

Connecticut B.A.S.S. Nation

Meeting Minutes

March 21, 2013

*Regular business was suspended due to guest speaker Craig Mergins from Riverfront Recapture, a sporting chance for youth to give a presentation to the board.

- Riverfront Recapture is in the process of planning their season. Currently they are partnered with the CBN & Gaylord hospital for the Veterans event on September 25th.
- Youth aspect includes getting kids outside with fishing and other earth science projects. Currently a Hartford school is raising salmon for release.
 - National Take a Kid Fishing Day – June 8th, 10am-3p at Riverfront Park in Hartford, CT
 - Boys & Girls Club, YMCA, and PAL all involved
 - Kids receive raffle tickets for prizes, a t-shirt and a healthy lunch
 - 14 different activities including rowing, softball, basketball, golf, fishing etc.
 - Raffle provided by generous donations from Dick's Sporting Goods, EMS & others
 - 2012 had 800 Kids attend

The regular monthly meeting of the Connecticut B.A.S.S. Nation was called to order on March 21, 2013 at approximately 7:50p by Sylvia Morris.

Roll Call: The following clubs were absent: Bass Busters, CT Sweetwater Bass, Housatonic Valley Bassmasters, North Eastern CT Bassmasters, Talcott MTN Bassmasters, Team Skeeter, Thayers Marauders & Xtreme Bassmasters

Correspondence: Thank you was received for the VNA donation for Ron Frisk's mother.

Announcements:

- Humminbird and MinnKota are brands of Johnson Outdoors Marine Electronics which has entered into a multi-year agreement with BASS LLC to continue in a premier-level sponsorship status for the Classic, Elite Series, Bass Pro Opens, BASS Nation Events and the Carhartt Bassmaster College Series.

A motion was made and passed to accept the previous month's minutes.

Report of Officers

Treasurers Report: Marc Levesque.

Conservation Report: Dean Rustic:

- CAC Meeting
 - Tip Report – Law Enforcement – Ray Ramos:
 - Incidents 353, 33 Arrest, 22 Warnings
 - Blizzard Response – ENCON police helped – 39 Vehicle Accidents
 - Park Vandalism – CT Bride Mag – Carved names in park trees, ticket given
 - Committee Reports – Legislative – Bob Crook
 - Gun Lobby Day on 11-Mar-2013 – 3000 attendees
 - Gun Bill 1076 voting on Thursday

- Last Legislative hearing on Guns
 - Sunday Hunting in Environment Committee on Private Land
 - Agency Definition of Snare bill in Environment Committee
 - A bill has Annual Gun Registration is tied to purchase ammo
 - Online boating education – <http://www.boaterexam.com/usa/connecticut/>
 - Moving Opening Day to 2nd Saturday in April
- Forestry Division
 - Control Burns in 12 Areas
 - Between March and June only on High Fire Danger times
 - Delaminating Survey in New Haven County – for Ash trees
- Fisheries Advisory Council
 - Collecting Brute Stock
 - Seasonal workers cut by 50% in Pike, Walleyes Fisheries
 - 149k cut in Hatcheries and one closed – Kensington – 5 – 10% trout reduction – 50k to 75k
 - Cutting of Trout programs in the class rooms
 - State Funded Seasonal workers are cut to just in hatcheries
 - Hallsville Pond and Stan Ken Dam in Berlin – Work is now underway on a state-of-the-art fishway on the Mattabesset River in East Berlin. Led by the Nature Conservancy's Connecticut Program in the partnership with the CT DEEP, the project will help American shad, river herring and other migratory species reach prime habitat upstream from the fishway, in the Mattabesset River and its tributaries.
 - Alewives run in the Thames River
 - Reporters at Trout Stocking around the state
 - Pre-Opening Day Trout Stocking for kids
 - Youth Fishing Passport – 300 Registrations thus far. Under 14-15. Looking for Prizes
- Marine Fisheries
 - Set regulations for Fluke, Black Sea Bass & Scup. This will be presented at Thursday's meeting.
 - Striper Fishing Bonus – a certain number to harvest Striper under the size limit
- Conservations Achievements – 2012 – Sign up at the following website for your projects (<http://www.bassmaster.com/news/submit-your-clubs-project>)

