

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

On Call: Carol Redelsheimer, Bill Livingston, Kirby Ellis, Bob Cousins, Tony Guay, Ron Lemin, Karl Honkonen, Nicole Rogers, Tony Filauro, Laura Audibert, Kyle Burdick (Zoomed in at 9:01 AM)

Absent: Tom Coleman, Trevor Jones/Austin Harmon

Carol welcomed everyone at 8:03 AM with a brief anti-trust statement.

Approval of Minutes

Kirby motioned to accept the January 10, 2020 meeting minutes as presented. Bob 2nd. Motion approved.

2020 Meeting Dates

April 22, 2020 is the date for the SFR Awards Luncheon in Orono. Seniors will receive their SAF rings and the MESAF scholarship will be given. Carol asked if anyone wanted to represent MESAF at the event. **Carol** will attend. **Ron** offered to fill in if needed.

To confirm, the scheduled **2020 MESAF EC meeting dates** are **Wednesdays, April 15, June 17 and August 19.**

Division Manager and Treasurer Replacement Strategies

Bill, Laura, Nicole and Carol met via Zoom on Feb. 24 to discuss strategies. The MESAF bylaws need to be revised to change the current Secretary/Treasurer position to just Treasurer, since the secretarial duties are currently being done by the Division Manager. **Laura** and **Nicole** will work on the bylaws to reflect our current operations. We do not want to overly constrain our operations with any revisions. **Laura** and **Nicole** will provide a draft to review and the April EC meeting and the final draft will be voted on at the June EC meeting. The proposed changes will be added to the ballot for the fall election to be approved by MESAF members.

Division Manager Contract Revisions—Currently the duties are not in sync with reality. **Carol** and **Nicole** will update the contract duties with help as needed from **Laura**. Carol will email out the current contract to the EC. Laura would like to finish up by the end of 2020, but she is willing to help with the 2021 NESAF Winter Meeting registration.

Treasurer Replacement—Carol sent out a proposed Position Announcement for the Division Manager and Treasurer positions to the EC for review. She would like to send it out to the membership to solicit interest for the positions.

Bill is willing to run for another 2-year term for 2021-2022, but the best solution would be to elect a new person this fall and Bill can train over the next two years.

Laura will send the Position Announcement to the membership via email and create a flyer on the positions to pass out at the NESAF 2020 meeting in MA, especially at the Alumni Receptions. **Tony F.** will draft up an announcement for the News Quarterly (deadline March 22) and run it by Carol first.

Fall Meeting 2020

Our one-day meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, October 13, 2020 at the **Wells Conference Center** at UM Orono. We decided to adopt Carbon and Climate as our theme. There are many organizations doing research. We will talk more about it at our April EC meeting. We will send a "Save the Date" email and post it on our website. Karl suggested soliciting our members for ideas or put a request in the News Q. **Tony** will prepare something and run it by Carol.

<Kyle joined the meeting at 9:00 AM>

Field Tour Updates

Bob has contacted IFW to plan a tour in deer wintering areas. He hasn't received any answers yet. Tony would like to have info for the News Q. by March 22. **Bob** will get him info by then.

Laura needs the detailed info by May 1.

Ron will organize a tour on Invasive Species in the Bangor area. It will be in mid-July and will tour a Giant Hogweed plantation. Kirby will speak as a NRCS TSP. A NRCS staff person may speak as well. Ron will find a place to do an indoor presentation and then head outdoors.

Carol will talk with Tom about a date for his tour.

On **Tuesday, March 17** at **1:30 PM** we will have a Zoom call to discuss field tour planning. It will be a different Zoom connection, since Carol will be hosting.

Forestry Awareness Updates/Planning

Kyle sent out an email asking for volunteers for the China School Forestry event.

Bill explained that MESAF usually donates to the Envirothon program each year. We don't have any funds budgeted this year, but we have \$280 carried over from 2019 and we could use this to help. The MFS helps staff the Envirothon Field Days and Bill tries to get UM students to help.

Kyle feels out of his element in the Forestry Awareness role. He would rather serve as Treasurer. Bill reassured him that he is well-suited to his FA role.

The Future Farmers of America (FFA) also has a forestry component and has high school competitions. Foresters could help with this too. Laura suggested foresters could form and coach Envirothon teams at their local high schools. Doug Robertson at the Maine Dept of Ed. (624-6744) has a list of schools with FFA programs.

Carol asked if MESAF should create its own project with FFA or Envirothon, rather than just being a fiscal supporter. The group realizes there is a time crunch for professionals, but outreach is

important. It's important to inform students about the forest somehow, whether we actually go into the schools or not.

Kyle will look into FFA, Envirothon, Soil & Water Conservation Districts (SWCD), Maine TREE, etc. for opportunities.

Carol will contact Shawn Bugbee, who attended the 2019 Leadership Academy, to see if he is interested in a Member-at-Large position or helping with FA.

Student Chapter Update

Tony Guay is the current faculty advisor for the Chapter. There were 7 applicants for the Adopt-a-Student scholarships to attend the 2020 NESAF Meeting. Six were funded from the Adopt funds and one from the Marc Johnson fund. Seven to ten students will be attending, however, Tony cannot attend. They will be preparing for the Quiz Bowl soon. They plan to tour the Irving Juniper Tree Nursery and they have a rep from the Maine Assn of Consulting Foresters coming to speak.

Once each month there is an "all member" student SAF meeting and Tony is looking for professionals to come and speak on any forestry topic. The meetings are on Wednesdays at 5:30 PM. **Laura** will post their meeting dates on the MESAF website when she gets the info.

Bill will send Tony G. Ken Laustsen's contact info so Tony can find out how to get students involved in the 2020 National Convention.

Treasurer's Report

Carol thanked Tom, Bob, Kyle and Kirby for reviewing the NESAF Meeting scholarship applications.

Bill has not received a dues check yet. Expenses since the last meeting include student NESAF scholarship awards, Laura's stipend. We had budgeted \$1200 for the 2019 Leadership Academy and we have a leftover balance of \$810.75. Seven Islands appears to have paid Shawn's expenses and Tom did not attend. Carol will find out if there is a LA scheduled for 2020.

Ron would like us to try to fund some student attendance at the National Convention. Bill reported that our net earnings from the 2019 Fall Meeting are \$1000 over budget. Carol feels that we should not decide on how to spend the \$810 LA surplus yet—we should see what our future expenses look like. The available balance in our account is \$5046.29. All the students were reimbursed for their Fall Meeting attendance through the Adopt program.

NESAF Awards

Nominations are due December 1, 2020.

Adjourn

No motion was made, but the meeting adjourned at 10:04 AM.

Submitted by

Laura

Division Manager