

Disability Advisory Council Meeting
Meeting Minutes
Dreyfus University Center, Room 223
UW-Stevens Point
1015 Reserve Street
Stevens Point, WI 54481

December 2, 2011

Members Present: Chairman Tom Zimmer, Jim Rutledge, W. Joe Greene, Vice Chair John Martinson and John Mitchell.

Members Absent: Kirsten Engel, John Kocourek, Werner Burkat, Dale Petkovsek and Steve Johnson

Others Present: John Haydock, Carl Mesman, Tyler Strelow, Andy Janicki, and Kelly Frawley

Chair Tom Zimmer called the Disability Advisory Council (DAC) meeting to order at approximately 9:22 a.m. Rutledge asked if Warden Strelow or Mesman can address how to find administrative codes. Zimmer asked if the Wardens Strelow or Mesman can discuss concealed carry. **Motion by Greene, second by Mitchell, to approve the agenda. Motion carried.**

Motion by Greene, second by Rutledge, to approve the minutes of the September 2011 meeting. Carried.

Update from Rules Meeting

Zimmer found the meeting interesting. The working group covered a number of rules and topics. A number of rules and issues were not finalized. Many actions were referred to committee. Open waters hunting for disabled permit holders went to the housekeeping committee.

The open water hunting legislation as written only allowed two people per boat. The legislation was amended to allow more than two people in the boat. The committee was delighted to hear the views of the Disabled Advisory Committee.

Mitchell asked about the qualifications for the hunts. At the current time those putting on the hunt have to assume a disabled hunter has the necessary permits. Zimmer stated his permit renewal has the necessary permit. Warden Mesman stated the ALIS system prints out the necessary permits contingent upon the license. Zimmer commented that his permit had to be renewed before he was in the system.

The DAC thanked Zimmer for representing the DAC.

Crossbow Fishing for Rough Fish

Legislation is being drafted to allow all individuals to fish with a crossbow. Rutledge believes that if allowed for all individuals will be allowed to use a crossbow for rough fish.

Warden Mesman indicated some legislation is being considered for all hunting except deer. Mesman stated it will take three years for the code to change. There are issues with legislation regarding working safety and other issues that only apply to crossbow. If legislature draws up legislation, the legislation does not go through the administrative rules committees and many times the Department would not have the opportunity to testify.

Baiting for Disabled Hunters/Laser Sighting Devices for Class C Holders/Rifles in Shotgun Zones

Greene asked if baiting rules are different for disabled hunters. Warden Mesman indicated the rules are the same regardless of disability or permit. Zimmer commented that any consideration for baiting elimination should provide an opportunity for disabled hunters to continue to bait.

Greene asked how laser sighting devices for Class C Holders is currently implemented. Warden Mesman stated that disabled hunters are the only one that can use them.

Zimmer asked if there was a proposal to eliminate deer baiting, how the legislation or rule change would proceed. Mesman commented that bear baiting is statutory and would follow the regular legislative process. Mesman believes there would be push-back from hunters should a proposal be considered to eliminate baiting. The DAC determined to remain silent on the issue until such time that baiting elimination is a topic of discussion at the legislative level.

Class D Permit/Firearm Casing

Warden Mesman commented this developed by attempting to isolate this issue as an upper extremity issue. Representative Kaufert introduced legislation that seemed to be very subjective. Warden Mesman then developed a policy for legislative consideration. With the special session ending the legislation may not have moved forward.

Developed an intent to (GET POLICY FROM ANDY) Minimum requirement is the ability to use a crossbow. Person would have to put their non-dominant hand no more than 27" at shoulder level on a fire arm, 27" is significant to address where the non-dominant hand would extend to a moderate grip on a firearm. PT stated issue states rotation at shoulder and elbow is significant. Other factors are also significant. Intent is to measure flexibility. If you can't raise the firearm to shoulder level and/or unable to flex the elbow you would be able to use the Class D.

Zimmer asked if it would be simpler to address the reach of the firearm versus inches and positioning. Mesman stated he is trying to make the rule clear for the physical therapist or doctor that must sign off on the proposed Class D license.

ADD DALE AND STEVE'S COMMENTS

Can the hand hold 5 pounds for five second is based on the weight of a gun or crossbow long enough to get a shot.

Mitchell moved, second by Rutledge, that DAC is in agreement with the drafting of qualifications for the Class D permit. Carried.

Mesman commented this could also apply to others. Should the DAC include reference to laser sights and the liberalization of the disabled permits to allow laser sights for more permit holders?

Item will be listed on next agenda for discussion.

Warden Strelow reviewed the regulations regarding crossbows and guns and impact on disabled hunters. The law now requires:

Next Meeting

Greene suggested a conference call due to concern over potential for the weather. March 23rd is proposed. Would suggest having meeting in central location similar to Stevens Point

Member Updates

Rutledge:

Mitchell: Hunts for year are over. Gearing up for winter booth season. Starting an archery practice program in Milwaukee at West Towne Archery. Will meet on Wednesday afternoons.

Martinson: Dale Petkovsek has raffle tickets for December raffle.

Greene: No updates.

Mesman:

Strelow:

Janicki: No updates.

Zimmer: No updates.

Motion by Zimmer, second by Greene, to adjourn at 12:12 p.m. Carried.