

**Maine Division Society of American Foresters
Executive Committee Meeting
April 1, 2016
204 Nutting Hall, University of Maine, Orono**

Attending: Bob Cousins, Anna Schwarcz, Kirby Ellis, Tony Filauro, Jessica Leahy, Bill Livingston (arrived at 9:56 AM), Laura Audibert on Skype. Absent: Brian Roth, Dave Parker, Ken Laustsen, Brian Renfro/Savannah Haines.

Anti-trust Statement/Call to Order

Kris called the meeting to order at 9:12 AM with a brief anti-trust statement.

Review, amend and approve Minutes

Jessica motioned to approve the February 22, 2016 minutes as presented, Bob 2nd. Unanimous approval.

Business Items

Field Tour Planning

Kirby had emailed his tour agenda and budget documents the day before. The 2016 Summer Mill Tour is scheduled for Friday, July 15. Carpooling will originate at Nutting Hall in Orono. **Kris** will pick up the lunches. The registration form will ask that anyone with dietary restrictions contact Kirby. The registration fees will be: SAF Member--\$40, Non-member--\$60 and Students--\$20. The tour will be limited to 25 participants, not including speakers. **Laura** will prepare the flyer and send it out for credit assignment.

Brian's tour is scheduled for Saturday, August 13 in Unity. It will be co-sponsored by SWOAM. **Laura** will get the tour details from Brian and prepare the flyer. We need to know the registration fees and if there will be a limit on the number of participants.

Dave's tour will be in September. **Laura** will contact Dave for the details and prepare the flyer. **Laura** will send out the info for all tours to get the credit assignment.

Fall Meeting Planning

The Fall Meeting will be on Friday, October 28, 2016 at Wells Commons. The title will be, "Rooting for Hardwood—Past, Present and Future". The morning session will address historical practices in hardwood stands and the afternoon will feature presentations on other uses of hardwoods such as firewood dealers, maple syrup producers, other non-timber uses, carbon credits, conservation buyers of real estate, etc. <Bill arrived at 9:54AM>. The actual agenda and possible speakers will be discussed and ironed out at the July meeting.

Elections

We need to get candidates and their bios in to NESAF by August 1, 2016. Maine will be electing 3 Members-at-Large, a Chair-Elect and a Rep to NESAF. **Bob** will handle the election process. Katie Manende wants to get back in with MESAF, maybe as NESAF Rep? Jessica would like to see Mallory Bussell get involved with MESAF. Kirby would like to run for MAL again. **Bob** will check with Brian and Dave to see if there are interested in running again.

Old Business

Allagash Bridge Memorial

Jessica did not have an update, but she has no worries about the event.

NESAF 2017 Update

Ron Lemin, Kris and Ken have been working on the arrangements for this meeting. It will be held at the Cross Center in Bangor. It is 30% more expensive than the Holiday Inn in Portland, but we believe we will raise the \$20,000 in needed sponsorships. **Ron** is handling this important task. Kris is the General Chair, with Ken as advisor. Ron is Arrangements Chair. Kris is helping Ron with arrangements since he is very focused on getting sponsors. Our total bill at the Cross Center will be ~\$57,000 and at some point they will need a ~20% down payment. A contract has not yet been signed. The dates will be March 8-10, 2017. Wednesday will have a morning break, box lunch, PM break and reception. Thursday we will have a continental breakfast, AM break, buffet lunch, PM break and then some sort of alumni social arrangement. Friday will be a continental breakfast and box lunches for those going on tours.

We will be booking rooms at the Residence Inn across the street and will try to book a block of 75 rooms. The Fairfield Inn on the Odlin Rd. is a “sister” hotel and will give us a \$89/night rate and they have a shuttle running downtown. Ron will also be talking to Hollywood Slots about rooms and parking. **Ken** has been talking with the Forest Pest Council and The Wildlife Society about joining us. The registration fee will likely be in the \$130 range. **Ken** and **Ron** plan to invite UNB and other nearby institutions to join us. NERCoFe did not want to partner with us, since they didn’t want to share the revenue. Their meeting will be held the following week.

Committee Chairs are needed. We need a Program Chair—**Kris** will ask Rich Carbonetti and if not, Bob Wagner. Bob Seymour will be asked to chair the Posters. **Kris** will ask Katie Manende to handle Exhibitors. Gretchen Heldemann wants to co-chair the Quiz Bowl and maybe hold it off-site. Maybe Carol Redelsheimer would like to do the Raffle and Silent Auction.

Leadership Academy

MESAF has been asked to host a Leadership Academy at the 2017 NESAF Meeting. There is typically no charge for participants and NESAF pays for the room and snacks. The purpose of the Academy is to help participants build leadership skills and then become involved in SAF. Dave Stevens is a possible chair for this session. In the past the Academy was held on the Friday of the NESAF meeting.

The theme of the 2017 NESAF meeting is Resiliency in Forestry. It was suggested to have Richard Judd, a UMaine professor, to do a keynote on the history of logging. Maybe we can get another keynoter to discuss the future. Maybe Al White? Another suggestion was someone on the Natural History of Maine/the Changing Nature of the Maine Woods. George Smith is an entertaining speaker and Gary Crocker, a humorist, was suggested as a welcome speaker after the keynote. If anyone has more ideas, contact **Kris** and she will keep **Bob C.** in the planning loop.

