

Minutes of the NY BASS Chapter Federation Executive Board Meeting

Date: Sat, Mar 17, 2012

Location: Bass Pro Shop, Auburn, NY

Meeting called to order at 10:05 a.m.

Present: Chuck Rowlee, President
Fred Blom, Vice President
Lori Haney, Secretary
Kathy Bonanno, Treasurer
Mike Cusano, Past President
Tom Presnell, Marketing/FISHLINES
Barb Elliott, Conservation
Burnie Haney, Public Relations
Ted Barth, Webmaster

Club Roll Call – Clubs Present:

Barge Canal Bassmasters – William Terry
Capital District Bassmasters – Tom Larose
Crown City Bassmasters – Todd Covert
Good Ole Boys Bassmasters – Paul Hudson
Iron Hill Bassmasters – Tom Presnell
Northern NY Bassmasters II – Jim Moore
Team Nitro – Burnie Haney
Oak Orchard River Bass Anglers – Em Seefeldt
Rochester Bassmasters – Mike Wall
Southern Tier Bassmasters – Ted Barth
Westchester Rod & Reel – Chris Gore

Also in attendance: Ed Moore, Greg Pavlick, Rich Mattison, Scott Bliss, Pam Bliss, Don Hadlock, Mike Slowikowski,

1. Minutes of the January 2012 meeting were presented for approval. One edit noted, minutes read “December 2012”. Will amend and copy will be provided for posting. Minutes approved.
2. President’s Report: Chuck Rowlee thanked all on the Executive Committee for supporting him, he is learning as he goes and appreciates the assistance and support.
3. Treasurer’s Report – Kathy provided copies of the proposed budget for 2012. She went over changes (addition of the two stipend positions, computer purchase) and projected profit options (Dec raffle, grant payments from pontoon boat.) Question as to whether a projected loss or profit is projected? Answer is that the numbers haven’t been rolled up yet. There is unknown potential in projected income from sponsors and grant payments.

4. Old Business:

- Paul Hudson has volunteered to tow the Catch and Release boat for tournaments.
- Pete Knight will tow the tournament trailer.

5. Committee Reports:

a. FISHLINES: Tom Presnell reported that Fishlines is in the mail. His work schedule has curtailed his ability to do business during the day. Stories are planned on a Lake Erie trip, still welcomes contributions and Rod Bender photos.

b. Marketing: Tom hasn't been able to do a lot due to work hour changes. Needs someone to assist during business hours to make phone calls and contacts. He is looking for email marketing options and reaching out to existing sponsors and advertisers to see if there are new opportunities with them.

c. Conservation: Barb Elliott reported she had a good experience at the Bassmaster Classic. She worked the fishcare area, met other Conservation Directors and learned about concerns in other areas of the country.

- Hydrilla in Cayuga Lake – she is hoping to raise awareness of the necessity to clean boats and trailers as it only takes one tiny piece of vegetation to spread this invasive species. She is working on a project to get youth involved in boat cleaning at tournament sites. She has become a member of the national Snakehead Taskforce to raise awareness of the species.
- The public comment period for Catch and Release will open April 1st. Important to get comments in, we need to speak up and maintain the momentum. Also the Black Bass for sale likely will be sent forward, so we must continue to send comments in opposition to that proposal.

d. Public Relations: Burnie Haney reported that news release announcing the Take A Soldier Fishing day has gone out and the resulting coverage brought in about 20 more boaters for the event.

- Good Ole Boys were recognized for their conservation efforts at the meeting in Lake Placid in Feb. Barb Elliot accepted the plaque on their behalf.
- If a club has a project, Burnie can assist in getting local or higher coverage and raise awareness about the club and the federation.

e. Sponsor Products: Burnie has processed 19 purchases so far. Reminder that purchase requires paid membership and credit card only. Products are being received sooner than the 3-4 week projection.

- The Berkeley purchase discount code is put out to clubs reps via the message board. Product availability will change quarterly. Reminder that these are confidential programs, do not discuss outside of the federation.
- No access to Talon this year.
- State team members are authorized some additional Mercury/Lowrance purchases.

f. Tournaments: Chuck Rowlee reported for Pete Knight

- Alabama rig rules – we will work with the state or lake law that applies where we fish.
 - Fishing Canadian water is a go, all fishing will be required to have a Canadian license.
- Discussion of the check in procedures, etc. Best idea is to do an initial check in with the Canadian side during practice, then on the day of tournament your info is already on file, doesn't take as long to check in. The phone number for check in will be put on the website for all to use.

6. New Business:

a. Take A Soldier Fishing on Sat, Apr 28th. Currently, there are 15 individuals signed up for shore duty. Information is on message board as to duties and times. We have 67 boats signed up, which allowed us to extend the invitation to Fort Drum FMWR for 125 Soldiers to participate. We have received \$1,650 in donations so far. Bass Pro Shops providing a pontoon boat and donating rods and reels.

b. Starting work on 2013 contracts. Trying to come up with creative ways to maintain or increase what deals we already have.

c. BASS has named Cabelas as Federation Nation sponsor.

7. Motion made, seconded (Haney, Hudson) to adjourn, carried. Meeting adjourned at 11:15 a.m.