

Feb 27th, 2019
CT B.A.S.S. Nation Meeting

7:02 Roll Call

- **CLUBS ABSENT: None**
- **Nominations for Executive Board for 2019 are**
Vinny Mucci – President
Mike Billings – Vice President
Marc Levesque – Treasurer
Bob Jeffrey – Secretary
Secretary cast one vote for the existing Executive Board to remain for 2019! Congratulations!
- **Correspondence: Thank You Card from the Frisk Family and from The Jeffreys**
- **Announcements: Two CBN Members are in the Hospital, Dan Bielert and Gary Belanger, Hartford Hospital for both. Let's send a lot of well wishes!!**
- **Travis Frisk lost his courageous fight with Cancer. A great young man taken too soon..... Prayers for the Family. The CBN sent a beautiful Flower Basket that looked like a Pond scene complete with fishing pole.**
Bob Jeffreys Mother in Law passed away
Jenn Schallers Mother passed away
Abe Kalechmans Mother passed away
- **MOTION TO ACCEPT PREVIOUS MINUTES AS POSTED**

REPORTS OF OFFICERS

- **Treasurer Report: Marc Levesque**
- **Conservation & FAC Report: Dean Rustic-**

CBN Conservation Report

February 27, 2019

CBN Conservation objectives for the 2019

- 1. Conservation Projects for Candlewood Lake (Boat Launch & Habitat)**

2. Create a C.A.R.E. Bass Class

3. Create an on the Water Bass Course (like Golf Course)

Information from this past Month –

1. CT Conservation Advisory Council (CCAC) Meeting

a. Discussion on upcoming legislation and hearings.

b. Rick Jacobson has taken over for Bill Hyatt.

c. Information on AIS Bill in House.

2. Fisheries Advisory Council

a. Next meeting is March 28th

3. DEEP Items

a. I met with Edward Machowski :

i. Ed wants our impression of our lakes we fish.

ii. Ed has put together data about Bass in Bass Management Lakes.

iii.

b. Burr Pond – Still working on this.

c. Discussion with DEEP on the effectiveness of the habitats we placed at lakes Housatonic, Zoar and Lilly. Will seek to develop a plan for measuring by early spring.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dean Rustic

Conservation Director

DEANS TESTIMONY GIVEN AT THE HEARING, FRIDAY, MARCH 2ST

Hello to the Environmental Committee –

My name is Dean Rustic and I am the Conservation Director for the CT BASS Nation. I am also the Vice Chairman of the Fishing Advisor Council and also the Vice Chairman of the CT Conservation Advisory Council. I live in Burlington, CT.

I come before your committee today to represent the CT Sportsmen and Sportswomen and provide their view point from the organizations I represent.

The CT Sportsmen & Sportswomen support the concept of a funding source to aid in protecting our inland waters. We are extremely cautious with the current writing of the bill. We have seen where

legislation written poorly will have dire consequences. Our most major concern is that the CT Taxpayers could have their access to public water bodies taken or restricted due to this bill.

The good intentions of this bill place the burden only on the existing CT Residents who are already be taxed. The CT Sportsmen & Sportswomen are already taxed on our purchases of Boating, hunting & fishing gear. Those funds that are paid to the Wallop-Breaux Tax come back to CT based on the number of fishing that are sold. Last year CT received over \$3.5 Million from this fund and is slated for \$3.6 Million this year. These funds from our tax dollars go to:

- **Boating Safety Programs** promote the use of personal floatation devices (life jackets), courses on basic navigation, weather signs and appropriate safety gear; and enforcement of responsible boater conduct and speed zones
- **Boating Infrastructure Grants** boost local tourism and economic development by creating new facilities for transient boaters needing a slip or dock.
- **Clean Vessel Act** allows states to purchase and maintain pump-out facilities (for boat discharge) that are more accessible and reliable.
- **Coastal Wetlands Restoration** maintains our nation's wetlands.
- **Sport Fish Restoration** maintains fisheries and protects our natural resources.
- **Recreational Boating and Fishing Foundation** supports conservation of aquatic natural resources by increasing participation in and appreciation of water activities.
- **Boating Access Programs.**

My point here is to show that CT Sportsmen & Sportswomen are stalwart's to the environment as we have been paying this tax to ensure our environment is safe with clean water and healthy fish. The CT BASS Nation, and many others, have already adapted Clean, Drain & Dry program to help stop the spread of the invasive aquatic species as well as other proven conservation efforts.

There needs to be a larger effort to educate all folks who use the CT Lakes, Ponds & Rivers about what they can do to stop the spread of AIS. A sailboat, rowboat, canoes and kayaks all have the ability to transport AIS. The owners of these vessels need to be educated. We feel they should also support the AIS Stamp Fund.