NESAF Report

Ken submitted his report on NESAF and the Forester Licensing Board via email before the meeting:

NESAF Report – K.M. Laustsen

- The NESAF executive committee (EC) met last on March 8, 2016 in Sturbridge, MA; just prior to the annual meeting.
- Nothing to note from these standing committee reports (website, awards, policy, news quarterly, or elections). Grants and the EC accepted a final report from RISAF for the funding of their project - Rhode Island Envirothon Outreach.
- There was lots of discussion on finalizing the 2015 budget, as our new treasurer got up to speed, then revisions to the previous proposed 2016 budget, and whether there is still a need for creating a proposed 2017 budget to present at the business meeting.
- Board of Director member (Si Balch) provided a report on his first months
 - National office is currently installing a new database system and management process
 - Focus for the upcoming year is surveys, diversity, and member participation
 - An assessment of membership and services suggests that SAF recruitment is good, actually increased membership by year-end 2015, but member retention is still problematic.
- Update on 2016 annual meeting
 - Approx. 280 registered
 - Film premier is being offered by New England Forest Foundation
- Next NESAF EC meeting is scheduled for June 15th at SPNHD in Concord, NH

Kris noted that someone volunteered to be Chair-elect for the remainder of this term. He can run again for Chair-elect or Chair next year. Si Balch has been active as the District VI representative.

Board of Licensure of Foresters Report – K.M. Laustsen

- The Board cancelled its scheduled February 25 meeting
- Next scheduled meeting of the Board is set for April 28

Committee Reports

Forestry Awareness Committee—Anna sent out her report before the meeting.

MESAF: FAC Report for April 1, 2016

Created a form for event coordinators so that I get all of the information needed to send out request emails to foresters.

Recent events:

One forester attended the MEPLT Symposium March 18 & 19; Ken Lausten assisted w/ the event. Good Will-Hinckley forest management plan talk and panel—Kris Hoffmann participated

Upcoming Events:

ME PLT Events

ME TREE Tour 2016: Twin Pine Camps on Millinocket Lake near Katahdin (July 12 – 15)

AMC's Little Lyford Pond Lodge and Camps (July 26 – 29)

If you know any teachers who may be interested they can contact FMI: Cathy Jo Herlihy, mtf@zwi.net

Upcoming events on the MEPLT calendar:

- May 1 & 2 workshop at Maine Huts & Trails - teachers, land trust members welcome
- Greenland Point, Princeton, June 9 - natural resource professionals welcome to attend
- AMC and Piscataquis S&W, PLT workshop June 17 & 18, Greenville, natural resource professionals welcome
- Loon Echo Land Trust forest field day in the Bridgton area. No date yet but she always needs foresters for that.

Envirothon

Southwestern Regional:	May 12th; Roberts Farm, Norway
MidCoast Regional:	April 27th; MOFGA, Unity
Northern Regional:	May 17th; Meduxnekeag Ramblers Snowsled Club, Littleton
Downeast/Central Regional:	May 19th; Craig Brook Hatchery, Orland
State Final:	May, 27th; Shawnee Peak, Bridgton

Children's Days at Leonard's Mills May 25, 26, 27 (Wed- Fri). 9am-1pm.

Volunteers arrive at 8:30a or so.

Contact: Sherry Davis, Director MFLM. sherry@maineforestandloggingmuseum.org

What foresters have done is to bring branches with leaves, 'cookies', etc. to set up on a picnic table & share some information about trees. Any samples, etc. they could bring would be helpful but they can snip things here. We have various tools that can be used. We also have a chance for children to try using various saws. Tools would be the historical stuff--cant dogs, all sorts of saws, axes, etc. If they have chaps for chopping with, that would be nice. They have picnic tables. She'd like to let the kids try using a peavey. Any demonstrations of chopping wood, doing old-fashioned things like hewing, etc. Anything to share with kids is welcome. I would need to know if someone needed wood for a demonstration.

Arrive around 8:30, bring lunch & bug spray. Most kids take a lunch break. Children's Days are a bit crazy--each day we have bus loads of kids—(2015 numbers: Wed. was 140, but Thurs, and Fri. were ea. 250+ students). They have a scheduled wagon ride, but the rest is at their own pace, kids come and go at any station.

Forest Field Day at Thorncrag (looking for 1 more forester (7 foresters signed up so far))

Thorncrag is an excellent forest with good trails, not far from the high school, w/ parking and an outhouse! <http://stantonbirdclub.org/thorncrag-sanctuary/> We'll have 30 -35 min hands-on interactive rotations and plenty of adults.

Anna noted that Wil Mercier was the only forester who attended the March 18-19 PLT workshop and he said it was good. Their website is also good. Wil will send the leader at Good Will Hinckley a more comprehensive list of forestry professions, since few were discussed.

Communications Committee—Tony continues to submit info to the News Quarterly. He has tried to contact reporters, but the changes in the structure of the media has made contacts more difficult. Anna suggested the Lands for Maine's Future newsletter as a source of good info for the News Q. Tony regularly scans newspapers for interesting articles to submit.

Treasurer's Report

Bill emailed out the Report and the 1099 annual report to the group earlier. **Bill** noted that he needs to change the report to move the \$2000 under 2016 Actual Envirothon to the Maine TREE line above. There are currently 41 student SAF members. Bill noted that the web registration site (Constant Contact) has implemented at \$10/month fee for maintaining the connection in periods when we do not have a meeting posted. The fee increases slightly when we

have meetings are active on the site. Bob motioned to accept the Treasurer's Report, Jessical 2nd. Unanimous approval.

The meeting adjourned at 11:52 AM. Following the meeting at 12:15 PM, student who attended the 2016 NESAF Winter Meeting were scheduled to give a brief presentation on their experiences at the meeting. We asked them to do this in return for sponsoring their Winter meeting attendance.

Submitted by

Laura Audibert