

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

Minutes of the meeting on March 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](mailto:ShootingPete@comcast.net) This will help us save in postage.**

Roll Call – Quorem

**President's Comment :** Moment of silence for Marla Issacs, wildlife expert for exotic species, passed in December. Keith Arnold from Beach Buggies passed in February. The show banner needs to be redone.

**Communication:** Gun sales stabilizing at 1.25-1.3 million guns per month, President Biden, *"We're going to ban assault weapons again come hell or high water and high capacity magazines."* vows also lies again about gun ownership. , CT mayors surprised by the [Hartford Courant](#) story that data shows the root of gun violence: Chronic repeat offenders., Outdoor Expo in September in Marshfield (watch for more info), NWTF Cranberry Longbeards event in May in Plymouth. Article in news that Nahant has extended contract for another year. So far one coyote has been eliminated. Sixteen state attorneys general have signed a blistering letter to President Joe Biden, telling him in no uncertain terms they are ready to oppose any attempt by your Administration to trample on this fundamental constitutional right."

**Legislation:** Senate has 35 bills to watch, House has 67 bills to watch. No Bill Numbers yet or assigned to committees. Rebecca Rausch is the Chair of Natural Resource Committee. Walter Timilty is chair of Public Safety committee. James Eldridge is chair of Judiciary committee. Agriculture committee chair is Anne Gobi and is on the Senate Ways and Means. Governor's Budget was released. Bow hunting bill in Wompatuck State Park does not have the suggested changes that were added last session. The Watch List will be posted to the website.

**Hunter Ed :** No news to report.

**Ware River / Quabbin Watershed Advisory :** Ware meeting was on Feb 23<sup>rd</sup> DEP skirted around questions on DCR plans and closures. Committee was looking for why and DEP had no scientific answers. April 20<sup>th</sup> is the next meeting. The watershed committee will not support the current plan.

Quabbin next meeting is March 20<sup>th</sup> at the Visitor Center.

**Marine Fisheries :** Public hearing on Recreational Sea Bass and Scup on March 13<sup>th</sup> via ZOOM. Gates at Scusset were opened after a complaint. There is a ASMFC Public Hearing on American Lobster - Addendum 27, March 15<sup>th</sup> 6pm (webinar hearing).

**Forrest and Parks :** No news to report. Mostly travel advisories being posted.

**Fund Raising : Super Raffle 2021.** Tickets are available. The first prize will be a Mossberg 940 Pro, second prize is a Henry Golden Boy. The Drawing will be June 4<sup>th</sup>.

Suggestion to change the type of raffle or have a second raffle was made.

**Shows :** Shows are completed for us. Thank you to everyone that helped at the booths.

Other shows are: New Hampshire Outdoor Expo, Milford NH – March 11-13

New England Saltwater Fishing Show, Providence – March 11-13

Connecticut Fishing and Outdoor Show, Mohegan Sun – March 25-27

**Banquet: MSC Banquet will be April 29<sup>th</sup> at the Tuttle Post in Auburn.** The raffle and auction prizes are looking good. Bring your money. Award nominations are still being accepted.

**Bear Damage Report :** The report was available at the booth at the Springfield show. There was a ZOOM meeting with Fisheries & Wildlife (Bob Durand and Michael Huguenin) on February 9th.

**MCA :** The raffle tickets are now available for 2023. Drawing will be June 18<sup>th</sup>.

**New Business -** Hunter's for the Hungry program was a success for such a late start.

Mashpee pond issue will probably be a warrant for the town meeting. More info on Shallow Pond. Cape Cod National Seashore for turkey hunting permit has to be completed by the end of March. The Learn to Hunt program can be signed up for on the DFW website, <https://www.mass.gov/learn-to-hunt> .

**Adjournment –** 11:35 am

**Next Meeting –** April 2nd at location TBD