Box 462
Rockland, MA 02370-0462

Minutes of the meeting on December 4, 2022

Meeting called to order at 9:05 am by President John Kellstrand at the Century Sportsmen's Club.

Send your E-mail addresses to get the minutes electronically. ShootingPete@comcast.net This will help us save in postage.

Roll Call – Quorem

President's Comment : Berkshire County League voted to leave the council according to a letter from Wayne Mclean. We are not a two person organization, more people need to help.

Communication: Gun sales exceed 1 million for 38 consecutive months. For calendar year 2022 we are at 12.7 million as of September. Since January 1999 sales has reached 434 Million. Support for Ron Amidon should be emailed to <https://healeydriscolltransition.com/>. President Biden let it slip, "The idea you need a weapon that can have the ability to fire 20, 30, 40, 50, 120 shots from that weapon, whether it's a 9 mm pistol or whether it's a rifle, is ridiculous," President Biden told supporters. "I'm continuing to push to eliminate the sale of those things." Giving a Firearm as a holiday gift ? Look at this video from NSSF ... <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wNNIYsN9FfA> . No Link between legal gun sales and violent crime ... The study, by Doctors for Responsible Gun Ownership (DRGO)— member Mark Hamill, MD, FACS, FCCM, is titled "[Legal Firearm Sales at State Level and Rates of Violent Crime, Property Crime, and Homicides](#)" and is published in the Journal of Surgical Research. Dr. Hamill worked with a team of nine other doctors to reach their conclusions. The Worcester Telegram had an article about repealing Sunday Hunting. MassWildlife launches Hunter Share the Harvest Program. Venison will be distributed through the MA Military Support Foundation's Food 4 Vets program. Email from Essex County is working on getting a banquet in 2023 at Danvers F&G. No response about delegate for Quabbin. Correction from November - Recreation Crab and Lobster was closing.

Legislation: Reviewing last years bills and what to refile for the next session.

Hunter Ed – New course format. You register for the course and are provided online information. At a specified date you have a "Field Day" and Exam. This is now a one day event at a club.

Ware River / Quabbin Watershed Advisory – Ware River meeting was on November 17th with DCR made a presentation of the Public Access Management Plan (140 page report) and had a large turnout of people. Mentioned Long Pond and Comet Pond changes. A follow up meeting was held on November 29th with 200 in attendance. A public comment period will be until February 28th.

No report for Quabbin was available. The next meeting will be December 12th. The 2022 Schedules to be discussed is the 2022 fishing report and the early deer report, fire brakes around the watershed,

Marine Fisheries – Virtual hearing on Striped Bass on December 19th. Mike Armstrong was promoted to Deputy Director of Marine Fisheries.

Access committee with meet on December 14th for a 2022 review.

Forrest and Parks – MA Central Rail Trail between Amherst and Belchertown will be closed for maintenance

Fund Raising - Super Raffle 2021. Tickets should be ready this week. The first prize will be a Mossberg 940 Pro. Remember, organizations have a 20% return from the sales they make.

Shows - Scheduled for 2023

Boxboro: Jan 27,28,29

Standish: Feb 11, 12

W. Springfield: Feb 24,25, 26

Bear Damage Report – A report from the Subcommittee is supposed to be given at the F&W Board meeting on December 21st.

MCA – John Organ will attend the December 14th meeting. Donations for the 2023 raffle are needed by the end of December; Requests to Clubs, County Leagues and businesses. Currently there are 14 prizes.

New Business - **NEW DATE *** MSC Banquet will be April 29th at the Tuttle Post in Auburn.** Looking for Scholarship nominee and SOY, both Gribbons' Award, Hall of Fame nominees.

Information for the Hunter Share the Harvest Program is on the MA Wildlife website.

A letter to the Governor's Transition Team to support Ron Amidon as Commissioner of Fisheries and Wildlife will be sent.

Good of the Order – Happy Birthday to Mike Moss.

Adjournment – 11:11am

Next Meeting – **January 8th** at Century Sportsman's Club, Auburn