

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

Minutes of the meeting on February 5, 2023

Meeting called to order at 9:04 am by President John Kellstrand via ZOOM.

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 : Looking for info from the last F&W Board. No update on Commissioner Ron Amidon's reappointment.

Communication: Mass AG filed a brief lawsuits pertaining to handgun safety regulations and a case taking opposition to a motion to block the state's assault weapon and large-capacity magazines ban. Forty-five republican senators and zero democrats have signed on to the National CCW Reciprocity bill (HR 38). The ATF is slow in doing business in processing Certificates on NFA taxes by 600K applications. Growing number of states are doing away with CCW permits. Dept Fish & Game reports that the Sporting Industry has \$292m in tax revenue and 3000+ jobs in the Commonwealth. Rep Viera notified Barnstable Co about a Listening Session at Cape Code Comm College regarding Firearms and Suicide. There will be a session in Worcester coming up.

Legislation: Senator Gobi was asked to refile the Omnibus sportsmen bill. The House and Senate dockets were reviewed and a new Watch List (35 Senate bills and 66 bills from House). A list of House and Senate members has been created.

Hunter Ed – Courses for 2023 have begun. There has been two in Bristol Co with a total of 80 student. The no show rate for the field day is 20%. Some equipment is not available for classes. Maybe the EPO's can create a standard presentation for the class above and beyond what F&W requests.

Ware River / Quabbin Watershed Advisory – Ware River minutes from Sept and Nov were received and the next meeting is Feb 9. A bill to add Trail Bike, Equestrian and Snowmobile group to the advisory team was filed by Senator Gobi.

Quabbin Watershed next meeting on March 20th. Parking revenue nearly the same as 2021. You need a credit card to launch your boat. 29,000 visitors last year. Gate 43 has \$300K earmarked for repaving from gate to the bridge. Gate 8 stone issue being looked at still. Catch and Release of Lake Trout yielded 100 fish and a pit tag was attached to the fish in 2022.

Marine Fisheries – New Tautog regulations.

Forrest and Parks – Feb 7 and Feb 9 for Stewardship Council ZOOM meetings.

Fund Raising - Super Raffle 2021. Tickets are available. The first prize will be a Mossberg 940 Pro, second prize is a Henry Golden Boy.

Shows - Scheduled for 2023

Vendors had very good sales at the Boxboro show. There was a very good morning time attendance but later in the day attendance did wain.

Fishing Show at White's of Westport: Feb 4, 5

Standish: Feb 11, 12

W. Springfield: Feb 24, 25, 26

Bear Damage Report – Trying to schedule a ZOOM meeting on Wednesday or Thursday this week with Bob Durand and biologists, Don Graves, Ron Gleason and Peter Bernard.

MCA – 2023 Raffle Tickets will be on sale a the W. Springfield show. FOIA request was sent to Nahant regarding the coyote hunt yield no response yet. There is no exemption for the use of silencers in MA law.

New Business - Hunter's for the Hungry, yielded 765 lbs of venison and provided food to more than 1400 people. More than 15,000 deer harvested this past hunting season.

Good of the Order – **MSC Banquet will be April 29th at the Tuttle Post in Auburn.**

Looking for Scholarship nominee.

February 18th at 1pm at the NE Boat Show hosting the Sport Fishing Awards.

Adjournment – 11:39 am

Next Meeting – **March 5th** at location TBD