

VERMONT FEDERATION OF SPORTSMEN'S CLUB, INC.

14 of February 2016

MEETING MINUTES

I. Meeting called to order at 10:15 A.M. by VP Evan Hughes.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Attendees:

NAME	CLUB
Evan Hughes	Barre Fish & Game Club
Marcia Marble	Lamoille Valley Fish & Game Club
Dwina Warren	Randolph Fish & Game Club
Scott Warren	Randolph Fish & Game Club
Scott Chapman	802 Action Shooters
Alan Nadeau	Sportsman's Club of Franklin County, Inc.
Dick Lyford	Chelsea Fish & Game Club
Mike Covey	Vermont Trappers Association
Tim Riddle	North Country Sportsman's Club
Trevor Lewis	Barre Rifle & Pistol Club
Chris Bradley	VT State Rifle & Pistol Association

IV. Guest Speaker – Louis Porter, Commissioner for Fish & Wildlife:

Recap of 2015 and upcoming focus for 2016. ACT 250 changes; New Game violations; Spotlight Shooting; diseases and preventions; More Range Safety Officers; discussion on preserving clubs, Noise ordinances, and Hammond Cove dealing with Municipality.

V. Motion was made and 2nd to move to item #6 on Agenda – Re: North Country Sportsman's Club:

Tim Riddle, Treasurer of Sportsman's Club, gave update of the situation their club is enduring. Currently, they are raising money in the sum of \$10,000 in order to dispute the ruling of Vermont Superior Court to the Vermont Supreme Court. It is a dispute over a skeet range. They had challenged the Town's issuance of citations to the shooting range for violation of the Town's Noise ordinance, asserting claims that the Town of Williston has no authority to issue it such citations, and that the citations constitute malicious prosecution and infringement on the constitutional right to bear arms. The Town asserts a counterclaim for declaratory judgment in

its favor. Received a grant from Federation for \$6,000 and requesting any donations from sister-clubs. [The Federation has a copy of the original cross-motions and dispute that was heard at the Vermont Superior Court, Chittenden Unit, Civil Division.]

VI. Break for Lunch @ 11:45 a.m. (Motion made and 2nd; All in Favor)

VII. Reconvened at 12:05 p.m. by DW for review of Secretary's Reports:

- A. July 12, 2015 Minutes – Read; Motion made and 2nd to accept minutes. All in Favor.
- B. January 10, 2016 Minutes – Read and discussed a change on item 6 - Reports, section E - Operation Fame Thief to read Operation Game Thief. Motion to accept the Minutes w/ the change. Second. All in Favor.

VIII. Reports (CB took over meeting at 12:30 p.m.):

- A. Treasurer's Report – Read with no further discussion needed. Motion to accept the Treasurer's Report. Second. All in Favor.
- B. Gun Show Financials – Read w/ no further discussion needed. Motion made and 2nd. All in Favor.
- C. Budget Committee – Chris, Marcia, Dick & Evan to sit in the budget meeting today after Federation meeting.
- D. Annual Federation Banquet –March 12 at Barre Elks Club. Update and Discussion.
- E. Operation Game Thief Update (provided by DL). Motion made for \$800 check to Operation Game Thief. Second. Discussion as to which Fund to draw upon. All in Favor.
- F. Brief legislative Overview by CB & EH. Bills that we are watching – List of House bills, House Rules change, and Senate bills. Discussion.

IX. Future Vision for the Federation:

Member Clubs vs. individual memberships. Need more involvement. Discussion on changing membership costs in order to cover Lobbying firms. Reach out to Member Clubs to take ownership, get more involved and communicate to their memberships. Motion was made to table further discussion until next meeting in order to take positive action. Second. All in Favor.

X. Dissolution of Green Mountain Rabbit & Hare Club:

We have received \$406.12 from them. Motion was made that the disposition of this money shall be made for legal defense fund of the Federation. Second. Discussion. All in Favor.

XI. Fish & Wildlife Liaison – Mike Covey:

Overview and update. Motion to appoint Mike Covey as Acting Liaison to F&W. Second. All in Favor.

XII. Suspension of Federation Meeting and Opening of FCT Meeting

XIII. Fund for Conservation & Training:

- A. Treasurer's Report – Read with no further discussion needed. Motion to accept the Treasurer's Report. Second. All in Favor.
- B. Annual Federation Banquet – Scheduled for March 12 at Barre Elks Club. Discussion.
- C. Motion for adjournment of FCT Meeting. Second. All in Favor.

XIV. Reconvene the Federation Meeting (1:52 p.m.)

XV. Old Business:

- A. Annual Federation Banquet – wasted postage; will fix list for next year.
- B. Wording on forms and website need to be changed regarding our tax status.
- C. Tax exempt issue – we purchased things for Banquet and paid sales tax. Discussion.
- D. Sponsorship solicitations. Discussion.
- E. Recognition for Mary and Clint at the Banquet. Discussion.
- F. Invitation to Legislators.
- G. Soliciting items for different areas: Tiers, Live Auction, Silent Auction, and Sponsor.
- H. Organizing the item on the day of Banquet. Volunteers needed.

XVI. New Business:

None

XVII. Adjournment of Meeting (2:30 p.m.)

Motion made to adjourn the Federation Meeting. Second. All in Favor.