

MESAF Executive Committee Meeting

September 12, 2005

Huber Resources Office, Old Town

Attendance: Bob Wagner, Bob Seymour, Ken Laustsen, Rory Eckhart (left at 10:30 AM), Wilfred Mercier, Mandy Farrar, Bill Livingston, Sue Aygarn, Steve Coleman, Tony Filauro, Laura Audibert, Bob Chandler came at 10:40 AM.

Bob W. opened the meeting at 8:33 AM with an anti-trust statement.

Secretary's Report

The minutes from the April 17, 2005 meeting were read briefly by Laura. Bob S. motioned to accept as written, Mandy 2nd. Unanimously accepted.

Treasurer's Report

Bill mentioned that because our Fall Meeting is in October this year, it falls within the 2005 fiscal year. To avoid the budget hassle of having two Fall Meetings in one fiscal year, Bill requested that the 2005 fiscal year end on September 30 instead of the usual October 31. The group checked the bylaws and found no specified fiscal year dates, so FY 2006 will begin on October 1, 2005 and end on October 31, 2006. At the Business meeting this year, Bill's Treasurer's Report will reflect the Division expenses from November 1, 2004 through September 30, 2005. The revenues and expenses associated with the 2005 Fall Meeting will be reported in the FY 2006 budget. Steve motioned to change the 2005 and 2006 fiscal year dates as specified above, Mandy 2nd, unanimous approval.

For expenses this year, Bill is still waiting for Molly's expense from the Leadership Academy (~\$600).

Bill passed out his proposed 2006 budget. He would like to end each year with a balance of \$4000. Rory asked Sue if the Student Chapter could have some money from the Forestry Awareness account to attend a PLT workshop. Sue agreed that the FAP account would cover those expenses. Laura asked that the Northern Forest Forum income and expense lines be increased to \$1500. Bob S. motioned to accept the Treasurer's Report and 2006 proposed budget as amended, Mandy 2nd. Unanimous approval.

2005 Elections

Bob S. reviewed the candidate list. Since Bob had 6 candidates for Member-at-Large, Steve asked that his name be removed. The candidates are Mandy, Mark Leathers, Jake Metzler, Spencer Meyer and Jim Runyan. Despite Bob's many calls, he only has Samantha Langley-Turnbaugh for Chair-elect. If the ballot cannot be finalized today, **Laura** will send out the meeting flyer without the election materials. *[At lunch time, Steve called Gary Bahlkow and asked him to run for Chair-elect and he agreed. The ballot is finalized and will be sent out with the meeting flyer and chair letter].*

Bylaws

Bob S. reported that he and Kenny haven't met recently and are behind schedule on the bylaw revisions. He will have more to report at a later meeting.

Awards

Bob W. and **Laura** will take care of getting a parting gift for Kenny from the SAF store. **Laura** will order it when she orders the 30, 40 and 50-year membership pins. **Ken** will present the pins at the Fall Meeting.

Bob S. recognized that this year is Austin Wilkins' 75th year of SAF membership. Bill suggested mentioning on our Fall Meeting brochure that "this meeting commemorates Austin Wilkins' 75th year of SAF membership." Ken will check with national to see if there are any 75-year awards. Bob W. and Laura will get a gift or plaque. Ken will check on getting a bio sketch for the meeting.

Leadership Academy

Rory thanked the Division for sponsoring him at the Academy. He said it was an outstanding experience. He mentioned that the other attendees were impressed that the Division sent 2 students. Rory's take-home messages were that:

- activities should be fun, not just formal;
- it is important to recognize personality differences when working with others; and
- to be cognizant of how others portray SAF.

He feels it is a good idea for the Division to send students to the Academy.

Fall Meeting 2005

The MESAF business meeting is scheduled from 8:00 to 9:15 AM. Ken will do an update on the national task force, Bob Chandler will do an overview of his survey results and Wilfred will do a Student Chapter update. Laura and Bob W. will put together the business meeting agenda. The membership pins will be awarded immediately following lunch.

Student volunteers are needed for parking (2), registration from 7:30-9:30 AM (2) and to run the audio-visual equipment during the morning presentations. Registration fee will be waived for student volunteers.

