

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

Meeting for January 7, 2024 at 9:10am held in-person at Century Sportsman's Club,
by President John Kellstrand

Minutes are posted on the MSC website.

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

President's Comments – John Fabrowski, past president of the Plymouth County League passed away on December 9th. Attendance from organizations is light from groups west of Worcester. Franklin and Hampden do attend. Citizen's Bank charged a monthly fee and we complained back to the bank. The bank did refund the fees they charged. January 17th is the F&W Board meeting. Found that the F&W web site has no contact information for staff just the main phone number. "Was this helpful" the answer was No !

Communication – Wayne Lapierre is resigning as the EVP of the NRA due to health reasons. Illinois semi-auto gun ban and registration will not be enforced by 74 of the 102 Sheriffs. T-Mobile terms of Service changed to add fines if you text advertising for firearms, tobacco and alcohol. Report of the Climate Forestry Committee: Recommendations for Climate-Oriented Forest Management Guidelines was released and is 70 pages. Newsletter from the Mass Bow Hunters was received.

Legislation - Waiting on the Senate's gun bill. Barnstable Co has a lot of democrats running for open seats on Beacon Hill.

Hunter Ed – Instructors are dying off. Lets see if a push to get new instructors happens.

Ware River Watershed – January 11th meeting in Rutland, implementation of the Access Plan with be discussed.

Quabbin Watershed Advisory – "Secrets below the Trees" January 28th at the Visitor Center at 2pm presentation. Reservations are required. Join Dr. Becky Seifried, Geospatial Information Librarian at UMass Amherst to learn how we can use Lidar to map the traces of historical settlements, like stone walls and road cuts—and you'll discover just how much built heritage is hidden beneath the forests of Quabbin.

There are other presentations coming up on future Sunday afternoons.

Marine Fisheries – 36 page document handed out at the public hearing. This was regarding the slot size change. Option "B" for 28 to 31 inch was moved.

Dr. Micheal Hickey retired Shell Fish Biologist received the David L. Belding Award posthumously on November 17th.

Forrest and Parks – Road closures and other announcements.

New Business – Trying to get confirmation from the Tuttle Post for the banquet. The idea of using Tracking Dogs for animal recovery will be brought up to the F&W Board; the Council is watching this. Yearly Council Budget discussed. Still waiting for a response from State House News on our inquiry for the fee we are being charged.

Super Raffle Prizes – Tickets are now available. Twelve Prizes this year.

2024 Shows - NE Fishing Expo @ Royal Plaza Trade Center in Marlboro. \$15 admission. February 2-4. Booth 708
Standish. \$10 Admission. February 10, 11
Big E. \$15 admission. February 23-25. Booth 536.

MSC Banquet – The banquet is still scheduled for April 13th at the Tuttle Post in Auburn. The Post is not returning calls and the event manager has changed. We are still waiting on the confirmation. Nominations for Awards are needed. Prizes are being expected for the 2024 Banquet. Ask shops in your area for donations. One donation is a Gerber Tri-Tip Cleaver.

Deer/Bear Damage Report – The bear were eating the choke cherries this past season and left a lot of the corn alone. Will ask for Board Members Emma Ellsworth and Ernie Foster to attend the Council's February meeting.

Adjournment – 11:40 am

Next Meeting – February 11th.