

FORT BELVOIR HUNTING PROGRAM COUNCIL (FBHPC)
9 Dec 2009
DRAFT MEETING MINUTES

1. Dave Burpee, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 1800 and referred the attendees to the meeting agenda, which had been provided to all.

Council representative attendance was as follows:

<u>Hunting Program Council</u> <u>Position</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Status</u>
<u>VOTING Representatives</u>			
Military #1	LTC Mike Zrimm	Vice Chairman	Present
Military #2	LTC Pete Calogero		
Military #3	LTC Ken Deal	Recording Secretary	Present
Military #4	LTC Greg Franks		
Retired Military #1	Tom Howarth		Present
Retired Military #2	Bob Foster		Present
Retired Military #3	Rufus Brinn		Present
Retired Military #4	John Peeler		
DOD Civ 1	Dave Burpee	Chairman	Present
DOD Civ 2	Steve Scherer		Present
Civ 1	Steve Richards		Present
Civ 2	Charlie Shupienus		
Civ 3	Ben Mahmoud		Present
Belvoir Bowhunters	Rick Atchison		
Director Family & MWR	Bill Parsons		
MWR/Outdoor Rec Supervisor	Dan Hulst		Present
DPW	Kevin Walter		Present
Game Warden	Clint Horton		
MWR Hunting Program			

Other attendees included:

Stan Parmentier	Dan Van Grundy
Steve Allyn	

2. The 14 October 09 meeting minutes had previously been distributed electronically and were approved as written.

3. Old Business.

- a. Turkey Subcommittee: Mr. Richards and Mr. Mahmoud reported there were no issues that needed to be brought to the Council's attention.
- b. Waterfowl Subcommittee: Blinds are ready to go for the season. Work was completed by a few volunteers. Mr. Brinn will provide the names of the volunteers to Mr. Burpee for appropriate recognition.

Pohick Marina issue resolved. The manager will open the marina at 0500 for duck hunter access.

USDA duck survey. Mr. Walter informed the council that the USDA will use Ft Belvoir as a study location for Avian Influenza. To support this, on specific days (TBA) USDA will conduct swabs of harvested ducks.

Dyke Marsh. While Dyke Marsh is not under the purview of this council, activities at Dyke Marsh are of interest due to its close proximity to Fort Belvoir and they are both in the same county and Congressional district. The Dyke Marsh restoration project has been handed over to the US Army Corps of Engineers. Part of the project requires earth fill. Since the Drogue Creek dredging project is already approved and awaiting funding there may be an opportunity for COE to dredge Drogue Creek for their fill, thereby reducing overall transportation costs, and accomplishing both projects simultaneously. (Note: Pre-911 funds were available for the Drogue Creek project. Physical security requirements on post caused a shift in funds and the project was not started. The Environmental Impact Statement is completed and should remain valid).

Waterfowl blind and equipment storage. Currently MWR is using several lanes of the indoor range to store materials for the waterfowl program. These lanes are important to

beginner training and in February during competition shooting. Mr. Hulst said there is another storage site, but road access is not possible at this time. The issue will be resolved and this is not a long-term storage solution.

- c. Deer Subcommittee: Road closures. Currently roads in W1, W6 and H6 remain closed. The issue is a combination of safety and Quality Deer Management. The installation legal office is working on a "hold harmless" agreement that would allow hunters to drive on these unimproved roads. The secondary issue is how to preserve those areas as "wildlife refuges." There was no resolution.

Mountain Bikes - previously hunters requested to use Mountain Bikes to move to their hunting locations. The Game Warden has not made a determination on this yet. No resolution.

- d. Unexploded Ordnance Update: No update and no representative at the meeting.

4. **New Business**

- a. Wounded Warrior Waterfowlers: the Waterfowl Subcommittee has made progress in getting a program established. A subcommittee meeting (minutes attached) determined a way ahead. Contact has been made with several veterans groups and currently the only hold up is approval from the installation staff.
 - Licensing - (provided by Mr Atchison) State law allows no-cost licensing for service members participating in a Wounded Warrior program. This includes service members that do not reside in VA but in adjoining states and DC.
 - Mr. Hulst has begun to order "pop up" blinds to place on the end of the MWF fishing piers in Pohick Bay.
- b. The Hunting Council Vice Chair asked the attending wildlife biologist (Mr. Walter) for comment on the expected timeline and response for hunter submitted issues/inquiries (specifically regarding tissue samples or issues where safe consumption of harvested game is in question). Mr. Walter explained that there were competing demands and limited human resources that affected responsiveness on these

issues, but that he would seek to ensure timely resolution, specifically on matters concerning safety.

c. Current Hunting demographics:

Qualified Ft Belvoir Hunters		
Status	Deer/Turkey	Waterfowl
Active Duty	122	19
Ret Mil	37	15
GS/NAF/FED/Contract	28	15
Civilian	167	42
Youth	7	2
Total	371	93

Deer Harvest to date: 53 Doe, 8 Button Bucks, 41 Bucks

5. Mr. Burpee set the date for the next Council meeting for 13 Jan 2009 at 1800 in the Archery Center classroom.

6. There being no additional new business, the Chairman adjourned the meeting at 1850.