



## Erie County Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs ECFSC October 11, 2018 General Meeting Minutes

**Host Club:** Hawkeye Bowmen

Call to order – 7:12PM

**Pledge to Flag:** Gary Melnyk

Roll call – Officers and Directors:

Excused: R. Davenport, Frank Miskey Sr., Dave Barus, George Rockey

**Quorum of member clubs:** Yes

Approval of previous month's minutes

None / waived

Motion: Tom Fischer, 2<sup>nd</sup> Fred Langdon • Passed

**Secretary's report – Rich Davenport**

None / waived

**Membership report – Hope Melnyk**

Wants to send renewals with Xmas wishes and as separate mailing.

Needs donation of laptop and printer to manage membership.

**Joe McAdams:** offered to donate laptop.

**Treasurer's report – Dave Rosner**

Reconciliation report and summary presented.

- \$22026.35 Checking
- \$5451.35 Restricted
- \$1394.35 Cabela's Grant
- 4097.00 Youth Lifetime License

Motion: Cheryl Schenne, 2<sup>nd</sup> Hope Melnyk • Passed

Discussed credit card for online purchases. Bylaws allow \$500.

Motion: to apply for a credit card with a limit of \$500 for President J. Jondle to retain.

Chuck Godfrey, 2<sup>nd</sup> Frank Miskey Jr. • Passed with discussion.

**Discussion:** Tony Gonnello suggested review board to review purchases. Chuck Godfrey mentioned that Budget & Finance Committee to review policy.

### Correspondence report – Jeff Jondle

Received thank you card from Don Einhouse

### President's Report – Jeff Jondle

Concerned about committees and special committees that don't meet. Missed events in August. Need to get in front of this.

**Joe McAdams:** suggested publishing a calendar online.

### New Delegates

Need to establish alternates to pick up the slack.

**Chuck Godfrey:** Some don't lend themselves to the meeting.

**Nancy Schill:** Still don't know what is expected of delegate.

### Next meetings and locations:

Date	Location
11/08/2018	Southtowns Walleye
12/20/2018	Bison City Rod & Gun, Buffalo, NY

Discussed changing meetings to same week all the time – 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month. Currently: January to July is 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday. September to December 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday.

**Amy Plecas:** Will we email meeting date and time changes?

**Willie Sieber:** Could affect club calendars.

**Chuck Godfrey:** Will continue to schedule meetings for next year. Looking for some new clubs to host meetings.

**Mark Alessi:** How to get message to other clubs?

**Nancy Schill:** Join with other clubs to promote.

**Debbie Godfrey:** Should put something in the envelope with membership dues (regarding hosting meetings).

### GUESTS:

Roland Kennedy and wife from Bison City

## STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:

### Law enforcement – J. Bittner

Update: hunter in Sherman plead guilty. Will be sentenced in a few months.

**Chuck Godfrey:** In the past, the Federation wrote a letter to the sentencing judge requesting a severe sentence.

Tom Fischer: Walking dogs during hunting season – need to educate people.

**Cheryl Schenne:** WNY Horse Council – wrote reminders to protect animals.

### Archery & Bowhunting – Jim McCann

None

### Crossbow –Frank Miskey, Jr.

None

### Fish – Tom Fischer / Joe Fischer / Larry Jones

**Dan Tone:** Meeting at Southtowns Walleye regarding Sturgeon Point. Wall needs repair. Marina not making money. Army Corps requires 36 months for study. Town cannot afford to cover costs. Expanding slips from 250 to 400 would help appeal to outside venue. Need quicker responses. Will Evans discuss selling?

### Teach Me to Fish Clinics – Joe McAdams

Discussed trailer status and proposed graphics.

**Tom Fischer:** suggested we pay fee for Chestnut Ridge to avoid getting bumped

**Chuck Godfrey:** what's in trailer now?

**Joe McAdams:** will have sample graphics layout next week.

### Small Game – Dan Tone

Pheasant and turkey open on the 20<sup>th</sup>. Audit from DEC reports turkey is up.

### Big Game – Marc Alessi

Big game currently open. DEC WNY region 9 reports 2017 take down 2%, however, buck harvest up 4.5%. Hunting access and reporting still an issue. All but 2 DMUs are higher than average buck take objective.

### Trapping – Patti Wattengel

**Nancy Schill:** Youth trapping event a huge success. Caught a number of beavers – kids learned a lot.

### Waterfowl – George Rockey

**Chuck Godfrey:** Any correspondence with Grand Island? Looks like potential problems.

**Jeff Jondle:** Water levels are low.

### Conservation Council - Dan Tone

**Dan Tone:** Conservation Council had to borrow \$3K to meet expenses. Members meeting told only discussion on funding short term raffles. They are hiring professional fund raiser Denise Haskins – starting this year for every \$1 raised, \$0.35 will go to Denise. Annual expenses are \$150K with \$55K needed to support the office.

