

Maine Division Society of American Foresters
Executive Committee Meeting
April 1, 2019 (Approved June 14, 2019)
106 Nutting Hall, UMaine, Orono

Present: Bill Livingston, Tony Filauro, Bob Cousins, Ron Lemin, Kirby Ellis, Laura Audibert

On Zoom: Kyle Burdick, Carol Redelsheimer.

On Phone: Katie Manende Hall, Karl Honkonen, Nicole Rogers.

Kirby called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM with an anti-trust statement.

Approve Minutes

Bob motioned to approve the minutes from the February 8, 2019 meeting as presented. Ron 2nd. Motion approved.

Communications Committee Report

Tony reported that JP Barsky will be changing the summer News Quarterly publication from June back to the original month of July this year.

Treasurer's Report

Bill emailed out the Treasurer's Report and IRS 990 information. So far we have received \$620 in dues and Bill expects the remainder of the funds to come in this summer. Expenses since the last meeting include the Division Manager's stipend and additional student 1st year membership dues. We have \$6267 in our checking account and \$2675 in PayPal, for a total of \$8943. We still have an outstanding bill of \$287 for fall meeting parking. To clarify, our fiscal year runs from Fall Meeting to Fall Meeting, so this year it is October 1, 2018 to September 30, 2019.

Ron motioned to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented, Bob 2nd. Motion carried.

Bill noted that our budget is \$1500 ahead due to increased revenue from the 2018 Fall Meeting. Our field tour registration fees will include a \$10 per person overhead fee.

Bill prepared our IRS 990 information and sent it to the NESAF Treasurer, Donn Downey. NESAF has the tax id for the entire chapter and our finances are reported through them. Ron asked Ken Laustsen to perform an audit of our MESAF finances. Ken agreed. **Bill** will send our info to Ken. We will review our audited finances at our June 2019 meeting.

Forestry Awareness & Outreach Committee

Kyle reported that Pat Maloney of PLT is retiring in August 2019. Her job opening has been posted. Kyle has talked to Henry Whittemore, who is now chair of Maine TREE Foundation. Kyle suggested having SAF foresters set up FIG plots on Tree Farm land in the future. Kyle also mentioned that he and Laura had been contacted by Dean Clark (Machias Savings Bank) about participating in the Maine Forest Collaborative. This is an effort to prepare a database of forestry professionals willing to speak, host tours, visit classrooms, etc. within the state. No action has been taken by them yet.

Student Chapter

Bill reported that 14 students attended the NESAF meeting in Burlington, 3 of whom were funded by the Marc Johnson Fund. The fund currently has \$10,000 and generates ~\$300 in interest each year. Bill mentioned that some students toured the SAPPI mill and are planning a tour of the JDI Juniper, NB tree nursery. They are a very active group. Michaela Kuhn is the current Student Chapter Chair.

<Katie joined the meeting at 9:24 AM>

The group discussed the importance of getting students to attend the National Convention in Providence in 2020. MESAF does not offer student support for the national meeting. Bill suggested encouraging Julie Davenport and/or Steven Sacks to be the Volunteer Coordinator for the Convention.

2021 NESAF Winter Meeting

The group decided the meeting should be held in Portland this time. Carol, Katie and Ron offered to check pricing on the Portland hotels and scope them out. We decided to hold the meeting during the last week of March to avoid UMaine spring break and the NerCofe meeting.

<Karl and Nicole joined the meeting at or before 9:37 AM>

2019 Field Tours

EAB—Ron has emailed Harold Burnett about finding field sites to visit. He plans to have Alison Kanoti discuss the EAB and a Mass. speaker discuss ash management and the EAB. Ron will have all the tour details to Laura by May 1, 2019 for the mailing. Ron does not plan to have a bus, just personal vehicles.

