

MESAF Executive Committee Meeting
September 14, 2006

UMaine campus, Buchanan Alumni House, Large Board Room

Attendance: Bob Seymour, Katie Manende, Bill Livingston, Jake Metzler, Jim Runyan (left at 12:10), Ken Laustsen, Bob Wagner (left at 11:12 AM), Gary Bahlkow and Laura Audibert. Tony Filauro arrived at 11:10 AM. Sue Aygarn arrived at 12:05 PM.

Bob Seymour opened the meeting at 9:37 AM with an anti-trust statement. The agenda was reviewed by the group and an item on the election was added.

☺ **Minutes from Last Executive Meeting**

The minutes from June 14, 2006 were reviewed. Jim motioned to accept the minutes as presented, Gary 2nd, unanimous approval.

☺ **Treasurer's Report**

Bill reported that the Nutting courtyard renovation donation is all paid up. The Leadership Academy line item has ~\$3000 in expenses. Bill's goal is to have a year-end balance of \$4000. The FAP has \$1000. Bill is assuming the profit from both of the year's meetings will be \$1000. The budget will be discussed at the Fall Meeting on October 12, 2006. Gary motioned to accept the Treasurer's Report, including the 2007 budget as presented, Jim 2nd. No Discussion. Unanimous approval.

☺ **NESAF Report**

Ken reported that there had not been a NESAF Exec. Comm. meeting since our June 14 meeting. The next meeting is in Rhode Island next week.

Ron has candidates for MESAF rep., Mike Saunders and Spencer Meyer. Ron is running for Vice-Cchair and needs another competitor.

The white paper is scheduled for distribution on October 1. It can be downloaded from the NESAF website after that date or a copy can be requested from Ken directly.

We should email the membership with a link to the MESAF website, where it can be downloaded. The chair letter being emailed to the membership will have information for members on how to obtain a hard copy of the paper.

Laura Kenefic is resigning as the Forest Science Coordinator for NESAF. They need another appointee. Ken needs some names. Suggestions from the group included Roger Monthey and Dave Kitteredge).

☺ **Elections**

Henry Whittemore is the only nominee for Chair-elect. Bill L. is the only nominee for Sec./Treasurer. Member-at-large nominees include Jake M., Jim R., Rory Eckardt, Jack Lutz, Dave DeGruttola. Rene Noel was asked by has not responded yet. If he has not responded by the time Laura checks her email, he will not be on the ballot. The nominations are now closed.

Bylaw Revision: Bob S. checked with national and they will not allow student members to vote on any issues at the state level. The bylaw revision includes the provision for the MESAF rep and the student rep to vote on the MESAF exec. committee. Other changes include adding the language about

testifying, the inclusion of the Division Manager position and spelling out the duties of the members-at-large.

We will have a slot on the ballot for the bylaw revision and a note indicating that the changes are highlighted on the MESAF website and that paper copies can be obtained by contacting Laura.

☺ **Harvest Practices Task Force**

Bob W. passed out some handouts based on responses from all attendees. 77% feel that the HCS is a good idea. 0% feel it is ready for implementation as is. 23% think it has major problems. The general message is that it is a good thing and we should move forward with it.

The group then reviewed the site survey results. The moral of the story is that the system needs more work. Some categories need a major overhaul. The matrix should be coarser to get more agreement. It was actually designed for evaluation immediately following the harvest, not some years later. Ken suggested that on the matrix, not to count the diagonal cells when computing % differences, just use the cells immediately left, right, up or down.

At the fall meeting, there will be a HCS overview, description process, conclusion and next steps.

The task force will meet prior to the meeting. The system is not designed to predict stand dynamics. The harvests that were evaluated should be assessed in the field to get the actual data to compare with the survey. Jake will send Bob W. the GPS locations of the sites. Bob W. will take notes on the discussion at the fall meeting. Ken will send Bob W. a table of stump diameters and their corresponding dbh's. The task force will make a field trip before the fall meeting.

☺ **Division Manager Contract**

Jim reported that anyone can challenge the contract. The lawyer said it is okay the way the duties are defined. The active year needs to be fixed to make it accurate. The gender of the Div. Mgr should not be specified.

☺ **2006 Fall Meeting Plans**

The food and breaks are all set up. More food was ordered than last year. The "GPS in the Woods" segment still needs a speaker. They had been trying to reach Irving folks. The "Woods Supply in Woods" segment will be presented by George Motta of SFT.

Jake will moderate the easement and technology sections, Jim will moderate the wood supply section. Bill L. will reserve the parking lot for us. Katie will see how many students will be able to help and get back to Laura. Student volunteers will receive a free registration and lunch. Any handouts will be sent to Laura ahead of time.

Laura will order the membership pins and a parting gift for Bob W. Bob S. and the group will email Laura will gift ideas.

☺ **Business Meeting Agenda**

Agenda items will be: minutes from last October's meeting, election results, Treasurer's report, pin awards, any deceased members. Ken will check for names since the October 2005 meeting and get the info to Laura or Bob S. Bob S. will mention Dave Clement's complaint about the fall meeting date and our rationale for keeping it as is. Bob does not plan to have a vote on the date unless the membership wants one.

☺ **Northern Forest Forum**

Laura mentioned the September 21 Forum date. The following meeting will likely be on low-impact logging, perhaps getting Mitch Lansky or a person from SWOAM to come up.

☺ **Communications Committee**

Tony hasn't had any new contacts with media reps. He will get a blurb on the fall meeting to the Bangor Daily News for printing.

☺ **Forestry Awareness Program**

Sue arrived just in time. The Foresters Fund grant money went as a donation to the Maine Tree Foundation to do a mailing for us to Maine schools.

The All Things Wood Expo is scheduled for October 14 in Portland and is sponsored by Maine Tree, MFS, UMaine and SWOAM. PLT will be there and they need forester volunteers to work at their table. Sue sent an email to the "orange card" volunteers and a mailing to teachers will be put together soon.

Ken lamented that MESAF doesn't have a booth at the Expo. Where is our display board? The group decided to register for the Expo. Items to put on the board to promote SAF are: FAP stuff, posters, trinkets and Ken's inventory report. The CF program will also be promoted. Ken, Tony and Bill will work at the booth. Ken will supply the LCD projector and laptop. Bill will sign us up and send the \$100 registration fee. Sue will find student posters from previous contests and the student powerpoint entries. Bill will order brochures from national: 100 copies or \$100. The group will meet prior to the business meeting on October 10.

☺ **Student Chapter**

Katie reported that there hasn't been much action, since school just started.

The first day of school they held a picnic with the Forest Products Society for recruitment. Many applications were taken. They had four new members at their first meeting. They are hoping for more at the next.

The students are planning another calendar project. Kyle and Spencer P. will do another mailing. Their goal is to have them available by Christmas. The theme is "Historic Logging in Maine."

The noontime lecture series does not have any confirmed speakers yet. Maybe an employer panel?

They are planning some fall and spring trips. They plan to have a herbicide tour.

Three students are interested in the national convention. They were wondering if MESAF had any money available to help send the students. Ken said that national has money allocated from student to attend national conventions. Gary motioned to amend the 2007 budget to add a \$500 line item to pay for the three students to travel there. Bill will take \$1000 from the leadership academy line item and will add it back later if we make more than \$1000 from the fall meeting. Jake 2nd the motion and it passed unanimously.

Ken wanted to know if MESAF had anything to donate to the Foresters Fund raffle at the convention. Gary will donate some of LandVest's maple syrup.

The meeting adjourned at 1:22 PM.

Submitted by

Laura Audibert