

Northwest CT Sportsman's Council

NWCSC
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nwsc.org
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Council Report: January 27, 2004

Meeting held at Borgeson Universal Co., Commercial Dr., Torrington, Ct. Meeting called to order at 7:45PM. Council President, Chris Marino presiding. All rise for Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll of Clubs, Delegates and Officers:

NW Trout Unlimited	James Bower	Foothill's Sportsmen	Clyde Breakell
Woodbury/ Southbury	Philip Mauriello	NWCSA	Jason Marshall
NWCSA	Peter Gray	NVBC	Chris Marino
Torrington Gun Club	Gerald Zordan	Wtby F&G Prot.	Jerry Ciarcia
CT Classic Bucks	Dean Fraley	SAS	Jen Zordan
New Preston R&G	Craig Nelson	Chase R&P	Dominic Basile
Sharon R&G	James Fedorich		
President	Chris Marino	Vice-President	Jason Marshall
Treasurer	Clyde Breakell		

Council Report for December reviewed and accepted.

Financial Report.

Year-end balance sheet distributed. Report accepted as delivered. Noted that balance sheet does not reflect liquid assets purchased by the Council, (ATV and Trailer). The report is reflective of the checkbook balance only. Gerry suggested renaming the report to "Checkbook Balance Sheet or Ledger". Assets will be included in future reports.

Question was asked about reimbursement of Council table at Nutmeg FNRA and CCS table. We looked at deposits during this reimbursement period and found that all CCS tickets were reimbursed and that 7 of the 10 FNRA tickets were reimbursed. We consider these table sponsorships to be donations from the Council. Since most of our attending members would purchase tickets anyway, we ask that they reimburse the Council treasury rather than purchase individual tickets. This policy helps the Council fulfill its obligation; as a leader in the sporting community, to two worthy events while minimizing the financial impact on our treasury.

Correspondence: None.

Committees:

Membership:

We welcomed another club to the Council this evening. Tom Colasanto; President of the Chase Rifle & Pistol Association of Waterbury submitted his club membership information to the Council. Tom furnished the names of a delegate and two alternates for Chase. Delegate; Chase Secretary, Gary Morin. Alternates: Greg Kmecak and Dominic Basile.

The Chase association has a membership of approximately 400 sportsmen and women. Chase holds only one scheduled meeting on an annual basis. We will send reports to the club Secretary for any action that may be required; however, without regular meetings active participation of Chase cannot be relied upon. They wish to be associated with our Council and will be receptive to Council sponsored activities and issues.

Along with their membership, the Chase Association also made a \$200.00 donation to the banquet.

Council Organization:

Discussed letter from attorney, Peter Reese. Included were proposed preamble and by-law changes establishing a Board of Directors.

A motion was made by Phil Mauriello and seconded by Jason Marshall to “authorize formation of a non-profit; non-stock corporation of the Northwest CT Sportsman’s Council” This **motion was passed** unanimously.

Members present were not in favor of the preamble and by-law changes provided by the attorney. It is felt that too much authority is invested in the BOD, and the members do not favor proxy voting. Need chairman of board. It was decided that we would write our own by-law changes and submit them for the corporation. Gerry is to check on the costs associated with the legal work and report to the Council President.

Further discussion on corporation matters tabled to February meeting.

Banquet Report:

Finalize arrangements for setup of the banquet.

Observations to date:

Dean volunteered to chair next year’s banquet. (Under financial report.) Ticket sales slower than last year. Not as much support from the clubs. No mailing to past attendees. We need to start earlier with promotion and ticket sales. Club and individual donations seem good.

Need to develop our e-mail database. Need someone to work this project.

Report on setting up credit card account through EFS for the Council. Pin reader and processor will be available for Council functions. Need two week advance notice and account must be used once yearly to remain active.

Report from Gerry on Comp ticket response. Comps not handled well this year. About one half of invitations have been made. Need more formal written invitation with RSVP. Do we need 26 free attendees? Should we be more selective? Maintain a list of worthy invitees though the years. We do not make good use of this opportunity. Their presence should serve our purposes.

ATV Raffle:

Discuss getting ATV out to the Hartford Expo. We have rented a booth and need to man it throughout the four-day event. Jason to set up on Thursday and Friday. We will need help on Saturday and Sunday.

CAC Report: Will be available on web site.

Old Business:

NWCSC Turkey Proposal: Chris gave a report on how our proposal for a limited, traditional muzzleloader rifle season for spring turkeys has been received by the DEP and other sportsman’s groups throughout the state.

BNR Chief Edward Parker introduced the proposal to the CAC at their January meeting. Without the benefit of having copies of the proposal on hand, several CAC delegates expressed concern regarding safety issues. It was decided to table the discussion until the February CAC meeting. Copies of our proposal were sent to all CAC delegates directly after the January meeting.

New Business:

Council Diversity & Specialization:

Our President brought up for discussion the concept of developing core groups to focus and concentrate their particular interests on issues that our Council must address most frequently; such as firearms rights, ownership and legislation; conservation, wildlife and habitat issues; hunting, trapping and fishing issues; work programs and volunteers, etc. It has become obvious that our core group cannot address all of these issues in a rational, coherent and timely manner. We need those club members most knowledgeable in the various areas of sportsman interest to take a pro-active role on the Council to represent the interests of the Council and its members. We have had some success in this diversification when we approached NW Trout Unlimited to help represent the Council regarding trout fishing regulation changes two years ago. We need to go farther with this concept.

The Council should establish its principles through our democratic meeting forum. Thereafter; our responsible representatives must be willing to follow these principles and address the issues that arise, for which they are responsible. We should make it a priority to organize the committees that will accomplish this goal.

Motion to “purchase a Ladysmith 9MM auto for the SAS bus trip” made by Jason Marshall. Jason to contact S&W for help with a donation or discounted gun. **Motion passed.**

Jen Zordan, our delegate from the Second Amendment Sisters has recently been promoted to the position of Eastern U.S. director for the organization. This position will be broken up into northeast and southeast as soon as another qualified director can be found, but the fact that Jen has been appointed to this position speaks well for her efforts with the SAS.

Jen gave us a report of the SEPAC Convention, which she attended. SEPAC is the Conservative Political Action Conference held annually in Arlington Virginia. Approximately 4,000 citizens turned out to listen to speakers and discuss policy. Zell Miller, conservative democratic senator from Virginia spoke at the conference. Wayne Lapiere of the NRA also spoke at the conference. Talk of a constitutional convention to debate the meaning of the 2nd amendment as an individual or collective right, was raised. Jen also mentioned the Brady rating of state’s regarding their gun control efforts. Those with the highest Brady ratings also have the highest crime rates. The SAS is working on a visual display to demonstrate this fact.

Good of the Organization:

March 13th. Saturday, Litchfield Inn. NW Trout Unlimited Dinner. 6PM Cocktails. Dinner at 7PM. Tables of 8 or 10. Raffles and auction. \$35.00 per ticket. River bank cleaning of 1 mile of Naugatuck offered per table sponsor. Chris, Jim Bower, Pete Gray, Phil and Elise, Find out about meal choice.

FNRA March 12th. 6PM Nutmeg. Aqua Turf. Need to send in reservation for table of ten. **Motion** to “buy table of 10 for Council” **passed.**

Jim Fedorich and guest, Phil and Elise, Jason Marshall, Craig Nelson, Dean Fraley. Dominic Basile, Jim Bower, Jen Zordan. Who else?

May 13th FNRA Western CT at Newtown. \$30.00 per ticket at the Fireside Inn.

Adjourn: 10:20PM