

**Maine Division Society of American Foresters
Executive Committee Meeting
April 19, 2013 (Amended 7/19/13)
204 Nutting Hall, UMaine Campus, Orono**

Attending: Ken Laustsen, Tony Filauro, Bill Livingston, Bob Cousins, Eli Shank, Wil Mercier, Kris Hoffmann, Sasha Miller. Laura Audibert attended via Skype.

Ken opened the meeting at 9:05 AM with a brief anti-trust statement.

Agenda Changes

No changes were made to the agenda.

Minutes of February 19, 2013

Wil noted that Sean "Roth" should actually be Sean "Ross." Ken's amended minutes already had the correction. Wil motioned to accept the minutes as amended by Ken, Kris 2nd, unanimous approval. **Laura** will email the amended minutes to the group.

Treasurer's Report

Bill passed out copies of the Treasurer's Report and a copy of the IRS 990 form. Bill submitted the 990 report to the NESAF Treasurer for reporting. Since NESAF is the holder of the tax identification number, NESAF collects all the division forms and submits one form to the IRS. Kris motioned to accept the 990 form as presented, Wil 2nd, unanimous approval.

The main activity in our account since the February meeting is the additional dues check received from NESAF. We have received \$1300 in dues so far and our budgeted amount is \$1780. Bill expects another large check at some point. Expenses include the vest for Katie, student memberships and the Division Manager stipend.

The Forestry Awareness account returned \$710 in unused grant funds to NESAF. The balance in the account is \$500.

Our current PayPal account for the NESAF registrations has received \$10,701.90. The bank charges have been \$261.83, Bill transferred \$8053.90 to our NESAF Meeting account and the PayPal balance is \$2386.17. Expenses from the NESAF account include refunds for registrants who purchased additional BBQ tickets by mistake, advertisements in the News Quarterly and Northern Woodlands and copying fees for the NY meeting. Laura has some NESAF registration checks in hand and these are not figured in the account balance. Bob motioned to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented, Eli 2nd. Unanimous approval.

NESAF Update

Kris reported that the last meeting was in March via conference call and the meeting agenda was shortened significantly. NESAF is soliciting proposals from artists to create a painting for the Integrity in Conservation Award. The executive committee (EC) will make the final choice of the artist and purchase 4 prints. The Integrity Award is not given out every year and the recipients do not need to be SAF members.

The NESAF EC created an adhoc investment subcommittee to determine how to invest the \$25,000 generated from the 1995 National Convention. The interest from these funds has been used to offer the NESAF grants. Ken, Russ Reay, Julie Evans and Charlie Levesque will meet via conference call to share thoughts. The group will report back at the May NESAF EC meeting. Currently there is \$3000 to \$4000 available for grants. Jessica Leahy received a grant for a fall meeting on landowner outreach. Bill mentioned his concern about IRS regulations controlling the amount of funds non-profits are allowed to keep on hand. Bill suggested forming a foundation.

Kris reported that NESAF received \$10,633 in dues and retained \$7658 of it. NESAF has 982 members, 728 of which are active (renewed for 2013). MESAF has 253 members, of which 213 are active. As of March 20, 2013, 40 members had not renewed. SAF is actively making phone calls to the non-renewers. Roughly 50% of the UMaine student members have not renewed. Some may be in transition to professional status.

Donation to 10th Mountain Ski Club

Bill motioned to contribute \$100 to the 10th Mountain Ski Club for use of its meeting space for our February meeting. Wil 2nd. Unanimous approval. **Laura** will send a check to the club.

Board of Licensure of Foresters Update

Ken did not have anything new to report, since the February meeting was cancelled. The next meeting should be at the end of May or June. Ken is not sure of the status of the resolve. The board was fully staffed in November, but Ken is not sure if it still is. Ken noted that the final report recommended that summer job experience be counted toward the experience needed for licensing. Depending on the applicant's experience, they may only need to take the Maine portion of the exam. The Maine exam will become more robust.

<Colton arrived at 9:58 AM>

NESAF Spring Meeting

Ken reported that the exhibitor and sponsorship fees currently total \$5000 and the goal is \$7000. Ron is still chasing some down.

Ken contacted the SAF insurance agency and they are okay with Sunday River's insurance certificate. Sunday River's transportation system should be able to handle all our needs.

The BBQ meal numbers are needed a week before the meeting. Kris suggested holding the BBQ tickets at the registration desk and handing them out as folks register. We will know how many tickets we have to play with. **Laura** will figure out how to handle this.

Continuing education credits. Ken will send the program to Andy Fast for ME, NH and SAF CF credits. **Laura** will get the contact info for CT and MA. Gary Fish of the Maine Bureau of Pesticides Control needs to know from Bill if there is enough pest info on the Forest Health station report to qualify for pesticide credits. A photocopier will be available at the registration desk to copy completed credit sheets for registrants. The originals will be turned in at the end of the meeting.

Dave Field will be awarded his golden membership during Ken's introductory remarks on Wednesday.

