

**Maine Division Society of American Foresters
Executive Committee Meeting
November 15, 2013 amended February 14, 2014
Nutting Hall, UMaine Campus, Orono**

Attending: Ken Laustsen, Kris Hoffmann, Bob Cousins, Ron Lemin and Wil Mercier. Colton Burgess arrived at 10:02 AM. On phone: Eli Shank, Laura Audibert, Katie Cousins, Bill Livingston. Absent: Sasha Miller, Tony Filauro

Ken opened the meeting at 9:02 AM with a brief anti-trust statement.

Agenda Changes

Ken added an elaboration on the election results and the MFPC report.

Minutes of September 13, 2013 Meeting

Katie motioned to approve the minutes as distributed by Laura, Bob 2nd. Motion carried. Ron and Kris abstained since they were not in attendance.

Treasurer's Report

Bill had the Treasurer's Report and budget update present in the meeting room. He reported that he recently paid a \$700 fee from Cyr Bus Lines from the Cedar tour in Ashland. It arrived late since the original address was incorrect.

The revenue from the Fall meeting was \$5210 with net earnings of \$1706. The budgeted earnings was \$1500. Laura reported that she still had a \$300 Public Lands check to deposit. This will bring our net earnings to ~\$2000. Bill reported that he submitted 10 new student chapter memberships at \$40 each. We incurred a bank charge of \$25 because the balance in our Forestry Awareness Account checking account was below the minimum requirement of \$1500. Kris motioned to direct **Bill** to close out the Forestry Awareness Account and transfer the funds to our general account and track them internally. Ron 2nd. Unanimous approval. Ron asked Bill about a book of checks he had, Bill said that account is closed and that Ron can destroy the book. Ron motioned to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented, Wil 2nd. Unanimous approval.

NESAF Update

Kris reported that there has not been a NESAF EC meeting since our last meeting. She noted that the deadline for NESAF award nominations is December 1, 2013.

Ken saw Jim Harding at the SAF National Meeting and Jim survived his first HSD meeting. Ken mailed out the membership award books to the 60 year + members. He received two responses, one from Joseph Gray and the other from Steve Orach. Both were grateful.

Maine Forest Products Council Report

Ken reported that the MFPC prepared a report entitled, "Maine's Forest Economy", it is 60+ pages. There have been great responses from readers. Ken wants everyone to see it and know about it. They recently had a legislative tour that showcased the report. The Nature Conservancy had positive comments.

Committee Reports

Forestry Awareness—No report in Sasha's absence.

Communications—No report in Tony's absence.

Student Chapter—Colton will report when he arrives at the meeting.

Board of Licensure

Ken attended the latest meeting on October 31, 2013. The proceeding/draft legislation will be submitted to the legislature in January. The actual LD is not available yet. The appropriate legislative committee must act on it.

John Ackley is a new board member. Many members' terms are up and year-end and all have indicated they will re-apply for re-appointment by the governor.

Fall Meeting Review

The group felt the talks meshed well and the comments were positive. Attendance was good. The evaluation results yielded good suggestions for future meetings.

2014 EC Meeting Schedule

Ken reported that the National Tellers Committee is meeting on November 23, 2013 to certify the election results. The results are not available or approved until then. We should wait until we know exactly who our EC members will be.

Typically our meetings are scheduled in February, April, July, September, October (Fall Business Meeting) and November. Wil suggested holding off until we have a full board. Fridays are good days for the meetings. **Wil** will make the calendar after the election results are posted. The 2014 SAF National Convention is October 5-11 in Salt Lake City.

It was decided that the February meeting will be at the 10th Mountain Lodge in Fort Kent and the July meeting will be at Ken's camp in Millinocket. All other EC meetings will be in Orono. **Bill** will check with Wells Commons and try to schedule our Fall Meeting for Tuesday, October 14, 2014.

2014 Field Tour Ideas

Ken noted that MESAF was asked to consider hosting Audubon's Foresters for the Birds workshop in southern Maine. Half of the morning is inside then the rest of the time is in the field in mature habitats and recent harvest sites. May is the best month since the migratory birds are active. VT and ME Audubon would also entertain a northern Maine location since the ownership patterns are different. Nancy Patch of VT Audubon may need travel reimbursement funds.

Eli suggested a Baxter SFMA tornado/blowdown tour and another Cedar Mgt tour.

Other suggested topics were spruce budworm (SBW), commercial thinning and other invasive pests such as EAB and Hemlock Woolly Adelgid. It was noted that CFRU did a commercial thinning (CT) tour recently and NERCOFE will be addressing SBW at their March 2014 meeting. We

could do a fall meeting on forest management strategies in spruce-fir which would include SBW and CT then on hemlock and ash pests and their forest management strategies.

Kris reported that Jake Maier approached her about hosting a field tour in Readfield, within the Augusta watershed. **Kris** will get back to Jake.

It was decided that we look at hosting another cedar mgt tour in 2015, perhaps in the Millinocket area.

<Colton arrived at 10:02 AM>

Student Chapter Report

Colton reported that the group helped Kirby Ellis with CFI plots on a local landowner. On Sunday, November 24, 2013, the group will be meeting with a SWOAM rep. The Calendar Project is not looking good-- everyone is very busy. The Student Conclave was held in September 2013 in CT and hosted by UConn. No Maine students were able to attend. The Mentoring Program has a list of mentor names.

NESAF Award Nominations

Kris reported that George Ritz wants to nominate Bill Mahan for the Austin Cary Award. The nomination package includes a bio-sketch, a letter of nomination and at least two supporting letters of recommendation. **Kris** and **Ron** will write recommendation letters. **Kris** will get back to George with this info.

Ron wanted to re-activate Laura's nomination for the Toumey Award, she said, "NO!" but thanks for the thought.

Ron will head the nomination for Ken for the Distinguished Service Award.

Wil nominated Katie Cousins for the Mollie Beattie Young Forester Leadership Award. Bob said, "aye". **Wil** will coordinate the nomination package. **Katie** will forward her bio-sketch to Wil. **Ken** will do a letter of recommendation.

Laura suggested Steve Swatling for an award. The Integrity in Conservation Award would be appropriate. **Ken** will spearhead the nomination package for Steve. **Katie** will give Ken the contact info for a colleague who could write a letter of recommendation.

Ron questioned the Fellow Nomination deadline. We have not had any nominations lately.

NESAF Grants

We can only apply for a NESAF grant for something we haven't done and want to work on in the coming two years. Jessica Leahy already has a grant to set up a meeting with small landowners. Ron noted that the Foresters Fund grant deadline is in February and these are typically awarded for education and outreach.

Ken will handle a grant request for travel reimbursement to host the Foresters for the Birds workshop this spring. We can request another grant in the future for travel reimbursement for

the Cedar Mgt tour speakers. Eli would like to ask for enough funds to offset a portion of the registration fee for participants.

Other

Laura presented Ken with a gift of thanks for his leadership, inspiration and service to MESAF. The book was signed by all the EC members.

Ken officially transferred the MESAF Chair gavel to Wil.

Adjourn

Ron motioned to adjourn the meeting at 10:43 AM. Unanimous approval.

Submitted by
Laura Audibert