**Willie Sieber:** Deer license issuers don't even mention the habitat stamp.

**Tony Gonnello:** They need a "teach me to hunt" program. Besides women in the outdoors, they don't really have an active program.

**Joe McAdams:** Need to tie in advantage to membership programs. Discounts, etc.

**Dan Tone:** Read list of clubs that support the \$1 per member program.

**Joe Fischer:** Some clubs do pass the hat.

**Tony Gonnello:** Need to start discussion on adult hunting / mentoring programs.

**Joe Fischer:** NYSCC Annual Convention September 2018 – report attached.

Motion: Donate proceeds of 50/50 for the next year to the Conservation Council by Joe McAdams 2<sup>nd</sup> Dan Tone.

### Environment & Pollution – Chuck Godfrey

Outer harbor – public meeting November 19<sup>th</sup> with Erie County Harbor Development. Our Outer Harbor Coalition – meeting October 29<sup>th</sup> at Riverworks.

### Legislation – John Susz

Vote!

Chuck Godfrey: Rough idea of what costs NYC would add to processing.

### Resolutions – Rich Davenport (Dan Tone)

**Dan Tone:** Reports the status of the following resolutions:

**Blaze orange:** 3 yes 27 no **FAILED**

**Dog training:** 18 yes 12 no **PASSED**

### Membership Outreach – Chuck Godfrey

Still looking for new members. Need help – please make other organizations aware.

### Hunter Education – Frank Miskey Sr.

Still calling for instructors. Short supply.

**Cheryl Schenne:** Classes filling up in 5 minutes.

## SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

### Nominations – Frank Miskey Jr.

Frank called for the following positions – 3x as per requirements:

- **President**  
Jeff Jondle accepts nomination.  
No other nominations.
- **1<sup>st</sup> Vice President**  
Frank Miskey Sr. accepts nomination.  
No other nominations.
- **2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President**  
Cheryl Schenne accepts nomination.  
No other nominations.
- **Treasurer**  
Dave Rosner accepts nomination.  
No other nominations.
- **Recording Secretary**  
(Rich unavailable to accept nomination.)
- **Corresponding Secretary**  
OPEN
- **Membership Secretary**  
Hope Melnyk accepts nomination  
No other nominations.
- **Conservation Council:**  
Joe Fischer and Dan Tone accept appointment as delegates.

### Awards – Frank Miskey Sr.

Application online. Region 9 certificate of appreciation.

### Banquet – Frank Miskey, Jr.

Banquet meeting at Dog Bar on October 25<sup>th</sup> at 7PM.

**Chuck Godfrey:** 2020 banquet date is March 7<sup>th</sup>. May have conflict with meetings.

**Bob Zdarsky:** Deer search offering scholarship.

**Dave Rosner:** Southtown's Walleye offers scholarship.

### Educational Opportunities – Chuck Godfrey

[On website.](#)

### Fund Raising – Frank Miskey Jr.

Gun raffle tickets.

## **FWMB – Chuck Godfrey / Dan Tone Alternate**

### **Shows – Hope Melnyk**

Fair is 12 days. With 45 clubs, we should have no issues to man booth. Clubs need to step up. Upcoming sportsman's show needs volunteers.

**Tony Gonnello:** Depew taking all day Saturday.

**Chuck Godfrey:** Dave Rosner and Don Kochersberger volunteered to help.

### **EVENT:**

Southtown's Walleye – February 9<sup>th</sup>, 11AM-3PM. \$25 / table.

### **NHFD – Rich Davenport**

**Joe McAdams:** posted pictures received from Bob Watroba and Jim Chase.

### **WNY Environmental Federation – Dan Tone**

**John Susz:** Meeting at Hoaks January 13<sup>th</sup> at 1PM.

### **Youth Lifetime License – Chuck Godfrey**

Chuck has more tickets. Need to get these in before December meeting.

### **Budget and Finance – Dave Rosner – (motion to pay bills)**

Bills presented for payment.

- \$332.00 Darrin Beeman
- \$512.00 Chuck Pontillo
- \$200.04 Joe McAdams
- \$100.00 Orffeo Printing
- \$250.00 NY Trappers
- \$435.95 Joe Fischer
- \$131.12 Zen Olow

Motion: ??

### **Website – Joe McAdams - ecfsc.org**

Posted pictures from NHFD. Need to plan update to avoid discontinuing access to online forms.

### **Internal Controls – Tom Fischer**

None

### By-laws update – Cheryl Schenne

Hope will update club emails. Will send out proposed changes by email and hard copy by mail. Would like to get out by November 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Chuck Godfrey:** Need exact wording out for 3 months.

