

**Maine Division Society of American Foresters  
Executive Committee Meeting  
February 26, 2015  
Nutting Hall, University of Maine, Orono**

Attending: Kris Hoffmann, Bob Cousins, Anna Schwarz, Ken Laustsen, Kirby Ellis, Jessica Leahy, Mindy Crandall, Savannah Haines, Brian Renfro, Dave Parker, Brian Roth, Tony Filauro, Bill Livingston (arrived at 10:10 AM), Laura Audibert on Skype.

**Anti-trust Statement/Call to Order**

Kris called the meeting to order at 9:07 AM and Ken recited an anti-trust statement.

**Review, amend and approve Minutes**

Jessica motioned to approve the December 4, 2015 minutes as presented, Bob 2<sup>nd</sup>. Unanimous approval.

**News Items**

**CIF/MESAF Joint Hardwood Workshop**

Ken was unable to attend but MFS Forester Dan Jacobs said the meeting was well-attended, although some language problems made understanding all the presentations difficult. The Hardwood Silviculture Manual is not quite ready yet. Ken has all some the workshop presentations on a thumb drive if anyone would like to review them.

**Board of Licensure of Foresters Update**

Ken forwarded his report to the group prior to the meeting (included below) and discussed the items.

Board of Licensure for Foresters Report

- BLF met for the first time since June 25, 2015 on January 21, 2016.
- All Board members were in attendance and all Board officers were re-upped in an election, Sarah Medina as Chair and Ted Shina as Complaint Officer.
- My petition to the Board to allow CF's to have reciprocity and be required to only take the Maine test was not approved. The Board felt I had no standing in the issue and were not willing to modify the rules for this broad-based reciprocity action, despite the current wording in the rules. They recognized that a CF exceeds education, experience, and continuing education requirements of a Maine LF. They are willing to accept and consider a single petition by a CF for licensure in Maine.
- Two interesting rule interpretations
  - Can an unlicensed person advertise themselves as a forester? No, needs an "interested party" to bring a complaint to the Board for their action. [This is a different opinion from what was expressed several years ago when I petitioned the Board to take action against an unlicensed individual proclaiming to a forester in a newspaper article. At that time I was told that the Board only has powers over Maine Licensed Foresters in protection of the public good.]

- Can an intern forester advertise themselves as a licensed forester, because they are operating under a Sponsor's license? Yes, legally, but not recommended to be a common practice, especially without the Sponsor's knowledge.
- Discussion on what triggers the need for a LF to inform the Board at renewal of a Criminal Conviction or Disciplinary Action against their license. The BLF Administrator proposed to bring sample language defining reportable criminal conviction to the Board for consideration.
- Board approved the action of any Board member being able to review and approve the assignment of continuing education credits based on supplied materials, and simply report that action to the Board
- The Board is still trying to arrange contracts for additional testing facilities, currently only Portland. Testing to date has had mixed results of pass/fail, commentary is that the Maine test has appropriate rigor.
- At 2015 year end, 799 licensed foresters in Maine (2013 had 798 and 2014 had 798); 89 licenses were not renewed by year end.
- BLF cancelled its scheduled February 25, 2016 meeting (yesterday). The next scheduled meeting is April 28, 2016. I will not be able to attend that meeting due to a conflict

## **Business Items**

### **Member at Large**

At our December meeting Dave Parker was approved as our third Member-at-Large, contingent on his acceptance. Dave has accepted and is now on the EC. (Welcome Dave!)

### **2016 EC Meeting Dates**

Our approved 2016 EC Meeting Dates are:

**Friday, April 1 in Orono;**

**Friday, July 22 in Ashland;**

**Friday September 2 in Orono.**

### **Field Tour Planning**

Kirby suggested some mill tours, based on the interested indicated on past meeting evaluations. He will plan a tour of the Linkletter pellet and biomass plant in Athens and the Stratton Lumber mill in Solon in early July. Kris will likely pick up the lunches in Bangor. Participants will bring their own vehicles.

Brian has been planning another joint meeting with SWOAM with help from Max McCormack. It will be held in early August in Unity. The theme will be the silviculture guide developed by Bill Leak and Mariko Yamasaki. The landowner has been managing using this guide and the tour will see and discuss the results. Non-timber values will be addressed as well. Participants will bring their own vehicles. This will be a statewide event for SWOAM.

Dave lives in North Berwick and will put together a tour of southern Maine woodlots and address markets and ethics. It will be in September and students will be in session and encouraged to attend. Likely vans will be available and leave from Bangor.