The program consists of four morning speakers, Steve Sader, Ken L., Bob S. and Bill Krohn. After lunch we have Alec Giffen and the panel discussion. Bob S. has secured Steve Coleman, Steve Swatling, Peter Triandafillou and Rob Bryan. He is looking into a couple more. Following the afternoon break, we will have a brainstorming session on what, if anything MESAF should do. It will be set up in a town meeting format and Bob W. or Dave Field will facilitate. It was decided that we should somehow record what is said. The executive committee will decide what action to take on the issue at a future exec. comm. meeting.. We will need 2 to 4 roving mics. Someone (?) will check to see if the AV equipment in the hall is set up to record.

If we run out of lunches, the overflow can go to the Union and MESAF will pay. We decided we do not need folders for the registration materials. Laura will clip all the necessary documents together in a packet to allow more space at the registration table.

Membership Survey

Bob C. will add NESAF to the list of acknowledgments. Based on the survey Bob found:

- MESAF's populations is aging;
- Gov't and large landowners not well represented in MESAF;
- Foresters with BS degrees is our largest area of potential growth;
- Our major competitors are the Forest Guild, Nercofe and ACF;
- Membership drops follow the dues structure;
- Largest % is small consultants;

One piece of info the group felt would be important is the % of each respondent's age class that are members.

The top 5 valued characteristics of an organization are:

1. Educational workshops
2. Keeps people informed
3. Provides networking opportunities (MESAF is good at this)
4. Good value for dues dollar (MESAF is lacking here)
5. Effective at attaining goals.

Bob's suggestions are to:

1. Get young members involved—through leadership development and becoming more integrated with the Student Chapter.
2. Do something about the dues structure—increase “benefit”. Bob S. suggested trying to make the CF designation required by other organizations/employers

Ken indicated that SAF membership issues are a problem all over.

Bob C. will make some changes and show more info on members vs. non-members.

Student Chapter

Wilfred Mercier listed the current and upcoming activities for the student chapter.

- On Sept. 17/18 five members will be helping out at the Girl Scout weekend at Camp Natarawi;
- The calendar project is continuing, they hope to go to press by Oct.1 so it can be available for sale at the Fall Meeting. Currently they are barely covering their costs with sponsorships. Their goals are to give industry some positive advertising and to raise some money for the chapter.
- They will be trying to recruit student members with the College booth at the Fryeburg Fair and with new UMaine students;
- They are continuing the noon-time lecture series;
- They will be providing 6 members to help with our Fall Meeting.

Forestry Awareness Program

Sue reported that the last committee meeting was May 19, 2005. The Poster Contest has been scrapped. They will be hosting a summit of stakeholders in forestry education. Some of the invitees are the Envirothon group, Natural Resource Institute, Maine Environmental Education Association, Tanglewood, Forest Stewards Guild, Pinetree, Northern Forest Center, Washington Academy, PLT, Maine TREE Foundation. Ken suggested adding the Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts. The committee will meet to brainstorm ideas. **Sue** will try to schedule the meeting for mid-November. **Bill** will call the Buchannon House.

Seven people attended the PLT workshop in the spring. They will schedule another workshop and invite the Student Chapter and also have a sign-up sheet at the Fall Meeting.

Communications Committee

Tony reported that in March they met with the Environmental Writer for the Portland Press Herald. They had some good discussions, and it was a positive, worthwhile experience. Tony was not aware of any press coverage of our prior meetings.

Northern Maine Forest Forum

Laura reported that they have a meeting scheduled for September 22 and November 17. Other dates are set for the spring, but the topics have not yet been decided. The goal is to break even on the costs. It is a service provided to foresters in northern Maine.

Next Meeting Date

It was decided to wait until after the Fall Meeting to see if we need another meeting before the end of the year.

Spring 2006 Meeting Ideas

It was suggested to have a follow-up to our Fall Meeting with some field visits.

Ken is participating in a Mgt and Utilization Working Group meeting at the Fox Forest. Ken will also be hosting a forester from New Zealand in early October. He asked if others would be willing to host him for a day.

The meeting adjourned at 1:04 PM.

Submitted by

Laura Audibert