### Old Business

1. West Falls Club and Rails to Trails update

New signs by Rails to Trails – West Falls club and town against it.

**Al Baur:** Monday (October 15<sup>th</sup>) meeting at West Falls club. Galivan meeting to discuss.

**Cheryl Schenne:** Bridge deteriorated. Will have consequences.

2. Veterans Day

**Al Baur:** Vet's day at Elma Conservation.

Motion to donate \$250 to event by Frank Miskey Jr. 2<sup>nd</sup> Dave Rosner • Passed.

3. NHFD

**Jeff Jondle:** Not getting the word out - only 39 participants. Need more clubs to get involved.

**Joe McAdams:** Need better coverage. TV news and posters for member clubs.

### New Business

1. Kid's day event – prizes

**Joe McAdams:** Kid's day in February. Will review current inventory of prizes and get back to Board on what we will need. Thank you to Frank Miskey Sr. for donating some stuffed animal prizes.

2. Events budgets and planning

**Jeff Jondle:** Requests written plans submitted in advance.

**Dave Rosner:** Need to add items to the budget to avoid last minute issues.

### Sunshine Committee – Cheryl Schenne:

Confirming we are sending Christmas cards. YES!

### Thanks to Host Club

Thanks to host Hawkeye Bowmen

### 50/50

\$28 Won by Hamburg Rod & Gun. Donated to NYSCC

### Meeting Adjournment

Motion: Chuck Godfrey 2<sup>nd</sup> Cheryl Schenne • Passed



**New York State Conservation Council Inc.**  
8 East Main Street, Ilion, New York 13357-1899

### **NYSCC ANNUAL CONVENTION SEPTEMBER 2018 by Joe Fischer - Delegate**

NYSCC's financial situation is precarious to say the least. They need approximately \$20,000 by

the end of the year just to pay bills. If this funding is not forthcoming they will probably have to close the office. It is estimated that it takes \$110,000 a year to run the NYSCC with 55,000 just for the office (rent, personnel, copy machines etc.).

They desperately need donations from supporting federations, clubs or individuals NOW

to keep their doors open. A buck a year from all the NYSCC members could solve almost all of the financial problems of the NYSCC.

A professional fundraiser will be meeting with the board to discuss a long-term viability plan. No startup money will be needed with the fundraiser taking 35% of garnered income. More on this proposal soon....

We need the NYSCC more than ever as this November the NYS senate will probably be

controlled by the democrats. If this happens there is a host of anti- gun bills that will then

pass easily thru the assembly and senate and sportsmen will have to fight just to hold what we presently have, very scary to say the least.

The fish hatchery system is presently in the midst of updates and repairs to the hatcheries.

Hatcheries at Bath, Caledonia, Catskill, Salmon River, South Otselic and Adirondack are

all in the process of being renovated and or repaired.

A summary of public meetings on trout stream management is now available. The top points taken from the anglers are:

High quality stream habitat.

Opportunity to catch wild trout and stocked trout that have been in the stream for a period

of time.

Extended availability of trout stocked in streams



Diversity of stream fishing (stocked trout, wild trout etc.)

Other items are:

Oneida Lake fishing for walleye is excellent but bass fishing is the worst since 2010.

The Lake Sturgeon Recovery continues to be excellent.

The toxic algae continue to be a problem on many lakes in NY. Phosphorus and other nutrient loading in the lakes along with warm weather conditions seem to play a major part in this problem but there are no answers yet.

Great news for Western New York fishermen as both Lake Erie and Chautauqua Lake had excellent walleye fishing this year and this should continue due to multiple good spawning years from 2014-2016. Latest news indicates that this year has also been a good

year for walleye hatch on both Lake Erie and Chautauqua Lake.....

Cormorant management continues with a large number of nest reduction and many birds dispatched.

Law Enforcement reported that they will get 52-58 new vehicles, they badly need these

as many of the present fleet have over 200,000 miles. The department has 333 officers with 44 vacancies...

The resolution making blaze orange mandatory was defeated. The second resolution by the NY Houndsmen narrowly passed.

The Locavore movement seems to be catching on in New York State. This movement stresses the use of local food and the eating of wild game such as deer. It seems that quite

a few millennials are actually taking up hunting. There are web sites promoting the benefits of eating Locavore.

Mr. Michaels of the forest preserve spoke of the lack of regeneration of our old growth forests due to high deer populations which browse on the new saplings. Interesting comment, maybe the tree huggers will support more deer hunting!

The election of officers was brief with almost all officers being reelected. At this writing the NYSCC needs a full-time treasurer.

A good convention but the IMMEDIATE NEED IS MONEY TO SUPPORT THE NYSCC AFTER THE UPCOMING ELECTIONS!! ALSO PLEASE MAKE SURE YOU VOTE!!!!!!

Joseph Fischer

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