

**EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING  
NEW YORK STATE BASS CHAPTER FEDERATION  
JANUARY 15, 2005**

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**The NYSBCF Executive Board Open Meeting** was called to order by President Wayne Tomassi at 11:05 a.m. on January 15, 2005. Officers present were President Wayne Tomassi, Vice President Burnie Haney, Treasurer Pam Bliss, and Secretary Susan Good. Committee Chairpersons present were Outgoing Tournament Director Sharon Rice, Incoming Tournament Director Stephanie Miura, Conservation Lobbyist/Elections Mike Cusano, Conservation Director/ Banquet Joe Koetting, Marketing Director Dominick Maio, and Youth Director Mickey Fortunato.

President Tomassi led the "Pledge of Allegiance".

President Tomassi welcomed all attendees and thanked Susan Good for accepting the position of Federation Secretary for the balance of this term of office.

**Club Roll Call:** Present were Adirondack Bass, After Breakfast Bass Anglers, Bullseye BM, Finger Lakes BM, Hudson Valley BM, Hudson Valley Jr. BM, Indian Lakes BM, Long Island BM, Orange Co. BM, Orange Co. Jr. BM, Port City BM, Predators Bass Club, Rochester BM, Salt City BM, Salt City Jr. BM, Southern Tier BM, Southern Tier Jr. BM, Statewide BM, 1<sup>st</sup> BM of Sullivan Co., and Watershed BM.

### **Minutes**

Since there were no Executive Board minutes prepared for the March 2004, Wayne put together a "Memo for Record" that consisted of his agenda and his notes for the Federation's records. After review summary reading by President Tomassi, it was moved and seconded to accept the minutes. The vote passed.

Executive Committee Meeting minutes from December 4, and Executive Board Meeting minutes from December 5, 2004, were read by President Tomassi. Pam Bliss asked for notation that she had stated that chairpersons of dissolved positions should be notified. Discussion as to use of the mailing list for sponsors was tabled to New Business. It was moved and seconded to accept the minutes as amended. The vote passed.

### **President's Message:**

- Federation's 30<sup>th</sup> year
- 2004 theme: Be the Best That You Can Be
- All Executive Committee Members, Chairpersons, TAB, Tournament crew, and all volunteers were thanked for their efforts.
- Stated the BASS is moving to Florida: Chris Bowes will go as Tournament Director for Divisional Tournaments, Patty Morsch, Joy George, and both Conservation Directors will go. Don Corkran has resigned from BASS and will not make the move.

- NYSBCF is a Skeeter/Yamaha Federation and member benefits will be read at the banquet for all to hear again.
- MinnKota is new Federation sponsor donating 3 motors, 3 chargers, team shirts, VIP and Special Fed. Discounts.
- Congratulations to Matt Sphar for being Angler of the Year back-to-back.
- Congratulations to Mike Mapes for being New York's contender for the IBF Championship at Lake Tahoe and Disney Bay in Orlando.
- BASS Federation, Inc.

:Wayne attended the 1<sup>st</sup> Bass Federation Inc. Stockholders Meeting.

:Penzoil is a sponsor.

- ESPN/Federation relations

-National is now called International Bass Federation.

-Limited success with national membership drive

-Chevy and Flowmaster ended sponsorships.

-Toyota begins sponsorship: Tundra Crew Cab is BASS official truck.

-Weekend Series starts in the Northeast: 4 tournaments in NY waters.

-Commented on Corkran article in BASS Times: from his view, presidents were non-involved in Weekend Series plans.

:Boat insurance is now \$300,000.

### **Other Federation News**

- Maine, Connecticut, Mass. and Ontario have new presidents.
- Eastern Division is splitting: Believe that Canada will join Eastern 7, adds to divisional payout, good news as Ontario's membership growing.
- Eastern and Mid-Atlantic tournaments will be done together.

