

MINUTES OF THE 4/26/18 FEDERATION MEETING AT WEST FALLS

Pledge of Allegiance

MOMENT OF SILENCE FOR PAUL STOOS

Officers and Directors

Absent: Tony Gonnello, Franklin Thompson

Excused: Rich Davenport, **Larry Jones**

Quorum of clubs present – yes

Guests: Mark Martzolf – Elma, C. Miskey, R. Barus

Motion by F. Miskey, Jr. to waive approval of minutes, 2nd F. Langdon – passed

Membership: Holland, Eastern Lk. Charter Capt.'s., Wood 'n' Brook, and Collins Conservation have not yet paid 2018 dues.

Treasurer's Report: Amount of money in account was given to those present: **\$23,353.37, \$2345.54, \$4068.00** Motion T. Fischer, 2nd J. McAdams to accept – passed

President's Report: Grant from Cabela's for **\$8066** to be coming in. Looking for prices on a 10'x6'x6' ramp door trailer. If anyone knows of one, please contact Jeff. **Three prices or bids will be required.**

Future meeting locations: Board at 6:30, General at 7:00

5/24/18 - Erie Cty. Cons. Soc., 13319 Miller Ave., Chaffee

6//28/18 - Hamburg Rod and Gun, 3434 Hickox Rd., Hamburg

7/26/18 - Niagara River Station, 355 E. River Rd., Grand Island

9/13/18 - Springville Field and Stream, 8900 Chaise Rd., Spvl.

10/11/18 - Hawkeye Bowmen, 13300 Clinton, Alden

Law Enforcement: New R9 Investigator appointed – Inv. Robert Peinkofer, New Acting Director named – Bernie Rivers

Archery and Bowhunting – Youth Bowhunting Camp at West Falls, July 27-29. Motion C. Godfrey, 2nd Dave Barus to donate \$500 – passed.

Fish: State of Lake Erie Meeting at Southtowns Walleye Club– Good reports on perch and walleye, BUT deep water catch and release of either species is bad for the resource. Sportfishing catch is far greater than commercial harvest by Canadians. Many Chautauqua Lake waterfront landowners want massive weed clearing program, through herbicides, raking, or both. Not likely to be approved or happen on massive scale.

Teach Me To Fish – June 9, at Tiff Farms, June 23, at Chestnut Ridge. Once again bumped from using the Commissioner’s Cabin. Sahlen’s has cut way back on donations. 100# instead of normal 250#. The 150# we need to purchase will be at a healthy discount. Everything is on schedule

Small Game: Despite comments against DEC will be constructing a bike path upon the Reynolds Game Farm WMA. Day old pheasant chicks will be delivered the first or second week of June. Drawing held for Youth Pheasant Hunt at 3F Club in Lewsiton on Sat. Sept. 15, 2018. Winners – Lake Shore, Boston Valley, Glen-Coe, and Turkey Federation. Applications handed out at meeting and must be returned to Chuck Godfrey by the May 24 meeting at Erie County Conservation Society. Four alternates are Bison City, Hamburg, Hawkeye, WNYTU in that order. Serious distemper epidemic in area.

Big Game: Mark Alessi has volunteered to be new chairman.

Trapping: Pat Arnold Youth Trapping Camp to be held at Camp Rushford, Oct. 6-8 See website for details - <http://www.patarnoldyouthtrappingcamps.com/>

Waterfowl: There were a lot of loons in the area due to bad weather, with a number of them taken to wildlife rehabilitators. Grand Island Parkway demolition and bike path construction underway. <http://buffalonews.com/2018/02/25/grand-island-parkway-trail-to-break-ground-in-april-despite-opposition/>

Conservation Council: - [NYSCC will have their Legislative Meeting in Ilion, NY on April 28, 2018 and discuss and take positions on them. There will also be a Board Meeting and Informational meeting.](#) [Council](#) Fund-Raising event in WNY had 80 attendees and raised \$2800. [The Buck a Member Program for the New York State Conservation Council is an important part of their funding see if your club supports it and to support it call. \(315\)894-2893](#) You can donate directly to New York State Conservation Council at NYSCC 8 East Main St. Ilion, NY 13357. Contact them at 315-894-3302. Consider an individual membership.

Environment and Pollution: Motion by C. Godfrey to sign on to “West Valley Scoping Document” basically asking for West Valley to be cleaned up appropriately and completely. TABLED for further information

Legislation: Bill A10428 in the Assembly would, among other things, ban school districts from offering any type of shooting or firearms instruction. Motion T. Fischer, 2nd G. Huber to write a letter to all Assembly and State Senators represent Erie County to oppose this bill. – passed.

Sportsmen/women Education: Classes are continuing to have about a 20% “no-show” rate

Nominations: need a chair- Frank Miskey Jr. has volunteered as new chairman.

Fund Raising: There was a snag in getting tickets printed. Should be available at the next meeting. There will be a “seller’s” prize.

Shows” Erie County Fair” – mounts wanted for competition. Motion C. Godfrey, 2nd D. Tone to buy Ag Society membership for Hope and Gary Melnyk, \$50.00 each as they are the both chairs. - passed. There are 3 openings for groups in the Conservation Building. Need volunteers to work the Federation’s booth.

WNY Environmental Federation: Next meeting June 10 at Hoak’s

Youth Lifetime License Program: Raffle tickets available.

