

**Maine Division Society of American Foresters**  
**Executive Committee Meeting**  
**January 10, 2020—Approved February 26, 2020**  
**Conference/Zoom Call**

On Call: Bill Livingston, Kirby Ellis, Carol Redelsheimer, Kyle Burdick, Tom Coleman, Bob Cousins, Tony Filauro, Nicole Rogers, Karl Honkonen, Laura Audibert, Jake Metzler (on at 9:15 AM).

Absent: Ron Lemin.

Carol welcomed everyone at 9:02 AM with a brief anti-trust statement and thanking them for their time.

**Goals for 2020**

Bill mentioned that we have Adopt-a-Student funds left over from the Fall Meeting of over \$1000. He suggested we use it to support student attendance at NESAF or field tours.

Karl agreed with Bill and also wants to grow, enhance and diversify MESAF membership. Nicole mentioned that the UMFK students have no funding at all for meeting attendance or travel.

Laura agreed on increasing membership, wants to increase youth outdoor education and working within national SAF to promote climate change policies and activities. Tony acknowledged the lack of employer support for SAF membership and suggested sending a letter to employers to encourage employee participation and support. Nicole said that the many Irving foresters in northern Maine have their own trainings and don't need to attend other meetings for CEUs. Tom noted that LandVest and Seven Islands strongly support SAF participation. Baskahegan covers SAF dues too. Kirby noted that it is difficult for self-employed foresters since they must pay their own way and lose paying work time.

Carol suggested maybe participating in outside activities, Wreaths Across America for example, to increase our visibility in communities and provide others opportunities to become involved.

<Jake Metzler arrived at 9:20 AM>

Karl suggested we analyze our membership by employer type and try to focus on low sectors. Bob would like to get students involved early and keep them engaged. Jake feels that MESAF is doing a good job engaging students, compared to other NESAF divisions.

Bill reported that the Adopt-a-Student program raised \$1585 and only \$300 were used by students. The balance is \$1285. UM SFR as funds to cover transportation. Hotel rooms are \$140/night and student registration is \$75. Carol calculated that we could send six students with the \$1285 with registration and three students per hotel room. UMFK students could ride down in a SFR van.

Tom motioned to offer six \$225 scholarships for the 2020 NESAF meeting, Kirby 2<sup>nd</sup>. Unanimous approval. We will solicit Adopt-a-Student donations at our 2020 Fall Meeting to be used for the 2020 Fall Meeting and the 2020 National Meeting.

**Laura** will draft up a flyer inviting SFR and UMFK students to apply for one of the NESAF meeting scholarships and will send it to Bill and Nicole for distribution to their students. Students will be asked to submit a letter of recommendation from a professor and a paragraph (300 words max) explaining why they want to attend the meeting. A subcommittee: **Tom**, **Bob** and **Kyle** will review the applications and make recommendations to the EC. Applications are due February 7 by 11:59 PM and the recommendations will be made by February 14, 2020.

Tony Guay is the new Student Chapter Advisor, replacing Mindy Crandall. Bill noted that we budgeted \$1000 for student first-year SAF memberships and have spent \$1120 so far. **Nicole** will talk with her students and encourage them to join. We need to be careful we don't exceed the budget by too much.

Nicole mentioned that in other SAF divisions, students manage their Instagram and/or Facebook page. They use the division's account. We should bring it up to the students.

### **2020 Fall Meeting**

The group discussed the need for revenue generated from the Fall Meeting, the feeling that many Mainers won't go to the national convention and the need for licensing credits. Bill booked the Wells Conference Center for **Tuesday, October 13, 2020**. We will begin discussing the program at our next meeting. The 2020 National Convention in Rhode Island begins October 28, 2020.

### **2020 Field Tours**

**Ron** indicated via email that he would like to host a tour on Invasive Plant ID and Control in the Orono/Central Maine area. **Carol** will check on Ron's planned date.

**Tom** will organize a tour on Sugar Maple Decline. No location or date in mind yet.

**Bob** will plan a tour on Deer Wintering Areas. No location or date in mind yet.

In the past our field tours were planned to break even. In 2020 we budgeted to earn \$1500.

### **2020 Meeting Dates**

Our 2020 EC meetings will be on the third Wednesday of every other month, beginning in February, at **8:00 AM** on **Zoom**. The dates are:

- February 26
- April 15
- June 17
- August 19

### **Treasurer's Report**

Bill reported that the numbers look good. We netted \$1800 from the 2019 Fall Meeting, \$300 more than budgeted. We have \$6785 in the bank and we plan to end the fiscal year with \$900. Maine TREE has asked about our usual donation. We will wait until we get figures from our field tours and make a decision then. Kyle offered Henry Whittemore (Maine TREE) for Forestry Awareness to work with Maine TREE as in-kind donations.

## **November 12, 2019 EC Minutes**

Bill motioned to approve the minutes as presented, Bob 2<sup>nd</sup>. Unanimous approval.

### **Other**

Leadership Academy—Nicole thought it was good, well-attended and good leadership. Tom was unable to attend.

Silviculture Working Group—Nicole mentioned that the group will be using the NESAF blog to communicate ideas. It is open to anyone to participate.

2021 NESAF Winter Meeting—Carol noted that as the hosting division, we will need to have committees to prepare the program, arrangements and logistics. More discussions later. Nicole and Bill feel the dates should not coincide with UM spring break (week of March 15).

Following the 2017 meeting in Bangor, we decided we will go back to hosting in Portland for 2021. Carol will work through the Portland Visitors' Bureau and do an RFP for accommodations. **Carol** will look for dates one-two weeks after the UM break. Carol asked that we begin talking to colleagues about volunteering for one of the planning committees and to start thinking about topics.

### **Next Meeting Agenda (February 26, 2020)**

- 2020 Communication Strategies
- Division Manager and Treasurer Replacements
- Forestry Awareness Projects
- Fall Meeting Topics
- MESAF Scholarships/Adopt-a-Student
- Award Nominations

### **Adjourn**

Kirby motioned to adjourn the meeting at 10:58 AM. Unanimous approval.

Submitted by

*Laura*

Division Manager