### **Youth**

- Junior Federation is incorporated, to operate separately in 2005.
- 1<sup>st</sup> Junior World Championship was at the 2004 Classic.
- End of Junior Divisionals
- There are 7 Junior Clubs.

- Scholarship Program donations are **way** down.

### **Conservation**

- Mike Cusano took care of Oneida South Shore Launch problem
- A bill before Pataki to allow/empower DEC to permit Catch and Release seasons was signed.
- DEC put indefinite hold on additional weed herbicidal treatment for Lakes Waneta and Lamoka.
- New studies are now available regarding dredging on the Hudson River/  
**hopefully won't happen.**

### **New Officers to be elected in 2005**

#### **Improvements needed in 2005**

- Bi-monthly Exec. Comm. communications
- Club websites to include by-laws, tournament rules, tournament payout schedules
- Club newsletters to Exec. Comm.
- Revamp **Fishlines**
- Publicity chairperson
- Banquet award submissions from clubs
- Banquet RSVPs

#### **Committee Appointments**

- Award Committee Chair needed/VP Haney in charge
- Banquet Manager Joe Koetting
- Boat Safety Course Admin. New position!
- Conservation Joe Koetting
- Conservation Lobbyist Mike Cusano
- Fishlines Melody Sanson finishing annual

New Editor: Tim Carini (Approved by Exec. Comm. following this meeting.)

- Marketing Dominick Maio

- Membership Chair needed
- Publicity Chair needed
- Scholarship Kathy Fortunato
- Technology Chair needed
- Tournament Director Stephanie Miura
- Webmaster Ted Barth
- Youth Mickey Fortunato

### **VP report**

- Keep news articles related to member clubs for their archives and awards.

### **Treasury**

- No new report
- Changes: Federation estimated profit \$15,000-\$17,000 from raffle
- Checks will go to clubs for their share of the profit, approx. \$2,200 total at this time.
- Banquet announcements: Who sold most raffle tickets?
- Raffle ticket discussion: Keep diversified prize list/ all donated or purchased at reduced cost; Pam estimates 20% of the clubs did not participate in sales.
- Exec. Comm./Chairperson Expenses: Noted that mileage and hotel are paid when an overnight is necessary for Federation business, optional to submit expenses.

### **Membership**

- 891 active members: Number may be different on financial report due to free dues for State Team Members and Life Memberships.
- New PC to be purchased: Stephanie and Pam are specifying needs and making the purchase.
- New database system: current membership is being uploaded by college student whose goal is to have a fully working model by April.

Volunteer testers: Stefanie, Mike Cusano

Current data is being reviewed and edited, sensitive info will be purged before testing.

Pam proposes maintaining current database until project is complete.

**Guest Speaker:** Noreen Clough, ESPN/BASS Conservation Director, was to be introduced to speak, but her plane was stuck in Atlanta. She will be given time to speak at the banquet.

**Tournament:** Stefanie Miura was introduced as the new Tournament Director.

- Most tournaments are lined up: Plattsburgh, Seneca, Oneida, and Ticonderoga.
- CTC to be finalized (Info received during banquet set it at Cayuga.).
- Dominick Maio to Plattsburgh Launch for meeting / new launch and hotel to be built in 2005
- Change: Minimal insurance liability is \$300,000
- Proposal for new PC: trade Gateway to Gateway, checking Dell, working with Pam Bliss for final decision
- TAB: one new member, one pending (put on web page)
- Tournament crew needs one member (put on web page)

### **Conservation**

- Mike Cusano recommends members contact regional DEC managers and reps to support experimental Catch and Release seasons on certain bodies of water/ Vote will be July 2005.

**\*Hand-written letters with address and phone are most impressive.**

**\*Contact Mike at [SaltCityBassmasters.com](http://SaltCityBassmasters.com) for supportive information as to the economics of these seasons.**

- Must apply for Temporary Revocable Permit at Oneida South Shore Ramp to have weigh-ins at that site
- Opening date for applications was January 2, 2005
- Joe Koetting will be recognizing someone outside the Federation at Banquet.
  - planning with Mike for forward movement

- Wayne states need to support Conservation as DEC is sending requests to Fed. Officers re: new ideas.

