

Western NY Bassmasters Meeting Minutes

January 27, 2016

> Meeting called to order: 7:07 pm at Gander Mountain Conference Room

> Attendance: Members (17) – Jim Lamb, Keith Pease, Walt Babiarz, Justin Warriner, Todd Ceisner, Andrew Full, Cory Krawczyk, Kenn Kolo, Doug Neadow, John Evans, Ken Johnson, Ron Faith, Scott Callen, Joe Kugel, Doug Catalano, Patrick Schlosser, Steven Stefanski. Guests (5) – Lisa Zuppelli, Mike Giulino (prospective new member), David Killion (prospective new member), John Killion (prospective new member), Mike Uzarowski (prospective new member).

> Guests: See above. Tyler Copeland had signed up at the NF Show, but did not attend Jan. meeting.

> Jim Lamb informed guests in attendance that they have received prospective member info packets and if there were any questions, feel free to ask him or any member.

> Accept minutes of Dec. 2015 meeting: Joe Kugel motion to approve. Motion carried.

> Membership report: Jim Lamb reminded members that if any changes need to be made to club roster (phone numbers, addresses, etc.) to contact Kenn Kolo with new information.

> Treasurer's report: Per Ken Johnson, club account balance is \$5021.93 prior to deposits made with proceeds from raffle ticket sales at NF Show and member dues collected at Jan. meeting. Jim Lamb said \$300 of club fund was spent on tackle for the raffle drawing.

> NF Sportsman Show report: Jim Lamb collected old club mementos from Chuck Skipper's (backdrop, shield, etc.) He said he's heard from various people that help from other club members would've been appreciated – it's always the same people doing most of the work – but booth was staffed all 3 days and early feedback has been good. Need new blood to take leadership roles. Seminar feedback has been positive.

> Tournament committee report: Keith Pease said planned 2-day Oneida tournament(s) had to be shifted to Sodus Bay for Aug. 13 & 14 because BFL event at Oneida on Aug. 13 took precedence. Honeoye tournament has been moved to July 23 from July 30 to alleviate conflict with another club. ... Keith presented proposal about raising tournament entry fees by either \$5 or \$10. Additional revenue would go into that tournament's pot. Joe Kugel suggested Club move swiftly on decision and not let it linger. Discussion had on establishing whether a fee increase is warranted/desired and if so, what amount. Proposal made, vote planned for February meeting.

> Ladies Night: Kenn Kolo reminded everyone Ladies Night is March 5 at Orazio's (9415 Main St, Clarence). 6:30 p.m. start time. \$15 per person. Let Kenn know if you're attending and if you're bringing a guest so he can give restaurant a head count.

> Steak Roast: No report.

> Club Picnic: No report.

> Old Business: Scott Callen wanted to gauge interest on continuing to put effort into the Military event in light of the lack of attendance by base employees at last year's event. Discussion was had about reasons for poor attendance (Bills-Pats game on same day). Scott proposed moving the event to earlier in the year

(June 12, 2016 tentative) and received show of hands support for it. Moving event to May or June possibly would entice more boaters to help out since it's earlier in season and fishing will be presumably better. Scott will contact the base to hammer out details. ... Changes at Small Boat Harbor continue – Scott has been in meetings about upcoming changes to be made and how it will affect launch/retrieval/traffic flow. Keith Pease said there will be some disruption this summer as construction begins on new launch ramps in SW corner of harbor. Scott said there is discussion/meetings happening about having additional launch access installed in Union Ship Canal just behind Father Baker foot bridge. ... Jim Lamb wants Club to revisit its status with NYS BASS Federation. New leadership is in place (mostly CNY-based) and is taking a different strategy from previous regime. Fed has open at Erie on Sun, May 22 (paper format). Jim will contact new leadership or Fred Blom to get a feel for where WNY stands with state Fed.

> New business: Jim Lamb circulated liability release forms to sign, adding Scott Gauld conferred with attorney friend of his to confirm language in document is correct and proper. ... Jim outlined for guests the requirements for joining the club and becoming a new member ... Jim presented some information about a new weigh-in scale via Paul Pilkington. Product is the H2 Scale from Pro Tournament Scales (estimated cost is \$1699 to \$1899 depending on features). Discussion was had on condition of current scale, which is estimated to be 8 or 9 years old. Patrick Schlosser said it has "some rust". Doug Neadow made a motion to approve purchase new scale. Motion carried. Keith Pease and Paul will be point people on new scale research/pricing. ... Scott Callen has been involved with updating the WNY Fishing Hotspots Map in conjunction with county officials. Scott has been appointed to operate FB page associated with Hotspots Map and said WNY Bassmasters is featured in the new edition. County spent \$15K on project. ... This led to discussion about WNY Bassmasters' Facebook presence and the possible need for an additional public group page separate from existing private group that members use for club communication, etc. Decision made that new FB page will be created and be utilized to publicize club events, tournaments, post pics from tournaments, etc. All other club communication will remain on private group page. ... Scott encourages members who want a new or updated jersey to contact him ASAP (before April 1) so order to I2I Customs can be placed and shipping costs can be minimized. ... Patrick Schlosser reported that Don Roesch has requested a leave of absence from the club for 2016. Patrick made motion to approve; motion carried. ... Reminder that 2016 member dues are due this month; dues increase to \$60 if paid in February, \$75 if paid in March. After that, member risks being dropped from club. ... Todd Ceisner updated club on information regarding Bassmaster Classic Bracket event coming to Upper River/Small Boat Harbor July 18-22. Event will feature top 8 finishers from Cayuga Lake Elite Series competing in a bracketed format with catch-record-release on the water. ... Jim reminded prospective members that they need to have their own equipment (rods, tackle, life jacket, etc.) in order to participate in tournaments. Also recommended contacting boater/non-boater prior to tournament day to make all necessary arrangements; Kenn Kolo also mentioned non-boater fee paid to boater day of event. ... Lisa reported that 20 tables were still available for the Alexander Fishing Flea Market.

> Motion to Adjourn: Meeting adjourned 8:10