Website: Being rebuilt entirely

Internal Controls: We need inventory sheets completed from each member indicating whether they have any Federation property in their possession.

Bylaws Update: in progress

New Business: Motion T. Fischer, 2nd G. Rockey to donate \$125 to NWT, for use by Tom Ryion, for Veterans' outings at Elma this year. – passed. Clarence School District is deciding what to do with 22 rifles that were used for its rifle team. Only air rifles allowed now in NYS for scholastic competition. Motion f. Miskey, Jr., 2nd H. Melnyk to write letter to Superintendent and Board President asking that the guns not be destroyed, and that however they are disposed of, they be kept local for use. – passed. Lengthy discussion of scholastic trap shooting competition. There are 5 scholastic teams participating in Erie County, and one in Gowanda which is in Erie and Catt. Counties. West Falls hosts the East Aurora and Lancaster teams. 59 schools presently participate in the competition statewide, but there are others more than 70, who have signed on for next year. Motion, **Tom Fischer, 2nd H. Melnyk** to donate \$250 each to East Aurora and Eden/Collins programs. – passed. **Discussion on badges for new directors. Three badges to be ordered.**

50/50: **Lackawanna**

COMING BANQUETS:

Niagara County **Rescheduled to Saturday May 19th same location. Previous buyers confirm your attendance.**

Good dates to know for 2018 events.

2018 Teach-Me-To-Fish Dates:

Saturday May 20 Bison City Rod & Gun Club Buffalo

Saturday June 2 East Aurora Fish & Game Club

Saturday June 9 Tiffit Farms South Buffalo

Saturday June 23 Chestnut Ridge Park Orchard Park

Saturday September 29 National Hunting & Fishing Day Celebration at Elma Conservation Club

2018 Chautauqua County Fishing Tournament Calendar (mostly walleye)

June 9-17, 2018: 34th annual Southtowns Walleye Association Walleye Tournament; 9-day/1-fish, tournament, the single biggest fish wins. **Cash awards for the top 200 places**, the top 10 places win big money, with the top prize as much as \$8,000 in cash plus prizes. On-line application at www.southtownswalleye.org. Boat field is not limited, \$35 entry fee, Calcutta options. Info: Rob Kroh (585-356-3696) / Jim Skoczylas (716-796-5372).

June 23, 2018: WNY Heroes – Military veterans Walleye Fun Fish Day, 2nd annual. **Date is still tentative.** Dunkirk Harbor. Details in planning. Chairman: Captain Jim Steel, 716-481-5348

July 14-15, 2018: Lake Erie Big Dawg Walleye Tournament, Chadwick Bay Marina, Dunkirk Harbor, New York. This is a 1-day tourney, 5 fish/day, with an optional Big-Fish Friday derby. Unlimited boat field, 2 - 5 anglers per boat, \$500 entry fee, 100% payback, 6AM take-off. Info: Mark Mohr, 716-998-9871.

<https://www.rayzorsbigdawg.com/>.

July 21, 2018: The 8th Annual Sunset Bay Walleye SHOOTOUT, 100% cash back tournament. This is a 1-day tourney with optional Big-Fish Friday derby (July 20, 2018). \$500 entry fee, teams of 2 to 5 anglers per boat, 6-fish bag weigh-in, 7AM – 3:30 p.m., 5:00 p.m. weigh-in at Cabana Sam's. Up to \$100,000 in cash and prize awards. Info: Don Ruppert, 716-416-3709, <https://walleyeshootout.com/>.

July 26-28, 2018: info...ERIE COUNTY...2018 Costa FLW Series Northern Division *Bass Fishing Tournament*, Lake Erie; Buffalo, NY; Safe Harbor Marina & Buffalo Harbor State Park; 6:30AM Launch-2:30PM Retrieve and weigh-in. Forecast is 100-175 boats, 2 anglers per boat; open to public to watch or compete (must be an FLW member to compete).

August 3-5, 2018: The Northern Chautauqua County Conservation Club will hold their 14th Annual Walleye Derby in the New York waters of Lake Erie. Limited to 100 boat field, 3-day tourney, top 3 fish weighed each day, 2 to 4 anglers per boat, \$100 entry fee, cash prizes, tackle & gear drawings. Info: Zen Olaw, 716-640-2776.

August 8, 2018: VIP Day, Dunkirk Harbor, attendance by invitation, outdoor media and Erie/Niagara/Chautauqua County legislators, executive lake support staffers, NYSDEC, all meet and share for ½ day of walleye fishing followed by lunch at the Con Club. Chairman Zen Olaw/Lance Ehrhardt.

August 25, 2018: The Innovative Outdoors Walleye Challenge, Dunkirk Harbor. 1-day tourney with optional Big-Fish Friday derby. Limited to 65 boats, \$500 entry fee, 6-walleye weigh-in. Registration deadline: August 1. Info: Jim Steel, 716-481-5348, <https://lakeeriewalleyetournament.com/>.

Sep. 29-30, 2018: (NEW DATE, Revised 02122018 from Sep 22-23, 2018) **American Bass Association (ABA) 2018 Championship Tournament**; Mayville Lakeside Park boat access; pre-tournament meeting HQ – Chautauqua Suites; Forecast:120 boats; Additional details in planning.

Motion F. Miskey, dir., multiple seconds to adjourn – passed.

Our thanks to the club sponsoring this meeting

West Falls Conservation Club