Wil asked the speakers to register. If they are just speaking and leaving, Wil noted that they do not need to register. All the tour number maximums include the speakers. Workshop speakers are not included in the max numbers.

Kris, Ron, Bob and **Ken** will travel to Sunday River one more time to check out the facility. **Bill** and **Laura** will go over registration details.

Ken has not received any interested registrants for the Dirty Boots Quiz Bowl. Kris feels that most people want to register on-site once they know others are interested. Bill suggested a "Who Wants to be a Millionaire" format. **All** on the **MESAF EC** should submit 5 sample questions (and answers) to Ken shortly. **Kris** will make a Dirty Boots sign up sheet on an easel to be placed by the registration table.

Laura asked if there were any handouts for the registration folders. The program is 19 pages and it will not be stapled together so registrants can pull out the tour sheets they need. **Kris** will check with Sunday River or the Bethel Chamber of Commerce to see if they have maps of area restaurants and attractions.

Bob did not receive any responses for volunteers to help with AV and other needs. Ken has a short list of potential volunteers. Laura noted that only one person registered as a student volunteer for the meeting. **Wil** and **Bob** will communicate on AV needs.

<Colton left at 10:45 AM>

Laura will get everyone a current count for all the tours and workshops. Laura noted that there are some registrants that paid for the full program but only selected tours for one day. It is not clear if they plan to stay only one day or not. This will impact the amount of food we need. **Laura** will try to figure out how many people are in this category.

Summer Field Meetings

Eli reported that the Cedar Mgt tour will be held on Friday, June 28. **Ron** is handling the overnight arrangements for the Canadian speakers. **Eli** will handle the food, likely from Presque Isle. The transportation situation has not been worked out yet. The tour stops will likely be within 5 miles of a tar road. A potential meeting location is the Ashland Logging Museum. The local Regional Biologist with IFW will attend as well.

<Bill left the meeting at 10:52 AM>

The focus of the tour will be on cedar management. **Eli** will talk over the details today with Laura Kennefic. We should try to invite The Wildlife Society members also. We will have the tour flyer ready for May 15 and give it to TWS in Bethel. The usual maximum registration for field tour is 35 people. We will look at arranging for a bus to originate in Orono and travel to Ashland.

The cedar tour flyer and spring chair letter will be mailed out by May 24.

Bob will check with Bill Jarvis on the timing for the Island Logging tour. **Bob** will get the info to Laura by May 3.

The MFS Forester Institute is having a tour on oak management likely in September. We will likely send a flyer to the Maine membership by August 1.

Fall Meeting Planning

The meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 15 at Wells Commons on the UMaine campus in Orono. The group discussed the topic of “local wood.” **Wil** and **Sasha** will check at Sewall for a possible speaker. The details of this meeting will need to get nailed down at our July meeting. The ethics and community portions of the meeting will need to be sorted out. We want to attract industrial foresters. Eli suggested a title of, “Forest Products Markets for a Sustainable Future.”

Committee Reports

Forestry Awareness—Sasha reported that Children’s Day at Leonard’s Mills is coming up on May 29, 30 and 31. Last year’s attendance was okay. **Sasha** will sign up for one day. She is looking for volunteers for the other days.

Kris and Bill attended a PLT strategy meeting recently. PLT is developing a 5-year plan. They want to figure out how best to accomplish their mission. Maine PLT is the highlight of PLT nationally.

<Colton arrived at 11:57 AM>

The PLT Teacher Tours will be held again this summer. One is scheduled for July 23, 2013 at Twin Pines in Millinocket. **Ken** will help out. They may need more foresters to volunteer.

Communications—Tony put in a short blurb about our May meeting in the recent News Quarterly. He has not had any luck in scheduling any newspaper/media meetings. Tony suggested drafting a short blurb about managing roadsides. **Laura** mentioned that Dick Hale had sent her some suggestions about roadside management. **She** will forward this info to Ken. **Wil** suggested may contacting bloggers with our message or just blogging ourselves.

<Bill returned at 12:00 PM>

Bill suggested communicating why landowners own land. Others may be interested in the variety of answers. The Yankee Woodlot series was mentioned.

Student Chapter—Colton reported that the students went on a field trip with Kirby Ellis and toured four woodlots, learning about consulting forestry. The students went ice fishing with the wildlife students. Student Chapter elections were held recently. The results are: Colton—President; Kasey Elmer—VP; Julie Churchill—Secretary and James Hunt—Treasurer. The students will attend chainsaw training with SWOAM.

The mentoring program has signed up 25 professionals. There are a diversity of backgrounds. Bill suggested that the mentors come to the Tanglewood session to make connections. They can visit area landowner in the fall also.

Other

Ken participated in two SAF webinars. One was a conference on Event Supplier Networks. The other was on State Level Access to the Membership Database. The membership database can be accessed by all members.

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 12:22 PM.

The next meeting will be held on Friday, July 19 at Ken's camp on North Twin Lake. Ken will provide lunch.

Submitted by

Laura Audibert