

**SOUTH HAVEN STEELHEADERS
MEETING MINUTES
South Haven Moose Club**

Date: May 21, 2009

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Officers present: Antonson, Chapman, Crago, Foster, Keebler, Mills, Morris

Number of members present: 32

Number of guests present: 0

Call to Order: the meeting was called to order by Keebler at 7:00pm.

I. Secretary's Report:

The report for April was read. *Motion by Mills, second by Fillbrandt, to approve the report. Passed.*

II Treasurer's Report: Chapman provided a report covering 4/16/09-5/21/09. *Motion by Matthies, second by Olson, to approve the report. Passed.*

III. Correspondence: None

IV. Old Business:

A. Sponsor Fishing: Keebler reported on a successful sponsor fishing trip, and expressed the thanks of the chapter to Captains D. Strong, B. Hendrickson and G. Nichols.

B. Two-Day Tournament: Keebler also reported on a successful Two-Day Tournament and gave special thanks to Dave Mills for an excellent job directing it. Mills thanked all those who assisted with the many tasks that go along with a successful tournament. We had 66 boats: 34 Amateur, 17 Under 24', and 15 Pros, which was more than either the Michigan City or the St. Joseph tournaments which preceded us. Participants caught 1171 fish, totaling more than 11,500 pounds for an average of 9.8 pounds per fish. Dan Strong is on hand tonight to sell some of the remaining T-shirts. A bit later in the meeting, Filbrandt suggested that the tournament committee consider moving to weighing 12 fish in all divisions next year. Some discussion ensued.

C. Hartford Kids Fishing Outing: Keebler reported on the annual outing that took place yesterday; this is our tenth years to take the kids. There were 17 participants catching 24 fish, all good-sized. The Chapter bought fishing licenses for all the kids; our \$3 spent gets back \$9 each for the state organization. Keebler expressed much thanks from the Chapter to Captains Gymer, Page, Strong, Matthies and Tromatola.

V. New Business:

A. Steelheader Scholarships: Foster provided a brief report on scholarships to be awarded this year.

B. MSSFA State Meeting: Foster read thru his notes from the state meeting he attended last evening. It included an hour-long presentation by Kelly Smith and Tammy Newcomb about the state budget crunch and how it will impact the DNR, specifically the Fisheries Division. Also discussed at the meeting were three current surveys about lamprey, stomach analysis, and cormorants; membership issues from Greg Gumbrecht; newspaper distribution issues hopefully being solved, Gander Mountain's participation in It Pays to Belong; and the Executive Director's report on legislative issues around fee increases.

C. Veteran's Fishing Outing: Higgs reported that 17-20 veterans are looking forward to a fishing outing, currently set for Wednesday, June 10th. The vets will go fishing in the

morning, then come in for a lunch. He needs about 6-7 boats; several Captains at the meeting volunteered to help.

- D. Net Pen:** our pen is still in the water at the yacht club, but Antonson reported that it will come out tomorrow. Barney has not been available to assist as usual.
- E. Pony Express:** Antonson reported that the Sheriff's Posse Pony Express is being held in our area this year, and he has raffle tickets available for purchase to support the effort; he requested a donation from the Chapter. After discussion, *motion by Olson, second by Strong, to have the Chapter purchase \$50 worth of raffle tickets. Passed.*
- F. Discovery Channel:** Keebler said that an email has been sent out from the state about the TV program "Deadliest Catch" and the salmon fishing in Alaska. A proposal about mining may present significant danger to some of the best fishing areas.
- G. Regional Meeting:** Olson gave a report on the regional meeting held in South Haven on April 20th. Present were reps from Holland, Grand Haven, South Haven, Southwest, and Grand Rapids. Issues discussed were net pens, fish plants, and the newspaper from the state. The next meeting will be held in Grand Haven on July 20th.
- H. Local Kids Tournaments:** After discussion about kids fishing licenses, *motion by Strong, second by Antonson, to have the Chapter buy fishing licenses for the kids involved in our local tournaments. Passed.*

VI. Adjournment:

Motion by Mills, second by Matthies, to adjourn the meeting at 7:51pm. Passed.

Respectfully submitted,
Joe Foster, Secretary