

**Maine Division Society of American Foresters
Executive Committee Meeting
July 17, 2015
Ken's Camp, North Twin Lake**

Attending: Brian Roth, Kirby Ellis, Bill Livingston, Bob Cousins, Ken Laustsen, Jessica Leahy, Laura Audibert, and Anna Schwarz.

Absent: Kris Hoffmann, Wil Mercier, Tony Filauro, and Brian Renfro (Student Chapter).

Angela Laustsen welcomed everyone with a smile and coffee. Jessica called the meeting to order at 9:15 AM. A modified anti-trust statement was read.

Agenda Changes

Jessica moved a few agenda items around.

Minutes of April 17, 2015 Meeting

Laura read Ken's amendments to the group. Kirby motioned to approve the April 17, 2015 minutes as amended by Ken, Bob 2nd, unanimous approval.

Business Items

Field Tour Reports

Rehabilitation Silviculture

Brian reported that the tour went very well and he appreciated Ken's help with registration. SWOAM would like to do another joint tour next year. Max McCormack is all fired up and wants to host one at Don Newell's woodlot in Thorndike. Max would like the theme to be set up in the fall for a spring tour. Max will showcase his woodlot as well. Brian noted that renting the Port-a-Potty was worthwhile.

Hemlock Management

Bob reported that his tour went well also. There were a few "no-shows". He gave **Laura** the evaluations and other materials. She will summarize the evaluations shortly. There were 28 registrants including the speakers. Bob suspects the tour will end up "in the red" due to the bus expense (\$900).

Cooperative Restoration

Kirby's tour is set for August 26. He has 3 vans reserved at Rent-a-Wreck. He will not get a Port-a-Potty. The food is all set. The vans need to be picked up on the 25th and brought to Orono. **Kris, Jessica** and maybe **Laura** will drive the vans on the tour. We will settle this issue via email closer to the tour date. Bob Seymour cannot present on the tour, so Kirby added Charlie Todd to talk about the Northern Long-eared Bat. NRCS will have a flow chart showing their program application process.

Other Tours

Cedar Tour

Jessica was surprised that the tour flyer went out before she talked to Laura Kenefic. Laura A. thought Jessica already confirmed the plan (oops). Laura A. reported that Charles Tardif

inquired about bus rental costs and how the overnight expenses of the Canadian speakers will be covered (he estimate ~\$500). The group was clear that MESAF only agreed to handle the registrations (and charge the PayPal and admin. costs), not any other expenses. **Jessica** will contact Laura K. and copy in Bill and Laura A. clarifying MESAF's role in the tour. We will tell them how much our costs will be and roughly how much of the registration monies they will have available to cover their expenses.

Ken reported that the NESAF Silvicultural Working Group is hosting a tour in the Providence, RI watershed.

Treasurer's Report

Bill passed out the report (updated Thursday afternoon). Our last membership dues check arrived and we are slightly above budget on this. The revenue from all the field tours is so far \$6000. The expenses for the tours so far are \$4000. We currently have a \$2000 net to cover Kirby's tour expenses. Our budget projected a net income of \$500 for the field tours. We will likely exceed this amount. Our Fall Meeting income was less than projected, so this boost will help. Ken motioned to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented, Bob 2nd. Unanimous approval.

Committee Reports

Forestry Awareness—Anna reported that the China School Forestry Day on May 29 was very successful. Ken and Pat Maloney attended. There were ~200 grade K-12 kids participating. There was good publicity. The state Envirothon and an event at Leonard's Mills also took place that week, but Anna could only provide volunteers for the China event. Next year she will be aware of these other events in advance.

The Maine TREE Teacher Tours are scheduled and one took place this week in Rangeley and the other is scheduled for West Grand Lake Stream. There is nothing on Anna's calendar for the near future, but events will likely pop up once school starts back in September.

Bill reported that the statewide 4H Day is in Windsor on July 18. Bill is attending for UMaine. He also noted that the UMaine Freshman forestry training at the Tanglewood 4H camp near Lincolnville is in August and he could use some volunteer foresters to work with the students on Monday, August 24 and Wednesday, August 26. There are about 33 students this year. **Anna** will get more details from Bill and publicize this event.

Laura noted that the MESAF logo was not on this year's Envirothon T-shirts. Bill will check with the coordinator to be sure they are not confusing MESAF's donation with UMaine. Anna was asked to have foresters staff the Aquatics station at the Envirothon. She did not think this was an appropriate request and side-stepped the question.

Anna mentioned that Sherry Huber wants to have PLT develop some activities on the spruce budworm. There is a SBW article in the PLT newsletter.

Communications—Tony called Laura and noted that he would like some pictures from our field tours to put in the next News Q.

