

EIGHT POINT SPORTSMEN'S CLUB

April 2, 2024

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

The evening meal started at 6:30pm, a half hour early, so we would be ready for a 7:30pm presentation by Adam Kautza Phd, adam.kautza@mass.gov, from Mass Wildlife. Adam narrated and discussed a slide show regarding the major cold water fisheries in MA. Topics mentioned were stocking and observed fish species populations in frequently fished areas. Thank you Adam for taking the time, visiting our Club and presenting.

Call to Order - Pres. Baker called the Club to order followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Secretary Report - I read the previous newsletter and it was motioned and accepted into the minutes.

Treasurer Report - Brian B was not present to read the report.

Communications - No new at this time.

New Members - Darren Borge, Emily Borge, Michael Borge, Norman Dziokonski, Joeseph Hovagiman and Mark Cavanaugh-Okeefe were all motioned and accepted as new members, welcome all.

Board of Directors - Pres Baker related a summary of last month's BoD meeting and recent interview with a Caretaker candidate. Some progress has been made, more to follow.

Activities + Rentals - Game Dinner budget was final tallied and the budget was reviewed, motioned and accepted.

No Building report for this meeting.

Trap - Trap Report was read by Dave Tuttle, motioned and accepted. Additionally, clay inventory was taken and the next purchase is being evaluated for best buy options.

Trap/Skeet Hours - Sunday Noon-3pm, Thursday 5-9pm, open to the Public. Great facility, come on down!

Fish - Greg LaFlamme updated the Club on all things fish. Greg submitted the below supplement in writing for inclusion in the newsletter. Thank you Greg.

Eight Point needs someone or two people to step up to take over the Fish Activities. Greg has offered graciously to overlap and help a new person or two with these activities. Please throw your name in the ring as soon as possible, thank you.

FISH COMMITTEE

KID'S SPRING DERBY-This year's event will be held on April 20th and 21st, Saturday and Sunday, from 8:00AM to 4PM each day. The event is open to the general public, and we encourage families to come. Junior's registration (15 years old and younger) is \$3 each day. Senior's registration (16 year's old and older) is \$7 each day. Prizes will be awarded to Junior's each day after 4:00pm. The Snack Shack and Beer Garden will be open each day. We ask for donations of prizes for the kids in the form of gear, gift cards, and cash is always good. We have had several members already come forth with donations, but we can always use more. The Club Pond will be stocked before the event.

I want to make a special shout out to Bass Pro/Cabela's for their ongoing generous support of our Derby. This has been an important part of having the ability to provide so many kids with prizes and recognition of their catches and participation. I ask that you continue to support Bass Pro/Cabela's in your purchasing of equipment and supplies throughout the year.

CLUB POND STOCKING-The Club Pond will be stocked for the Kid's Spring Derby and for ongoing member fishing into the Fall. The Club has approved the expenditure of up to \$3000 for the Spring Stocking. Of special note, Mike Gleason of Mike's Bridge Diner in Lancaster has generously donated \$300 for the purchase of large trout. We will again look to stock just trout as we have in the past to promote a coldwater fishery. Date of the stocking is scheduled for April 17th at 10AM. No fishing in Club Pond on April 17-19.

GUEST SPEAKER-Tonight we have Adam Kautza from Mass Fish and Wildlife to speak with us about wild trout resources across Massachusetts and the direction of trout management.

FRESHWATER CUP-We will be introducing a new, members only, fishing contest, focusing on freshwater fishes. Contestants can enter for \$10, and can register a catch in any or all of the designated species. Your catch must be legally caught by hook and line from New England waters.

The focus species are Brook Trout, Brown Trout, Largemouth Bass, Smallmouth Bass, Yellow Perch and Pickerel. We will also recognize a Wildcard catch. The wildcard catch will be from any of the Pin Fish award species as shown in the state Regs. The top wildcard prize will be determined as the largest by percentage against the minimum size of the Pin Fish species. Entries will be made by submitting a photo with a ruler measurement of each fish. You can enter a fish in each selected species, and substitute a larger catch as the year goes on. Please include your name, species, length, date and location where caught. The contest will go through the December Board of Director's meeting. All registration monies to go to prizes. Contact me at gplaflamme@comcast.net or 508-868-4060.

ANGLER OF THE MONTH/YEAR-We will be running the Angler of the Month again this year. Please submit any fish caught to me with a photo and include your name, species, length and weight, date and location. We would like to recognize fish from as many categories as possible for consideration, such as freshwater, saltwater, exotic

fish, International etc. Monthly recognition to be made and to go toward consideration of Angler of the Year. Contact me at gplafamme@comcast.net or 508-868-4060.

FISH COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN REPLACEMENT-The Club is looking to replace the Fish Committee Chairman. Please see President Charlie Baker. I will stay on during the transition and will stay on the Fish Committee if desired.

Submitted by Greg LaFlamme, Fish Committee Chairman

Bird - Nick Hatstat, after last month's budget vote request, brought up the budget vote to the General Membership. Budget was motioned and passed. New Archery signs and ribbons will be placed on trails as the weather warms.

Rifle - No Rifle report this meeting.

Kitchen - Venison Stew (meeting dinner) was donated by Mike's Bridge Diner, it was excellent, thank you Mike's.

Worc County League - Dick Martin updated the Club with statistics regarding MA bears tagging/tracking and final deer numbers from the last season. 2% seasonal decline is suspected due to poor weather during bow and muzzleloader. Donated venison comprised approximately 17 thousand meals. Also, thanks from WCL to Eight Point for our support in the form of a table at the WCL Banquet. Thanks for the update Dick Martin.

New Business - Motion to vote next meeting for coolant/repairs of walk in cooler. Motion, discussion and acceptance. Authorizing budget vote at next General meeting.

Marion Larson mentioned the MA Wildlife Mentoring Mondays via Zoom every second Monday of the month 6-7pm for hunting and angling topics. Pre registration is needed but very easy to do.

Two public trout stockings will take place 17 APR 24 at Quinsig and 19APR 24 at Barrett Park Leominster.

Good & Welfare - Raffle was held and prizes won!

Meeting was closed by Pres. Baker at approx 8:40pm

Respectfully,

Chris Magay

Eight Point Secretary