

**March 29<sup>th</sup>, 2023**  
**CT B.A.S.S. Nation IN person/ Conference Call**  
**Call began at 7:05pm**

**Officers Present & on the Call were:**

**Mike Billings-Vice President**  
**Sylvia Morris-Secretary**  
**Dean Rustic-Conservation Director**  
**Abe Kalechman-Tournament Director**  
**Vinny Mucci-President**  
**John Piscioniere- Youth Director**

**Missing:**

**Devin Hines-Membership/social media Director**  
**Marc Levesque- Treasurer**

**Clubs Missing: None**

**Minutes from Previous meeting were accepted.**

- **Announcements:** Chris Simons father Bob Simons passed away.
- **Correspondence:** NONE
- **REPORTS OF OFFICERS**
- **Treasurer Report:** Prepared By Marc Levesque, Read by Vinny Mucci
- **CBN Conservation Report:** Dean Rustic

**CBN Conservation objectives for the 2023**

- 1. Conservation Projects for Candlewood Lake (Boat Launch & Habitat)**
- 2. Create a BASS Divisional Conservation Coalition to get a Grant for Habitat Information from this past Month**

- 1. CT Conservation Advisory Council (CCAC) Meeting**

**a. Discussed the push for Sunday Hunting as Club Representatives will be attending the committee hearings to present to the legislators on the committee.**

**1. No Hunting on Sunday is a Blue Law that should be changed**

**2. The excuse from the anti-hunting is of shooting in state parks while folks are hiking and using the parks. This is false as there is basically no hunting at State Parks.**

**b. Discussed the Bear Hunt in committee**

**c. Discussed the Recovering America's Wildlife Act.**

**2. Fisheries Advisory Council – a. Discussed bills up before the legislators for water access and subsidies for buffer zones.**

**b. Update on MDC/WBFR issue**

**c. Fisheries budget and staffing update**

**a. There has been an increase in staffing levels. Still far under what it was during the late 1990's, but moving in a good direction. Still looking for more EnCon Officers.**

**d. Discussed the study of decline of SMB in CT Lakes. Warming lakes and the LMB Virus are the leading causes.**

**3. Friends of CT Sportsman (FoCS)**

**a. Discussed Friends of CT Sportsmen**

**1. Working on setting up website for campaigns for the 2023 fiscal year**

**2. Working on getting information out to Anglers and Hunters**

**3. Planned for addressing letters to candidates for office in this year's election.**

**4. DEEP Items a. Discussed working together to apply for a Friends of Reservoirs grant to put structures into Candlewood Lake to help offset the extreme loss of aquatic vegetation**

**a. One potential project idea would be to get more American Eelgrass established in Candlewood through plantings with enclosures.**

**b. The other FY 2023 grants will probably be due in August 2023**

**b. Discussed getting more Bass information in the DEEP publications.**

**5. Grant Fund**

**a. Checked with Moss Back and they provided a quote with discount for us on the following:**

**a. QTY 2 of Part number MBESLB (Essential Shoreline Bundle)**

**b. QTY 2 of Part number 4018 - 3 Post Kit ( Safe Haven Kit)**

**c. Shipping and taxes**

**1. SUBTOTAL \$3,269.96**

**2. SHIPPING \$147.00**

**3. DISCOUNT (\$817.49)**

**4. TAX \$0.00 5. TOTAL \$2,599.47**

**b. Working with DEEP to get permits and approvals to install in Candlewood.**

**Respectfully Submitted, Dean Rustic**

- **Tournament Report: Abe Kalechman**

**Applications are SLOW coming in!!! Please do not wait until the last minute!**

**Remember Cash Lunker of 10.00 each payable at the Check In Table in the AM!!**

**Setting up the trail for 2024, will submit them on April 1<sup>st</sup> and announce them next month.**

**Trailer is being brought for service to Trailer Depot in North Haven, generator has been given to Vinny to get serviced, purchase new locks and keys for the Trailer, bought Towels, gloves and a new apron for the weigh ins.**

**Trail for 2023**

**T#1 April 16th, Candlewood, Squantz & Latins 8 to 3**

**T#2 May 7th, Candlewood, Squantz & Latins, 8 to 3**

**T#3 June 18th, Ct River, Haddam Meadows 7 to 3**

**T#4 August 6th, CT River, 25 Boats Haddam Meadows 7 to 3**

**T#5 Sept 10 Candlewood, Squantz, 8 to 4**

**MR BASS July 9th, 16 Boats, to be Determined.**

**CBN Sponsorship Report:**

- **Toyota Bonus Bucks**
  - **Skeeter Real Money**
  - **Triton Gold**
  - **Power Pole Program**
  - **Accu Cull Program Contact Vinny for code**
  - **Ranger Cup**
  - **Alliance Program-Have 6 leads so far for 2023!!**
- **CBN Scholarship- Mike Billings:**  
**App has been posted & emailed in January. Two Apps so far. Mailing deadline is April 1<sup>st</sup>!!!!**
  - **Banquet Report: Sylvia Morris**  
**NEW VENUE!!! The Wallingford County Club, Violis Restaurant**  
**\$55.00 a person**  
**Nov 4<sup>th</sup>, 2023. All info on ctbass.com**  
**Women's Prizes have been purchased, working on Raffle Prizes.**