Boating Advisory: Garrett Kruger attended:

- Limitation of boat size on Candlewood Lake, Effective March 6, 2013
 - Boats currently on the lake 26' and larger are grandfathered in as long as they can produce some type of document that shows the actual HULL of the boat has been kept on Candlewood.
 - Marinas surrounding the lake are allowed to keep any boat in inventory on the lake until it is sold.
 - Trial runs for boats potentially being sold will be allowed but boats must be removed when finished.
- New online program to obtain boating license or a lost boating license. Current issues with site but they are being worked on.
- New Boating laws being proposed at legislation but do not affect bass fisherman.

C.L.A. Report:

- Chris Bleilert on the Invasive Committee – Meeting on April 4th
- Spending cut so there will be no grass carp in the future
- Lake cleanup is scheduled for May 18th

Tournament Report: Paul Dingee:

- Picking up the trailer at Reynolds Open House
- Remember the 1st Tournament is \$95.00 (\$20.00 launch fee included)
- Two Dated (One dated May 19th, the other dated July 14th) and signed Zebra Mussel forms should accompany the CBN Tournament application when paying for all three tournaments at once.
- **NEW TOURNAMENT COMMITTEE MEMBERS ARE ALWAYS NEEDED.**

Sponsorship Report: Bob Nelson:

- Power-Pole sponsorship is open to all CBN members – to receive the discount you have to complete the Pro-Staff application on the website www.power-pole.com
- Reynolds' Garage and Marine open house is March 23rd and the Reynolds' Angler Incentive Program is back. The incentive is doubled for all customers who have purchased a new boat.
 - Anglers paired with the top 3 finishing co-anglers in each of the 4 tournament trail events will be rewarded as follow:
 1. Angler paired with the 1st place finishing co-angler will receive \$75.00
 2. Angler paired with the 2nd place finishing co-angler will receive \$50.00
 3. Angler paired with the 3rd place finishing co-angler will receive \$25.00
- Bassmaster and ScoutLook created a free fishing weather app for iPhone and Android. To download the app visit www.scoutlookweather.com
- Pure Fishing Discount Purchase Program open February 15 – March 15. Almost the entire Pure Fishing portfolio is being offered at a discount of 25% off of MSRP. Each member is allowed to purchase up to 4 items during the purchase window.
 - Order using the following instructions:
 1. https://www.shakespeare-fishing.com/tackle_shack/
 2. Enter your complete email address as your username (this is how we will contact you regarding your order)
 3. Enter this password: **TackleShack@2012**
 4. Once you are on the home page, click **My Account** to enter your shipping address, etc. Save the information then click on **Products** to begin shopping. *If you ordered during the first quarter your account information is still in place.*
 5. Add your selections to the shopping cart. You may increase the quantity of any product from the shopping cart.
 6. When you have completed your order, submitted payment by credit card and logged out, you will receive an email confirmation of your order.
- Midstate Battery – A discount is available to ALL Nation members and the Nation will receive a Volume Rebate
 - They can be reached at 139C West Dudley Town Rd., Bloomfield, CT 06002
 1. Phone 860.243.0646 Fax 860.243.5945 or email at smerone@midstatebattery.com
 - Notify Sylvia about all purchases so she can keep track of what the CBN rebate should be.

CBN Scholarship Committee: April 1st is the deadline for mailing scholarship applications. Scholarship judging will be held on April 25th at 5p prior to the meeting.

Robert S. Malloy Scholarship Committee: David Santos:

- Held at UConn – Two \$1,000.00 scholarships given
 - John Michael Hesnoner (Grad Student)
 - Robert Kalita (Undergraduate Student)

Banquet Committee: Sylvia Morris:

- The next banquet has already been booked. It will be at the Chowder Pot again on 11-9-2013.
- We have received 3 props, 2 trolling motors and 6 gallons of oil from Mercury/Motorguide.
- Always looking for prizes

Membership Committee: Paul Dingee:

- March 2nd was the membership drive at Cabela's in East Hartford
 - Talked to a few people but no additional sign ups
 - Day more geared toward Charter Boats and Excursions

