

**Maine Division Society of American Foresters
Executive Committee Meeting
July 19, 2013
Amended September 13, 2013
Ken's Camp, North Twin Lake, Millinocket**

Attending: Ken Laustsen, Bill Livingston, Bob Cousins, Eli Shank, Wil Mercier, Laura Audibert

Ken opened the meeting at 9:12 AM with a brief anti-trust statement.

Agenda Changes

No changes were made to the agenda.

Minutes of April 19, 2013

Two changes were made to the minutes: Page 2, last paragraph, 3rd line—Forest Health “tours” was changed to Forest Health “Station Report.” Page 3, first paragraph, “Tuesday” was changed to “Wednesday.” Wil motioned to accept the amended minutes, Eli 2nd. Unanimous approval. **Laura** will make the corrections and email the amended minutes to the executive committee (EC) soon.

Treasurer's Report

Bill passed out copies of the Treasurer's Report. The regular accounts have not changed much since the last EC meeting. Dues are up to \$2427, our budgeted amount. The PayPal account has a balance of \$1729.44. MESAF Field tours have expenses of \$1134. The total in the MESAF accounts is \$9369.54

The Forestry Awareness account has not had any activity and the balance is currently \$500.

For the NESAF meeting, we collected \$14,068 through PayPal and paid \$340.47 in fees. Bill recalled the fee percentage was 2.8% or 2.9%. The NESAF account has still has the \$500 in seed money. The total revenue from the meeting is \$27,761.88, which includes \$941.88 from The Wildlife Society and \$11.00 from raffle ticket sales. The income from the Silent Auction and the Raffle was not broken out separately. Laura received two registration checks from registrants who signed up indicating they would send a check, but they did not attend the meeting. Ken sent them a letter reminding them of their obligation to pay. **Laura** will deposit the second check for \$120 shortly. There were reimbursements of 230.53 to registrants who mistakenly purchased two BBQ tickets. The total expenses for the meeting were \$25,399. The net income is \$2862, plus the \$120 check Laura will deposit. Transportation costs were ~\$2200, AV costs were ~\$1500 (we saved a lot by bringing some of our own equipment). Bill will deduct \$77 for coffee and treats for the NESAF EC meeting from the seed money before returning it. In the end, the amount to be split between MESAF and NESAF is \$1939.89 + \$120. Each entity will get ~\$1000.

The NY/NESAF meeting in NY cleared \$18,000. The NE/ME amount to split is \$9000. From both meetings MESAF will take in \$4500 + \$1000 = \$5500. The 2009 NESAF meeting in Portland earned MESAF \$6000, so we are not that far off.

Bob motioned to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented, Wil 2nd. Unanimous approval.

NESAF Update

In Kris' absence, Ken gave the update. There has been some turmoil on the EC recently. Sean Ross quit his position of appointed Vice Chair and Kurt Zschau quit as Chair. The EC can only appoint an acting Vice Chair. Both positions will be elected in the fall. Jim Harding has been appointed as the acting Vice Chair until the new elections. Jim will be the Chair if he is elected as the new Chair. There is talk of changing the terms of service for the Vice Chair/Chair/Past Chair position from 2-2-2 to 1-1-1. This will require a bylaw change.

Ballot info for the upcoming election is needed by August 15, 2013. Wil suggested Janice Mulherin for NESAF Vice Chair.

The 2014 NESAF Winter Meeting is scheduled from March 25-27, 2014 in Nashua, NH.

Letter from Fred Huntress

Ken received a letter from Fred Huntress who was upset about our "lack of field tours in Southern Maine." Ken replied to the letter after Wil and Laura reviewed his response.

Committee Reports

Forestry Awareness Committee (FAC)—Ken read Sasha's email report. There will be some PLT activities in the fall. There is an overall lack of volunteers for Forestry Awareness work in southern Maine. Ken will talk with Todd Caldwell (ACF President) about collaborating with the ACF on FAC work and field meetings.