**Membership Committee/ social media Director: Remember to contact our social media Director/Membership Director, Devin Hines if you have something that needs to be posted on our social media Pages or have a new member to place in a club.**

**Devin's info is P: 203-752-7797 E: [devinehines19@yahoo.com](mailto:devinehines19@yahoo.com)-email**

- **Kayak Series- Need a director**
- **Website: The CBN E-mail list has been given to the webmaster to send E-mail Blast each time he adds News, Pairings, results, etc. to the webpage. Check with your members and be sure they are receiving them. Check Spam folders too!**
- **Please send any e-mail changes or additions to Myself or Vinny!!!**
- **CBN Youth Report: John Piscioniere**

**Tournament dates for High School this year are:**

**April 22<sup>nd</sup> Candlewood**

**May 20<sup>th</sup> Lilly**

**June 24<sup>th</sup> Zoar**

**A 4<sup>th</sup> will be added at a later date to qualify A HS Team to the Championship for this year if possible.**

**John is working on getting the High Schools Teams registered, having a hard time getting in touch with B.A.S.S. for help!**

**The High School Kids are slow in getting their monies (40.00 each) in.**

**He is setting up a College Club Roster so that some of the former High School kids can apply for the CBN Scholarship.**

**He will be getting the High School Kids to sign up for Volunteering at the CBN Tournaments.**

**Needs Boat Captains for April 22<sup>nd</sup>, the first HS Tournament on Candlewood.**

- **State Team Report, Sylvia Morris, State Team Administrator**

**Working on State Team Jerseys through Valley Fashion, waiting for the Alliance to commit for 2023.**

**The jackets are in and look great!**

**Collecting all Sponsorships and paperwork still, very slow this year! Working on getting the Team Registered, the site is not working properly. Emily is helping.**

**Next meeting is April 16<sup>th</sup>, following the CBN T #1 we will go over the Tournament Rules and pass out Jackets.**

**Started Shopping for nonperishables.**

**We need Hats for the Team. Asked Vinny to help with that.**

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

**Old Business**

- **Excused Absences: Xtreme**
- **Joe Kowalski has asked for the CBN to help his Foundation, Major Steven Roy Andrews with a donation of \$2000.00. Alex Shvartsman has said he would also donate 25% of the 2000.00 if the CBN decides to donate that amount. The CBN has decided to help Joe by setting up a Go Fund Me Account, Vinny will work with Joe on that this coming week.**
- **Dean Rustic suggested for us to order Mossback Fish Attractors and get them put into Candlewood Lake with the left over monies in the Grant Account. He has checked into that and we will be ordering 2600.00 worth. He is working out all the details.**
- **Joe Kowalski announced the Wounded Veterans Tournament will be May 9<sup>th</sup> on Candlewood Lake, Danbury Town Park. Looking for Volunteer Boat Captains. If interested contact Joe Kowalski: 860-966-6778 or Al Guite: 860-436-8646 Needs 5 more Boat Captains!!**

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

- **Abe Kalechman asked Vinny if we would continue doing two 100.00 checks for the Stay Put Drawing this year, as we have more Tournaments and would cost more. Discussion was held and a motion was made to do away with the drawing as it did not accomplish what it was meant to do. It was seconded, voted and passed.**

**Meeting adjourned: 7:46pm**

**NO MEETING IN JANUARY**

**In Person and WebEx (Info will be email blasted) at Ct Comp 100 Corporate Place, Rocky Hill, Training Room.**

<b>2023 CBN Meeting Dates</b>		
<b>Apr</b>	<b>26th</b>	
<b>May</b>	<b>24th</b>	
<b>June</b>	<b>28th</b>	
<b>July</b>	<b>26th</b>	
<b>Aug</b>	<b>23rd</b>	
<b>Sept</b>	<b>27th</b>	
<b>Oct</b>	<b>25th</b>	
<b>Nov</b>	<b>15th</b>	<b>week early</b>
<b>Dec</b>	<b>20th</b>	<b>week early</b>

- **Meetings are Fourth Wed of each Month unless a Holiday then it will be the third Wed of the Month.**