We wish to have the following concepts added to the current wording of the bill:

1. Funds from this Stamp will only be used to help bodies of water that have unrestricted public access for Motor Boats.
2. Towns, Municipalities and Lake Authorities who receive funds from this stamp will not be able to use these funds to limit motor boat access to public waters.
3. Towns, Municipalities and Lake Authorities who receive funds from this stamp will allow motor boats on the lake without any horsepower restrictions.
4. With the narrow scope of the stamp focusing on motor boats, verses all water craft using CT Waterways (Boat, canoes, Sailboats, Kayaks etc). Therefore bodies of water that do not have public access for motor boats are prohibited from using funds from this stamp until the stamp is expanded to include non-motor boats in the funding source.

5. Using the DMV versus the CT DEEP Online Licensing System to capture the funds – The CT DEEP has an online License system that allows for 7x24 access to acquire Licenses and Stamps. Using the DEEP system will be much easier and user friendly.
6. Many States are now including in these types of tax bills or stamps, wording that states that there is a fundamental right for CT Residents to have public access on these water bodies for Hunting and Fishing.

Thanks for your time and for reading our concerns

Sincerely

Dean Rustic

Conservation Director - Connecticut B.A.S.S. Nation

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860-808-9577

- **CLA REPORT: None**
- **TOURNAMENT REPORT- Vinny Mucci**
- **Below is the Trail approved for 2019. Application Rules and Zebra Mussel Letter is up on ctbass.com, go to Tournaments and click Tournament Forms.**
- **CBN Trail 2019**
 - May 5th- CBN T #1 Candy Squantz & Latins 75 Boats 8 to 3**
 - June 9th-CBN T #2 River Haddam & Salmon 65 Boats, 7 to 3**
 - July 14th T#3 Candy Squantz & Latins 75 Boats, 8 to 3**
 - JUL 28th Classic CT River Haddam 25 Boats, 7 to 3**
 - Aug 18th Mr Bass TBD 16 Boats 7 to 3**
 - Oct 5th & 6th, Two-day, Candy, Squantz 50 boats 7 to 3**
 - April 14th is our CBN Scholarship Tournament!**

Open Tournament Apps are on the table and on the Website (HOC, Bryan Kerchal and the CBN Scholarship Tournament)

- **CBN Sponsorship Report:**
- **Alliance monies have not been received yet for 2018 we matched with 28 Leads and have earned \$5000.00 again! Working on 2019 Awesome! Thank you Thayers Marine!!!!!!**
Alliance is back for 2019, now including Nitro to the list, Triton, Mercury, Motorguide, Lowrance, Bass Pro Shop and Nitro!!!!

Contract has been signed and all State Merchandise has been ordered.

A new Sponsor Hs come on Board with the CBN, Interstate Battery of Killingsworth. They are giving us a Certificate for Product for the 2019 Banquet Raffle.

Raymarine has come on board as a 2019 State Team Sponsor and gave us a Axiom Unit for the 2018 CBN Banquet.

Power Pole is back for 2019, for info see Vinny Mucci

Toyota Bonus Bucks Program is back for 2019 also.

- **CBN Scholarship- Robert S Malloy: Marc Levesque will be the CBN Contact person for this.
Jason Vokun will be conducting the interviews to choose the winner of our Robert S Malloy Annual UCONN Scholarship.**
- **CBN Scholarship- Chairperson, Mike Billings is in charge and App is put, mailing deadline is April 1st! Looking for a committee to judge.**
- **So Far, Sylvia Morris and Alex Shvartsman have volunteered looking for one more!**
- **Banquet Report: Sylvia Morris
Rebooked for Nov 9th, 2019
Any idea for prizes would be appreciated!**
 - **Membership Committee: Dave Miller
Should start recruiting for 2019!!!
Show is coming up, March 29th to the 31st, Hartford Convention Center. We should be able to recruit there!**
- **Website: The Triton Group has built the new website, It is up and running!!!!**
- **Audit Committee: Need a Committee for 2018 Audit Please! Contact Vinny Mucci-203-525-4105**
- **Finance: No Report**
- **CBN Youth Report: John Piscioniere-: Youth Report- 2/27/2019**

Current youth registration:

57 youths:

15 high schools

9 juniors

I have scheduled our annual meeting for Sat. March 23rd at the Four Points Sheraton in Meriden. Starting at 10:30 AM.

I've invited Ed Machowski from the state if he would like to join and address the kids.

I have "stuff" to hand out; old rods and lures/plastics, etc.

Would welcome any additional tackle if people want to donate.

Signed the contract for the youth trail with BASS

- **State Team Administrator: Sylvia Morris**
STATE TEAM FEB 10TH MEETING REPORT FOR CBN FEB 27TH
MEETING

Meeting was held at Sylvia Morris House at 12:00pm, all attended except two State Team Members, Ryan Pereiras and Ryan Aldieri have missed their one meeting allowed.

We had a change in the Team members, one left the team, Bailey Hood, and Scott Downie moved up to Boater and Mike Shay came on board as the 1st Alternate.

The 2019 State Team Contract was read and explained, asked all if they agreed and understood that by signing this they would be bound to its content. All agreed and signed. Ryan and Ryan came by later in the week and did the same.

