

Maine Division - Society of American Foresters
Business Meeting
D.B. Corbett Building, University of Maine
Orono, ME
October 10, 2006

Bob Seymour started the business meeting at 8:10 am and requested any suggestions for revisions to the minutes of the 2005 business meeting. None were made, and the motion to approve the minutes as submitted was seconded and passed without dissent.

Bill Livingston presented the finances for 05/06 and a proposed budget for 06/07. Max McCormick commented that the word "profit" should not appear on the budget sheet for the meetings, and the term was changed to "net". The primary differences from the proposed and actual budget in 05/06 were a higher net income from the fall (\$4900) and spring meetings (\$1200) than what was projected (\$1,000 total). The added income was used to add \$1000 to the hurricane Katrina relief fund that had received \$720 from the student chapter and other SAF members. Also, all costs for two members (Jake Meltzer and Wilfred Mercier) to attend the SAF Leadership Academy were reimbursed (\$3500) compared to \$1,000 originally budgeted. Thanks to the added income, the ending balance in the accounts was 6500, 2500 above the projected balance.

The budget for 06/07 was similar to that of 05/06 except for a \$2000 projected net income from the meetings and a \$1000 transfer to the Forestry Awareness committee. Katie Manende mentioned that a \$500 contribution for students to attend the national SAF convention was approved at the last executive committee meeting, and the item was added to the budget. This resulted in a projected ending balance of \$3700.

The budget for the Forestry Awareness Committee was presented showing expenses of \$2300 with an ending balance of \$1000

A motion was made to approve the revised budget for 06/07, was seconded, and was passed unanimously.

Ken Laustsen report on NESAF activities which included a very successful winter meeting which generated \$8,000 in income for the group. Ballots for the fall election should be out in 1 week with Ron Lemin as a candidate for Vice-chair. Mike Saunders and Spencer Meyer are candidates for MESAF rep. Ken also mentioned that the national office budget is in good shape and showed a minor surplus for the year.

Katie Manende, chair of the student chapter, reported that 15-20 membership applications were handed-out in the first week of classes and that about 6 new faces have been attending chapter meetings. After a year during which no new members joined, the new year is starting much better. Two student members will be attending the national meeting in Pittsburg. A successful project from the previous year, producing a calendar, will continue this year. The theme is "Historical Forestry", and copies should be ready for sale by Thanksgiving. Other activities include noon-time seminars with the first one on employment, field trips with one already to the human resources department, and tutor help for classes.

Gary reported the election results with Chair-elect being Henry Whittemore (unopposed), Secretary-Treasurer Bill Livingston (unopposed), and Members at Large being Jake Metzler, Rene Noel, and Jim Runyan. Max expressed concern about only having one candidate for two of the positions; the situation could be an indication of a problem with the group. Ideally, there should be a surplus of candidates for the job. Gary said that there were numerous people contacted, but we are all very busy. Gary also remarked

that the time commitment for being Chair-elect is modest and has the benefit of working with a good group of folks. Bob remarked that the Division Manager keeps the group organized and running while the chair primarily provides leadership.

One member requested in a message to the Executive Committee that the fall meeting be held at a later date in October or early November. Seymour said that the D.P. Corbett room is only available during UMaine's fall break which falls on the Columbus Day weekend. The room is ideal because it can handle the large numbers of attendees, has comfortable chairs, excellent audio-video setup, and doesn't cost us a fee. There was no obvious objection from those in attendance that the advantages of the October meeting outweigh the advantages of a November meeting.

Cliff Foster was asked to explain a new MESAF award – the Cliff Foster Tell It Like It Is Award. In 1985, Peter Lammert had put in a lot of effort to engrave and finish a pine board that he wanted given first to Cliff Foster. The award recognizes Cliff's willingness to speak-up to explain what he thought was best during his time with the Maine Forest Service. Based on the request from Cliff to start having the award given to other SAF members on an annual basis, the MESAF Executive Committee agreed that the award's recipient will select the next year's recipient. Given that charge, Cliff decided that Peter Lammert has earned the award for 2007 for his many years of service and outspokenness with the Maine Forest Service.

Membership anniversaries were recognized as follows:

70 years: George Carlisle

40 years: Bruce Brockway

30 years: Al Hunter, Doug Jones, Perry Lamb, Dave Lieser, Jack Lutz, Steve Sader, Bob Seymour

Other awards to MESAF members include the 2006 NESAF Distinguished Award to Dave Field, the 2006 NESAF Young Forester Award to Laura Kenefic, and the 2006 District 6 SAF Field Forester Award to George Ritz.

Max McCormick explained the changes in nominating people for the SAF Fellow Award. A committee from the district proposes the nominations, and the committee for our region includes 3 from New England and 2 from New York. The call went out to the membership to suggest nominees, but none were given to the committee. Max appealed for more names from New England; the nominating process is simple and explained on the SAF web site. The district nominating committee will decide whose name should be forwarded to the national council who will make the final selections; the general membership will no longer vote on who should receive the award..

Seymour finished the business meeting by saying it was an honor to serve as chair, and he also thanked Bob Wagner who served his final year on the Executive Committee as Past Chair.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50.

Respectively submitted by:

Bill Livingston
October 9, 2007