



Ammonoosuc Valley Fish & Game Club
PO Box 60
Woodsville, NH 03785

Meeting Notes: January 3, 2024
American Legion Hall – Woodsville, NH 03785

Gary Griswold called the Meeting to order;

Secretaries Summary of Minutes for November were read and accepted

Paul Dolittle read the Treasurer's Report was read for November & December and accepted

- Rental Deposits needs to be discussed as we are not changing all the renters a deposit.

Old Business:

Don Clark: Bill from 'poster lady' going to Paul just to be sure all has been paid. This went to my old email address so it was a while before I found it.

New Business:

Youth Trap League discussion.

Jim Marshall volunteered to head up the fact finding and contacting.

Starting with the organizer at North East Kingdom Sporting Clays in Burke Hollow.

Brian Guck was the individual that brought this up to Gary.

Liability coverage was mentioned will have to be looked into.

The NRA has a couple of programs that we have checked on it. They did not say that they would pay the liability insurance. They do have some stuff available if we get on it soon enough to help with those costs.

Gary will get in touch with the gentleman in Burke and Jim Marshall will pick up that communication and proceed with the fact finding and contacts.

Hope is that this will bring in younger members and get more participation.

Will do some advertising when we get further into this.

New Benches

Pete Caulkins will have them done by 1/6/2024. Gary working to schedule when he can go pick them up.

The Benches are concrete designed after the benches the club in St. Johnsbury has.

Haverhill Noise Ordinance Update:

Gary got a call from Bill Creamer regarding the email that was sent out to members by our secretary. Bill wanted to thank our group. There were a lot of calls made to the Select Board and to the town manager. They are not going to do anything with with this at this time. They are tabling the whole thing. They still have 2 or 3 people that want to push it but there is nothing the town can do because there is a New Hampshire law in place. Calls to the town manager and selectboard really helped.

Berms

We did get the pistol berm set up this year. Want to add a little bit more to it. We left part of the 25 yard berm there. The 50 and the 100 are complete. We would like to add more to the 200 to bring it back up by the road side, if we can get some more material. We will not be getting any more from the town of Bath this year. Gary did talk with Ricky Vance, he will try to get more out to us in the spring.

Raking Up of field, York raking

Gary did get out and raked up the wads and birds, I didn't get all of them but got a lot of them. I did York rake the parking lot. All the rain turned it into mud.

Don Clark volunteered to bring out his rock rak in the spring and to do the parking lot again.

Kids Fishing Derby:

Don Clark will not be here in June. He will get the permits going and applications, will get the Fish and Game scheduled. Then will need someone to take over for the Event.

Range Rules, Membership Applications

Paul Doolittle has reviewed and revised the **Range Rules** (we had 3 different versions). We will now use the same version in all applications, Membership, Orientation and the Website. The new version has a form at the bottom to use for orientation.

Copies were printed and available at the meeting for review by members.

The Membership application for the time being we have it down to 3 pages with separate instructions. Membership application, liability form, range rules make up the membership packet.

Non-Profit Status with the IRS

The club dropped the ball in 2007, they never followed thru with establishing the non-profit. We have basically two choices. We did talk with a tax lawyer, the choices are a 501(c) 7 which is more club based , where it is mainly for the benefit of the members of the club. Yes you can have outside participation, but there are some rules that you have to follow when it comes to the money. Verses the 501(c)3 which may go more in line with the trap shooting education kind of thing. The downside of the 501(c)3 you need to keep more meticulous records of all the money that comes in and goes out. It broadens you up to getting donations from corporations and that kind of thing. Where it is a little tougher as a 501(c)7 private club.

501(c)7 was what was recommended.

Fee for the paperwork with the IRS about \$40
Fee for the tax lawyer - \$90 so far for the consultation
May approach Tara Heater or Doug Dutile for help with this.

Other Conversations:

Funds from the NRA or State of NH – this is being worked on by a Member (Ted Smith from Lincoln)
Look into groups that are promoting Youth Trap Shooting.

Are there any gun manufacturers be interested in supporting the Youth Trap Shooting?

Annual Meeting:

April 6th at the American Legion.

Mike Murray – the contact person at the Legion is Joy Henson (937) 797-7471 email
joyhensonrn@live.com

Note: we are on the schedule for 2 pm on 4/6/2024

Do we want to put an add in any of the papers announcing the Annual meeting.

We have to put a notice of the Change of the by laws.

Website:

The current site is not reliable, issues with the hosting company.

Looking for a new hosting company and new software to do the pages. Also currently our website is not secure.

Suggestions from members present on website software and hosting.

It was suggested that we 'just start new'. Which we will be doing.

Rentals:

We do have the rental form from Elliotts, we do need to revise the Rental Document.

Will the fees be the same – but will remove the Deposit.

Currently we rent to the American Legion – that one is a reciprocal agreement we use their meeting hall in winter and they use are facility for their summer cookout. Elliotts 1 day and Norcross 3 days.

We will not be raising the rental fee at this time.

Membership Fees:

People have expressed that we are too expensive.

Littleton has one fee, but then additional fees for the use of different parts of their facility.

Was mentioned that St. Johnsbury is \$60 or \$75 for a family and \$50 for a single person.

Not as many public properties or private properties that you can just go shoot at.

We may have to raise the membership cost but it has to come with in incentive to pay and stay.

There is something we have to do to bring them in and keep them coming.

With Youth Trap we should get quite a level of participation.

Board of Directors Meeting:

Can we schedule a directors meeting for sometime this month.

Picked a date and Mike Murray checked the Legions schedule.

Meeting scheduled for 1/18/2024 at 7pm at the Legion

100th Anniversary:

This year is the 100th Anniversary of the Club.

Cake for the April Meeting

Don Clark will order and pick up – full sheet cake put the Anniversary Patch on it.

Coffee, creamer, cups, sugar, coffee maker -

Spend a little money on advertising to announce that we have been around for 100 years.

Ann will coordinate with Joy at the Legion on what is available and what we would need to bring to the meeting.

Hunters Ed:

Hunters Ed – Instructor trainer program we have to let Josh know a date.

How many classes do we want for home study? Weekend course is usually April and August.

Home study do later part of April and later part of August.

Send out a email to see if anyone else that would like to do the instructor training.

Age for Home study is 14 and for the full course 12 years old. Could be changing the age for the home study.

Ham & Bean Supper:

The hams for the supper have been purchased and are in the freezer.

Tee Shirts & Hoodies:

We have some tee shirts at available at Gateway Sports, some sizes, you can pick them up at the store.

Paul has a list of some that wanted Hoodies (special order) will check the sizes with the people he has on the list.

There was no other business, the motion was made and seconded.

The Meeting was adjourned.