Website Committee:

- Per website contract there was a small amount of training done prior to the meeting

Audit Committee: Vinny Mucci

- On January 12th the audit committee, consisting of Vinny Mucci, Kevin Lavendar and Daniel Monroe met to inspect & verify the financial records of the CBN. Also present were Marc Levesque (Treasurer) and Sylvia Morris (President). Their attendance was necessary to answer any questions the committee may have had and their involvement in the audit process was minimal.
 - Meeting Called to order at 11:35am – All transactions were reviewed as well as all supportive documents.
 - State Team Review:
 - Excessive Shipping costs – shipping for next day air delivery when standard deliver could have been used as well as oversize shipping charges
 - Energy Drinks & Supplements while reasonable food & drink is covered, the cost of these drinks is excessive.
 - Above matters to be taken up to the executive committee for further review and clarification
 - One expense report was found to be in error. An underpayment of \$88.32 was made to a state team member for expenses. This was corrected and proper monies sent.
 - Also noted by the treasurer that club affiliation and angler names should be put on all checks, especially when a business or bank check is sent for payment dues or tournaments. Tournament director should also be sure to ensure the same information is on all checks he receives.
 - Youth:
 - Available records were reviewed. Records were limited to cancelled checks and supportive receipts. They were found to be accurate. Missing were expense reports and this has been discussed with the youth director and expense reports will be submitted on all future transactions.

Youth Report: Terry Baksay and Ron Frisk:

- Youth is good to go for 2013 – 17 kids this year
 - Boat captains have been great and are always needed

- Youth helping with Heart of CT tournament is their first event and will also help out at the scholarship tournament and 26 Angles
- High School:
 - First high school signed (Fairfield Prep) paperwork is completed (only an advisor must sign off – no cost to the high school)
 - Going to see the Sound School in New Haven in two weeks
 - Berlin High School is in the works as well
 - High School state championship is May 11th on Candlewood
 - 2 teams (4 kids) will go to the National High School tournament in July
 - \$20 per kid (Member of Bassmaster) can also join a club at 16 and can fish with High School but can only fish High School championship
 - Must wear jersey with High School name
 - 16 Hours of community service is required
 - School's requirement for minimum sports GPA must be maintained to remain on team

Finance Committee: Ray Bessette:

- Nothing to report

State Team Report: Sylvia Morris:

- First meeting Sunday, March 25th at 1pm at Sylvia's house
- Jackets have been ordered
- Weed sticker must be on boats going to ME (\$20.00 a sticker - \$200.00 for the team)
 - In lieu of stickers the CBN won't buy maps for the team
- Rain Gear ordered and it has come in (7 sets ordered)
- Trokar now a sponsor for the state team
 - Chris Simmons sponsored by Trokar and will handle all orders etc.

Motion made and seconded to accept reports as given

Old Business

- Excused absences: Statewide Bass Anglers & Candlewood Bassmasters
- 26 Angels Foundation Tournament:
 - Clubs can donate money anytime online at <http://www.26angelsfoundation.org>
- Launch Fees for Danbury Town Park have been paid
- Reynolds Open House is Saturday, March 23 from 9am-4pm
 - JT Kenny as Guest
- Upcoming Open Tournaments:
 - Heart of CT – April 13th
 - Brian Kerchel – April 28th
 - Scholarship Tournament – May 4th
 - 26 Angels Tournament – May 5th
 - CT Bassmen Mixed Open – June 2nd (Candlewood Squantz)
 - Reynolds Marine – June 8th
 - Naugatuck Valley Bassmasters – June 9th

Motion made and seconded to accept Old Business

New Business

- Vinny Mucci – All Club presidents received and email from the Heart of CT Bassmasters
 - A friendly challenge for each CBN club to sponsor a boat for the 26 Angels Foundation Benefit tournament on May 5th
 - Looking for state support at the event
- Motion to donate \$1,000.00 to Sporting Chance for Youth
 - Motion seconded and all in favor (approved)

Meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:41 p.m.

Next Meeting: April 25, 2013

Respectfully Submitted,

Rachel Rose, CBN Secretary.