Big Reed—Nicole's tour will be held on Wednesday, August 28, 2019. Speakers include Nancy Sferra and Andy Cutko of Maine TNC and Sean Fraver from UMaine. A coach bus will originate in Orono and pick-up sites will be determined along the route to Ashland or Oxbow. Bob offered to pick up the lunches from Frank's Bakery in Bangor and get them on the bus. Ron has coolers. Laura will send the \$400 deposit to the bus company ASAP. TNC capped the number of participants at 40. Nicole will check with them to see if that includes the speakers. The registration fee for SAF members is \$75 and \$90 for non-members. Snacks and drinks will be purchased from Sam's Club. We need to get lunches for the speakers too. Nicole will ask Sean to give a talk on the bus ride to earn additional CEU's. EC members do not typically pay the registration fees for MESAF meetings, but we determined that everyone should pay this time due to the increased expenses.

Downeast Tour—Bob is waiting to get a definite date (a Friday in June) for the Woodland Tissue mill tour. The max for this tour is 30 people. There will be a field tour of some stream projects on Wagner land in cooperation with Project Share. Bob plans to have speakers from both Wagner and Project Share. We will not have a bus or vans. Our flyer will encourage carpooling among registrants.

MESAF Officer Nomination

For potential Members-at-Large:

Kirby will email Sandra Walczyk and Eben Sypitkowski;

Katie will ask Brett Gerrish;

Nicole will ask Nate Vir and/or Cassie Vir and Michael Pouch;
Carol will contact Ben Dow. She asked Brian Schneider and left it up to him to contact her if interested.

Katie and Bob are happy to help out in the future if needed. **Nicole** will run for Chair-elect this year. **Folks** will funnel the info through Laura. Our target date for a slate of officers is June 14, 2019. <Karl and Kyle dropped the meeting before 10:55, Ron stepped out at 10:30>

NESAF Awards

We will submit the following nominations:

Austin Cary Practicing Professional—Barrie (Barbara) Brusila. **Katie** will find a nominator.

Mollie Beattie Young Forester—Bob Cousins. **Katie** will nominate. We should nominate Mallory Bussell next year.

Ernest M. Gould Tech Transfer—Dave Hobbins. **Nicole** will secure good professional contacts for support.

James Twomey—Kris Hoffmann. **Ron** will resubmit.

Distinguished Service—Bill Livingston. **Kirby** will ask Jessica Leahy to nominate.

Integrity in Conservation—Steve Pelletier—**Carol** will resubmit.

David M. Smith—Brian Roth. **Bill** will nominate.

Other

Increased Communications—Laura suggested increasing the communication with the MESAF membership as a way of keeping them engaged and interested in MESAF. Bill feels that our field tours and other face-to-face encounters are the best means of communication. We can use our website to post useful info and provide links. **Kirby** will put this topic on the June meeting agenda.

Nicole mentioned that the NESAF Silviculture Working Group wants to put up a discussion board on the NESAF website. **Carol** will send Nicole some useful links for info.

Website—NESAF has revamped its website and Bill and Laura feel we should jump on their site rather than having our own. We will consider retaining our domain name (mesaf.org) in case we need it later. **Laura** will contact Wendy Weisinger to find out the NESAF website details. **Laura** will need to learn WordPress to manage the Maine page. <Bill left the meeting at 11:43 AM>

Fall Meeting

The topic will be Certification. Kirby would like to have the same format as the 2018 Fall Meeting, since it seemed to be very successful. Possible keynote speakers are Charlie Levesque and/or Pat Sirois. Kirby reported that Andy Shultz could speak on Tree Farm certification. Jason Brochu of Pleasant River Lumber has agreed to speak also. Other suggested people to ask are someone from Lowes or Home Depot, a local carpenter or SAPPI release paper customers. **Bob** will contact the Wagner certification person too. Carol suggested including the topic of whether certification has had an impact on forest management. **Kirby** will put this topic on the June meeting agenda.

Policy Committee

Ron attended the NESAF Policy Committee meeting in Burlington. Mike Fleming in the current NESAF Policy Chair. He asked that each division provide one person to serve on the committee. **Ron** will confirm with Adam Daigneault that he will be our policy rep. Kirby will need to re-appoint Adam as the Maine Policy Committee chair.

Adjourn

Ron motioned to adjourn the meeting at 12:01 PM, Bob 2nd. Motion passed.

Submitted by
Laura Audibert