Since the earliest tour will be Kirby's in July, the spring mailing will not need to go out before mid-May. An invitation to the Allagash Bridge Memorial event will be in the mailing.

### **Student Chapter Report**

Savannah reported that the group adopted bylaws and is planning mill tours and fundraising ideas. They will have a Quiz Bowl team at the NESAF meeting in March. The chapter is strong at this point and has many active members.

<Savannah and Brian Renfro left at 9:52AM>

### **Fall Meeting Planning**

The fall meeting date is planned for Friday, October 28, 2016. **Kris** will have **Bill** book that date with the Wells Commons. Various topics and issues were proposed and discussed. Jessica suggested inviting Lloyd Irland to address the history and results of high-grading. Brian suggested discussing the new Hardwood Silviculture Guide and future management. Kirby suggested addressing climate change and issues like carbon credits, energy production, non-timber products, recreation and ecosystem services. At the April meeting the official topic and title will be decided and specific speakers will be chosen. <Bill Livingston arrived at 10:10 AM>

The issue of student fundraising at our Fall Meeting was discussed. It was decided to allow a Silent Auction of donated items with the funds supporting student attendance at SAF functions. These funds have been cut from our budget recently. **Kris** will bring up this issue at the Fall Business Meeting.

### **Old Business**

#### **Allagash Bridge Memorial update**

Jessica is trying to verify all the names of the workers who perished. Ron Lemin has suggested wording for the memorial and **Jessica** will finalize it. **She** will also get a quote on the monument and draft a list of those who should receive a formal invitation.

#### **NESAF report**

Ken reported that Jessica's grant proposal for a distance-learning project with students from UVM, UMass and UMaine and a follow-up student meeting at the following NESAF Winter Meeting, has been approved for ~~the full amount~~ \$3,397, which is not the full amount requested in the grant proposal. **Bill** will ask Donn Downey at NESAF for the funds.

The following NESAF EC positions are open for 2017-2018: Maine Rep., NESAF Chair, Chair-Elect.

All the awards being presented at the upcoming NESAF meeting will be going to NH members. March 7 is the next EC meeting. NESAF is allocating \$4000 for Maine to host a Leadership Academy at the 2017 NESAF meeting in Maine. <Laura left at 10:57 AM>

### **Budget Report**

The primary activity in the new year has been payment for 10 new student members (\$400) and the \$2,000 contribution to Maine Tree Foundation for the Teacher Tours and Project Learning Tree. Current available funds total \$4,418.