Student Chapter—Bill is the interim Faculty Advisor for the group. He reported that Brian Renfro is the new chapter President and Savannah Haines is the VP. It is a good group and Bill is optimistic. He hopes that Mindy Crandall the new Forest Economist/Forest Mgt professor will take over the chapter shortly. Dr. Amber Roth is a new Forestry and Wildlife faculty member at UMaine.

NESAF Update

Ken reported that the EC met in Portland on June 17. There are six positions that need to be filled: Vice Chair (3 yr. commitment), Secretary (2 yr.), Treasurer (2 yr.) and three State Reps (CT, RI and NH). Wendy Weisiger is the new Website Administrator. She works for the SPNHF. Tony D'Amato is the new Forest Science Coordinator and is looking for new themes for the News Q.

Starting in 2015 the NESAF award nomination packages must be completely refreshed and resubmitted, not just rolled over.

The 2016 NESAF Winter Meeting will be held in Sturbridge, MA at the Host Hotel and Conference Center on March 8-11, 2016. The theme will be Leadership in Innovation. The organizing committee is looking for panel sessions with speakers.

MESAF has been asked to host the 2017 Winter Meeting. The 2018 meeting is proposed to be held jointly with NY. NESAF wants to know if a NE/NY joint meeting should be factored into a five-year cycle. The Yankee Division doesn't want to sacrifice its hosting. Our group had lackluster enthusiasm for the NE/NY joint meetings. Jessica suggested that we could help NY by advertising their meetings and perhaps hold joint field tours.

NESAF gave a vote of confidence for MESAF to explore hosting the 2020 National Convention in Bangor. Our 2017 NESAF meeting may be in Bangor as a dry run.

NESAF EC declined to be a host for webinars. They do not have the technology or personnel capacity. The Maine Dept. of ACF has hosting capabilities. SWOAM will try a webinar on Succession Planning.

At the NESAF Winter Meeting a formal proposal was made to make accessible the \$25,000 (from the 1995 National Convention) principle to fund college student activities to allow more professional engagement. The risk level also should be increased to generate more interest. There may be a referendum question to the membership in the fall.

Board of Forester Licensure

Ken attended the June 25 meeting and asked the board if SAF CF foresters can apply to the board to be licensed in Maine by just taking the Maine exam. The Board didn't know. Bill needs to know the % of UMaine graduates that pass the exam. Ken suggested he contact the board. Ken noted that the only current site to take the Maine license exam is in Portland.

Nominations for Leadership and Awards

MESAF has the Chair-elect and 3 Member-at-large positions open for next year. The following suggestions were made:

Chair-elect—Bob Cousins

MAL—Kirby Ellis, Brian Roth, Eli Shank, Alex Ingraham, Dave Parker, maybe Wil Mercier and maybe Ron Lemin. **Jessica** will follow-up with these people. Nomination materials are due August 1.

Fall Meeting

The meeting is scheduled for Friday, October 30, 2015 at the Wells Conference Center. The title will be, “Maine’s New Economy, Our Forested Future.” The agenda plan is:

8:00 AM	Registration
8:30	MESAF Business Meeting
9:30	Break
9:50	Program Introduction-- Kris will be emcee
10:00—12:00	Speakers: Pat Strauch— Jessica will contact Mindy Crandall— Jessica Bob Dorsey— Brian
12:00	LUNCH
1:00	Case Studies: Dana Doran (logging)— Jessica Charles Tardif (sawmills)— Brian Jason Brochu (sawmills)— Kirby
2:30	Questions/Interactive discussions/break
3:00	Case Studies: Scott Taylor (Lincoln Logs)— Ken Nadir Yildirim (cellulose foam board)— Jessica
4:00	Questions/Interactive discussions/break
4:30	Wrap-up— Kris , Evaluations, Certificates

The case studies will be 30 minutes and presenters will be asked to discuss their story and investments. Laura will need the presentation title and job title (and mailing address) for speakers. The mailing will go out in mid-September.

Backup speakers will be Woodland Pulp, Pellet mill, Tony Lyons, Hemant Pendse. **Bob** will contact them if needed.

We would like to invite the media, students and legislators. Pat Strauch may know how to get legislators to come.

Timeline: Invitations to speakers will be made by **July 31**; Speakers need to commit by **August 14**, communicate by email. Agenda should be confirmed at **August 28** EC meeting.

Allagash Bridge Memorial

Jessica still plans to get this project completed during her term as Chair. The game warden chaplain was suggested to preside at a possible ceremony. The idea of alternative placement at one of the North Maine Woods checkpoints was mentioned.

Adjourn

Bob motioned to adjourn at 12:27 PM, Brian 2nd. No dissent.

Submitted by *Laura Audibert*