All paid the 2109 Regional Entry Fee and did the online Registration. Went over 2019 BASS National Tournament Rules, new this year is the NO NET rule.

All understood the rules.

Some have paid their Sponsorship:

Kevin Rose-Toyota

Jim Morris-Toyota

Chris Warren-Jersey Sponsor which cover his \$250.00 (\$500, Reed Mechanical)

Ryan Pereiras-Jersey Sponsor which covers his \$250.00 (\$1000.00, Key Hyundai)

Todd Rose-Pd \$250

Joe Sodora-Pd \$250

KD has taken a spot for the \$500

We have three spots left on the Jerseys for \$1000.00 each

2018 and 2019 State Team Jackets were passed out, 2019 Jackets should not be worn until we go in September please!!!!

Next meeting is May5th following the CBN Tournament weigh in and tear down.

Respectfully

Sylvia Morris, CBN State Team Administrator

- **MOTION TO ACCEPT REPORTS AS GIVEN, SECOND, ALL IN FAVOR**

Old Business

- **Excused Absences: Candlewood Bassmasters**
- **ROSTERS NEED TO BE TURNED IN ASAP!!! One club left! All others are in. Sweetwater is turning in tomorrow to Vinny Mucci.**
- **By Law Proposals & Tournament Rules and Standing Rules were sent to all clubs Presidents, they will pass them on to all of you and they are posted on the Website for 2019.**
- **We need a Social Media Director!!!**
- **Still no Tournament Director?????? We need one!!!!**

ANY MORE OLD BUSINESS?

NEW BUSINESS

- **CONGRATULATIONS PAUL MULLER!!! He won the Elite on Lake Lanier, Georgia!! He will be at the Northeast Hunting and Fishing Show, March 29th, Friday all day at the Convention Center, Hartford.**
- **The B.A.S.S. Nation Regional is now going back to smaller Regions!!! We will have more info soon as to how many (5 or 6) and what states (8 to 11) will be in our Region! Less Travel!!!**
- **The size of the State Team will remain at 20 plus Two Alternates.**
- **Joe Kowalski asked for Boat Captains for the Yearly Veterans Tournaments for 2019**
Tues. May 7th, Major Stephen Roy Andrews/ Gaylord Hospital Veterans Tournament, Congamong Lake
Tues Sept 17th, Major Stephen Roy Andrews/ Gaylord Hospital Veterans Tournament, Candlewood Lake, Danbury Town Park.

Contact person to volunteer to be a Boat Captain is Al Guite:

alanguite@comcast.net 860-436-8646

- **Riverfront Recapture has asked for our help as they do every year, a donation of \$500.00 has been made in the prior years. A motion was made to give \$500.00 to them again this year, seconded and passed unanimously. Marc Levesque will send a check for \$500.00 to Riverfront Recapture.**
- **Joe Kowalski has a new member who is a Vet and is in need of some boat time to get some experience as a Non Boater. Joe has a lot going on and has asked if anyone can take Chris Walton out fishing?? Please contact Joe Kowalski if you have a little time to help this Veteran! 860-966-6778** Abstract on Fishing Derby –

- **Dean Rustic has an idea he would like some feedback on please!**

My idea is to work with the CT DEEP to create a state-wide multi-species fishing derby. The intent of the Derby is to bring together various fishing organizations to promote their aspect of the sport and invite new opportunities for CT residents to get involved in fishing.

Possible Organizations:

- 1. CT BASS Nation**
- 2. Trout Unlimited**
- 3. CT Salmon Anglers**
- 4. Carp Anglers**
- 5. Pike Anglers**
- 6. Salt Water Anglers**
- 7. Multiple Fish & Game Clubs.**

This would be state wide with the use of Facebook and pictures to show off their catches. This will probably be a length tournament to go along with the pictures so there is no weigh in.

Looking at a May Weekend. Possibly the Saturday before Memorial Day. This would provide warmer weather and still be prior to the busy boating season.

Submitted by Dean Rustic

ANY MORE NEW BUSINESS???

- **2019 CBN Meeting Dates, Tackle Supply Depot, 4th Wed of each month, except Nov and Dec, will be third Wed because of Holidays, 7:00pm**
 - March 27th**
 - April 24th**
 - May 22nd**
 - June 26th**

July 24th

Aug 28th

Sept 25th

Oct 23rd

Nov 20th

Dec 18th

RAFFLE WINNERS: Mike Billings and Rome Wisniewski

- **Thayer's Spring Open House April 13th, Hank Parker is the Guest.**
- **Northeast Hunting and Fishing Show, March 29 to the 31st,
Convention Center Hartford!**

**HOTELS TO UTILIZE: Super 8 Hotel 3 Lake Ave Ext, Danbury, CT
06811 ASK FOR CAROLYNN OR ANNA & FISHERMAN RATE, \$69.00**

Motion to Adjourn, second, all in favor. Adjourned at 8:08

NEXT MEETING IS WED March 27th, 2019