### **Student Fund Raising at the Fall Meeting**

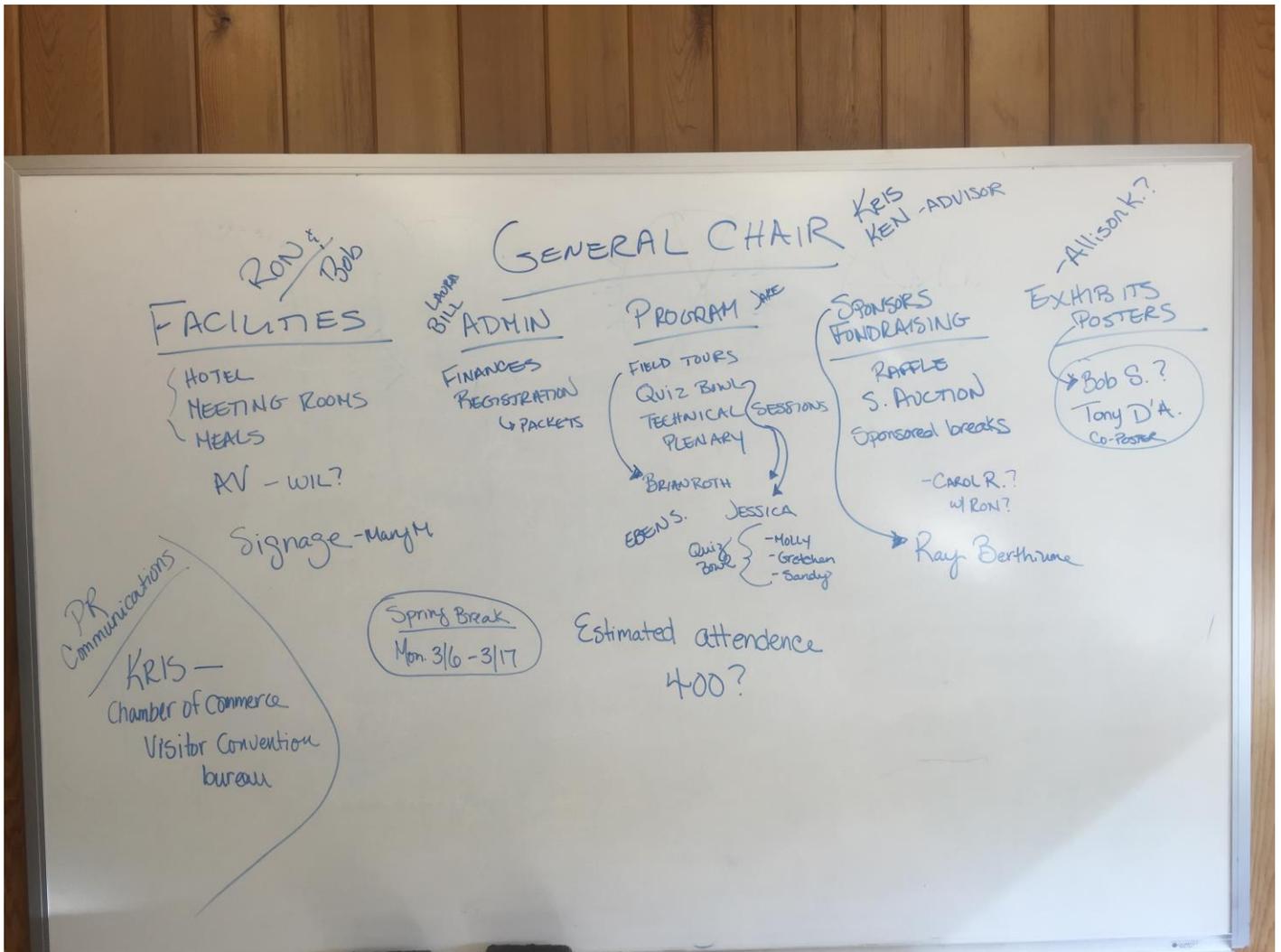
Bill made a request last fall for students to be allowed to have a fund raising activity at the fall meeting. The request could not be discussed at a EC meeting prior to the 2015 meeting and was tabled. A suggestion was made for students to organize a silent auction at the fall meeting and that the proceeds would be used to support student attendance at SAF events. Mindy will talk to students about the idea.

### **NESAF Winter Meeting 2017**

Maine SAF will host the 2017 Winter Meeting. There was unanimous support to hold the meeting in Bangor. The assumption is that the meeting will take place at the Cross Insurance Center and nearby hotels will be used for lodging. The meeting should take place during UMaine's winter break (March 6-17, 2017). Joint meetings should be considered with NERCOFE, NE Forest Pest Council, and the Maine Wildlife Society. Bangor has become a viable conference site in recent years, but others in New England may not be aware of what is now available to do in the city; good communication will be needed to let people know it's worth the extra 2 hours to drive beyond Portland.

Ken recommended that a meeting theme be announced at this year's NESAF meeting in Sturbridge. A brief discussion was made about the need for foresters to deal with changes dealing with such issues as markets, pests, and ownership. Ken suggested a theme, "Adapt, Adopt, and Advance." The committee added on additional wording to where the theme will be, "Adapt, Adopt, ~~and Advance~~; Resiliency in Forestry".

A NESAF 2017 Organizing Committee outline was developed. (Bill left meeting at noon, Kris took a picture of the proposed Committee Organization).



It would be preferred to hold this conference over the University of Maine’s spring break, specifically the second week, which would be March 15, 16, and 17, 2017. Kris Hoffmann will be the General Chair for the meeting. Ken agreed to be an advisor for this role. Ken will contact Ron Lemin to see if would accept the role of Facilities Chair. Bob Cousins volunteered to help Ron. Kris will ask Jake Metzler to be the Program Chair. She will see if he accepts and who he would like to work with before contacting anyone else. Brian Roth and Jessica Leahy volunteered to moderate a session or plan a field tour. Jessica said she would like to see the Quiz Bowl taken over by someone younger in forestry. She suggested Molly, Gretchen or Sandy. Jessica will be contacting one or more of them to see if they would be willing to help with it. Kris will ask Bob Seymour if he would coordinate the Poster Session, possibly with Tony D’Amato. Kris will also ask Allison Kanoti if she would be willing to handle exhibits. If NERCOFE agrees to join this conference, Ray Berthume may be asked to handle the sponsors for the meeting. Ray is the chair of NERCOFE, works for Wagner Forest Management, lives in New Hampshire, and has many contacts in New England. Bill Livingston and Laura Audibert will be taking care of finances and registration.

Meeting adjourned at 12:32 PM.

Submitted by

*Laura Audibert, Bill Livingston, Kris Hoffmann*