Communications Committee—Tony indicated to Ken that he had nothing to report. Laura will email him pictures from the Cedar tour.

Student Chapter—Bill reported for Colton. The group is not currently active over the summer. Jessica Leahy is the faculty advisor. We are not sure if there will be a student conclave this fall. SUNY has a good student organization. The Maine student chapter will likely be doing their calendar project again this year.

Board of Licensure of Foresters Update

Ken attended the latest meeting on June 27, 2013. In January 2013 the Board and MFS gave its report to the legislative committee, but no action was taken in the recently concluded session. The Board motioned to turn the report into legislation for the 2014 session. The last page of the report will be the proposed legislative document (LD).

Ken noted that the Board is empowered by legislation and it can make rules. The changes being proposed are legislative revisions, not rule revisions. An internship will still be required for those with certain educational backgrounds. There are four avenues to obtaining a forestry license:

1. Graduate from an accredited school, then two years of experience, one of which can be earned as an undergraduate. No CF exam, just the enhanced Maine exam;
2. B.S. from a non-accredited school, two years of experience (one as undergrad), pass CF and Maine exam;
3. Graduate with a two-year degree from an accredited or non-accredited school, 4 years of experience (none as undergrad), if from an accredited school—only Maine exam, if from non-accredited school—CF and Maine exams;
4. No degree, 8 years experience, CF and Maine exams.

The sponsorship requirements for the internships are the same. If forester has a license from one of six approved states, only the Maine exam is needed to get a Maine license. Licensing and experience in different states counts as experience toward a Maine license.

The next board meeting is at the end of August. Currently on the board are Bob Seymour (Chair), Sarah Medina, Ted Shina, Steve Pelletier and Mark Beauregard. The public member seat is vacant. A new Assistant District Attorney has been assigned to the board.

Nominations

Wil noted that Ken and Ron have done most of the work on this. The Chair-elect is officially the Nominating Committee.

Bill suggested that the Student Chapter Advisor be a non-voting member on the EC to keep the group informed on UMaine happenings. Ken suggested getting a non-EC member to do the annual auditing. Laura suggested forming a Program Committee made up of the three elected MALs and other members, such as those who agreed to run for office but were not elected. She feels it is important to find a way to include all members who want to be active in the Division. This group would plan the Field and Fall meetings. Only the MALs would need to attend the EC meetings. A chairperson of the Program Committee would be elected from among the committee members. Creating this committee would not require a bylaw change.

The ballot for MALs will include: Kirby Ellis, Ron Lemin, Eli Shank, Brian Roth and Katie Cousins. Running for Chair-elect are: Bob Cousins and Jessica Leahy. Bill will run as Secretary/Treasurer again. Wil will approach Sue Aygarn about future positions and also Brian Roth about the MAL position. The ballot is usually sent out electronically in ~ October by National. Our final slate and any bylaw changes will need to be received by Paul Dolan on August 15, 2013. Wil will announce the creation of the Program Committee at our Fall Meeting. We don't want any of the unelected members to feel that the Program Committee offer is a consolation prize.

Ken reported that National is willing incur the cost to mail the national and chapter ballot to any member who does not have email. The group decided to leave the ballot/bio-sketch info request to include a photo as optional.

Laura discussed the problems with online registration. **She** will figure out a way to handle filling the tours with online vs. paper registrations. Bill suggested closing the online registration when the paper registration info is being processed.

The group decided to keep the online registration option for meetings.

Potential MESAF Bylaw Revision

Ken emailed the group a few proposed bylaw changes aimed at allowing Committee chairs to vote at the EC level. The group discussed the proposal at length and decided not to make a change to the voting status because it would require other complicated changes to the bylaws. The group felt that the current Committee chairs know they have a voice even if they can't vote. All the Standing Committees currently listed in the bylaws will be moved to Special Committees, except the EC. **Ken** will fix the bylaw proposal and send it to the EC for review and on the ballot by August 15, 2013.