### **Marketing**

- Dominick Maio states difficulty in getting sponsors and keeping sponsors at their current level due to increase in number of tournament trails hitting same sources.
  - some scalebacks and one loss as sponsors are spreading advertising dollars out over more trails
  - Mike C. recommends supplying info as to number of clubs that will have tournaments on a particular lake.
  - Dominick uses stats on \$ spent in local communities/ local Chambers of Commerce also have stats.
  - Dominick recommends fishermen support sponsoring businesses at each tournament.

### **Fishlines**

- Melody is completing the annual issue.
- Question arose as to policy for paying writers for articles. There was discussion.
- Pam has a quote from a printer for \$50 more per issue, and quote at \$/hr. for lay-out, print, labels...ready for distribution.
  - send any cost information or available printer information to Pam
  - must apply for new mailing permit
  - change will start with May issue
  - New contract = annual and 5 issues
- Tim Carini is interested in being Editor: communicate deadlines, collect contributions, send to graphics, check layout, ensure mailings. **Note:** Following the meeting, the Exec.Comm. reviewed with Tim the scope of the editor's job and (following discussion) approved his appointment.

### **Auction**

- 2004 is all paid
- Scott Bliss and Paul Tomeo need time to set up for tonight's banquet

### **Youth**

- 7 youth clubs
- March 5, 2005, State Finals for Casting Kids at Auburn Bass Pro: **need help!**
- July 1, 2005, 6-Man Qualifying Tournament at Honeoye: Southern Tier is hosting, 2 kids qualify.
- July 10, 2005, Jr. Federation Partners at Oneida
- August 21, 2005, Jr. Fed. CTC
- Leadership camp

### **Old Business**

- Mike Cusano officially opened election nominations.
- Nominations will close at the December 2005 meeting.
- Reminder: Members of Election Committee cannot be presently in office or run for office.
- Election Committee needs 2 members, one from East, one from West.
- Nominations so far:
  - Wayne for President, nominated, seconded. Wayne will decide on acceptance by December meeting.
  - Pam Bliss for Treasurer, nominated, seconded, declined.
  - Burnie Haney for Vice President, nominated, seconded, declined.
  - Susan Good for Secretary, nominated, seconded, accepted.

Scott Bliss indicated that he thought there was a term limit for officers. Wayne stated that per the bylaws, there are no term limits. He reminded everyone that he has consistently stated that he believes officers should change every 4 years, but he would be willing to continue for another term, if necessary.

### **New Business**

- Members' addresses given to major sponsor for flyers regarding NYS Boat Show

- Pam Bliss: membership previously voted to never distribute member addresses to sponsors

- Discussion followed as to how sponsors could be helped while maintaining member privacy.

- Dominick Maio will prepare a proposal for the March meeting regarding sponsor usage and access to member addresses per contract year.

- Wayne proposes ability for NYSBCF to be present at NY Boat Show in order to get new sponsors and new membership. ( 8-9 day cost details to be worked out, but booth space a possibility in return for **Fishlines** advertising for the show.)
- Paul Tomeo requested it be noted in the minutes that he was never contacted about his position as Tournament Operations Chairperson being dissolved nor was he informed as to why that took place.
- Discussion as to stipends for **Fishlines** articles
- Thanks to Joe Koetting for banquet organization. Reps should help with timely seating.
- Next Executive Committee meeting is March 5, 2005 with Executive Board meeting March 6, 2005 at Bass Pro in Auburn, NY.

**Motion to adjourn and seconded.** Passed.

Adjourned at 3:38 pm, Jan. 15, 2005

Respectfully submitted,  
Susan Good  
NYSBCF Secretary