Bill suggested inviting representatives from all the accredited forestry programs in Maine to EC meetings for a report or at least provide a written report to the EC once each year that will be available at the Fall Meeting. Bill feels it's important that our group know what's going on in the schools that SAF accredits. Currently the accredited programs in Maine are the B.S. and MF degrees at UMaine and the 2-year Applied Forest Technology degree at UMFK. **Ken** will ask Carol Redelsheimer if we should include the requirement of a report in our bylaws.

Recap of Spring NESAF Meeting May 2013

Laura asked if the division should begin using the newer "tree" SAF logo on future name badges and envelopes. The group decided that the new logo will be used on name badges beginning with the Fall Meeting in October.

The group discussed the field meeting format of the Spring Meeting. The format is desirable, but it creates lots of work. Laura noted that it was an incredible amount of work for her due to all the different choices and the huge spreadsheet the choices created.

Recap of Field Meetings in Summer 2013

Northern White Cedar Mgt—Eli and Laura reported that the tour was very successful. Eli, Laura Kenefic and the other presenters previewed the field sites the day before. Laura A. spoke with Laura K. about hosting the same tour again in the future due to the high amount of interest and it was agreed that the group could host another tour later this year or in 2014. The group discussed the need for a bus from Orono in the future. Laura reported that it was a ~50/50 split between SAF and non-member registrants for the tour.

Island Logging—Bob reported that the barge tour was great. Bill Jarvis did an excellent job of organizing everything. Most people drove to Greenville, so a bus was probably not needed there either. A second tour will be offered on Friday, July 26. **Laura** will let Bob know what the count is on Tuesday evening, July 23. Laura reported that the member/nonmember split was ~50/50 for this tour also.

Upcoming Oak Mgt Tour—this tour is not sponsored by MESAF, but Ken has been involved via the MFS. It will be held on Friday, July 26. There will be a morning indoor session and an outdoor tour at the former Brooks Mills woodlot in East Holden.

Future Direction of forestry at UMaine School of Forest Resources

Bill reported that the school is looking for a replacement for Jeremy Wilson in the landscape management area. He wants input on educational emphasis. Ken noted the lack of training on climate change. The group agreed that forest management plans are still the most important focus.

School of Forest Resources Field Camp and Professional Mentoring

Bill reported that the incoming freshman will again take part in the Tanglewood Field Camp in Lincolnville Beach in late August. There are currently 37 students planning to attend. Bill would like some help from professional foresters/mentors to help train the students on taking measurements, tree identification and compass/pacing. Mentors would be needed to help on Monday, August 26 and Wednesday, August 28. **Bill** will work with Sasha on an email to the membership.

Fall Meeting Planning

Ken would like to pursue the topic of Local Wood and be similar in scope to the Kennebec Woodland Partnership. Ken suggested Bob Ricard from CT and Dave Kittredge from MA as possible speakers.

Bill suggested bringing in the topic of ownership fragmentation and how that affects finding markets. Other possible speakers suggested are Spencer Meyer, Katie Cousins, Harold Burnett, Bill Hull (CT) and Jim Robbins.

Ken will organize a conference call in 2-3 weeks to discuss the Fall Meeting details. Ron, Eli, Ken and Bob will be the primary participants on the call, but all other EC members are welcome to join in. **Laura** will poll the smaller group on which of the following days would work best for them: Fridays, August 2, 9 or 16. It will be a morning call.

Laura noted that she needs the Fall Meeting agenda and details by **Friday, September 6, 2013** to get the mailing out in a timely fashion.

Next Meeting

The next regular EC meeting is scheduled for **Friday, September 13, 2013** on the UMaine campus. **Bill** will make the arrangements for a 9:00 AM to 12:00 noon meeting. Lunch will not be provided.

Adjourn

Wil motioned to adjourn the meeting at 2:54 PM, Ken 2nd. Unanimous approval. The group thanked Ken and Angela for hosting this meeting at their camp. Lunch was great.

Submitted by
Laura Audibert