

**Granite State Division - Society of American Foresters**  
**Winter Meeting Minutes**  
**Grappone Conference Center, Concord, NH**  
**Friday February 9, 2018**

Committee Members: Chair – Mike Powers (present), Vice Chair – Maggie Machinist (present), Treasurer – Gabe Roxby (present), Secretary – Sam Taylor (present), Past Chair – Steve Eisenhaure (present), NESAF Rep – Jon Nute (present), Education Chair – Tim Fleury (present), NHTF Rep – Tom Hahn (present), Policy Director – Hunter Carbee (present), Science and Technology Chair – Andrew Howard (present), Awards Chair – Janice Mulherin (present)

Meeting called to order at 11:13 am.

A) Memorials

- 5
- Moment of silence observed for those foresters who have passed away since our last meeting: Jim Barrett, Dan Bennett, Everett Houston, Mel Jenkins, Eric Johnson, Eric Johnson, and Dick Weyrick

B) Review Minutes

- 10
- 2017 Winter Meeting minutes were reviewed; 2 corrections noted – “Executive Committee Meeting” title corrected to “Winter Meeting”, meeting location corrected to Bartlett. MOTION by C. Levesque to approve; seconded. VOTE – unanimously APPROVED.

C) Treasurer’s Report and 2018 Budget (G. Roxby)

- 15
- NESAF Annual Winter Meeting in NH this year – reflected in both income and expense lines
    - Some came in in 2017, some in 2018
  - Budget net positive of \$513.10 vs. approved \$5,000.00 deficit expenditure
    - Partially from NESAF Winter Meeting money beginning to come in; partially from the 2017 GSD Winter Meeting
    - Annual appeal return lower than budgeted due to sending the appeal later than
    - 20 expected
    - Dues line is off due to a clerical error that resulted in the final check coming in from NESAF in 2018
  - Ending Balance \$21,662.12
  - Question from the floor (F. Borman): Is Item 11 meant to be “GSD Winter Meeting” rather
  - 25 than “NESAF”?
    - Answer: No, that’s NESAF Winter Meeting revenue already coming in
  - Question from the floor (C. Neibling): Is that just a conservative NESAF estimate? It has come in higher in the past.
    - Answer: We’re trying to be accurate, rather than conservative. Roxby analyzed past
    - 30 NESAF NH meeting returns and found that it varies widely
  - 2018 Budget Proposal
    - NESAF Winter Meeting income net \$14,000, split with NESAF
    - Proposed spending of \$3,780 deficit with NESAF money subtracted
    - GSD Winter Meeting dues stayed the same this year, but will likely rise in the future
    - 35 ○ Line items added
      - “Forester’s Fund solicitation” added as income line; corresponding “Forester’s Fund application match” added as expense line
    - Question from the floor (H. Cook): How can National SAF match anything when they don’t have enough money to do what they’re doing?

- 40                   ○ \$500 expense line added per request of North East State Foresters Association to support Northeast Silviculture Institute for Foresters
- MOTION by J. Nute to approve treasurer’s report & budget; seconded.
  - MOTION by J. Difley to increase PLT expense line from \$1,000 to \$2,000; seconded
    - Discussion
- 45                   ▪ A. Howard – In PLT report, it sounded as though PLT is financially sound. Money at GSD is getting pulled in lots of different directions. Recommend against increasing PLT expense
- F. Borman – Would this be a one time appropriation?  
                      a. Answer (J. Difley): Yes
- 50                   ▪ P. Hackley – Former PLT board member; while PLT is financially sound, there’s more they could do with more money. Supports the motion.
- G. Roxby gave brief review of current GSD account status
- VOTE on MOTION to amend – APPROVED. S. Lagueux abstains.
- MOTION by J. Difley to approve treasurer’s report & budget as amended; seconded. VOTE – APPROVED.
- 55

D) SAF Council Report (S. Balch)

- Answer to previous question: Forester’s Fund grant money comes from a separate pot of money set aside for that program
- 60
- NH Current Use law is great
  - Follow up on building discussion from 2017 meeting
    - Final report submitted in December
      - Recommended SAF keep an office in D.C.
      - Looked at the cost of maintaining the current building
        - a. Many repairs had been put off
        - b. Recommendation that SAF could borrow money, and then spend \$200,000/year for expenses and only fix the emergency stuff
      - Currently exploring alternative office options
- 65
- CEO departed – now there are co-CEOs for 2018 and maybe longer
    - But there is a job description posted
- 70
- Strategic plan building blocks
    - Financial security
    - Tangible value to members
    - Elevate the profession
- 75
- Grow membership
  - Policy & science
- Approximately 12,000 SAF members, but unknown how many foresters are in the US
    - Doing a forester inventory to estimate the number of foresters
  - Leadership academies are regional now, rather than national
- 80
- Question from the floor (J. Difley): What was sold in Bethesda versus what do we still own, and where did the money go?
    - Answer: Joint ownership problems – sold all of the land except for the footprint of the structure
      - Also a chunk of land is conserved around the building
    - Result was \$14,000,000 – over past 2 or 3 years, SAF has been deficit spending, which will now stop
- 85
- Question from the floor (J. Runyan): Was the survey of membership taken into account in these decisions?

- 90
- Suggestion (H. Cook): Get rid of the site in D.C., and have a location nearby that people could visit – so members could still have an influence in D.C., but not have to fight the traffic, etc. of actually going into the city just to go to headquarters

E) NESAF Report (K. Evans)

- 95
- Working to get website updated
  - Leadership Academy – will be looking for one or two Granite State people to be involved
  - NESAF Annual Winter Meeting coming up – all should attend
  - National Meeting will be in Providence in 2020

F) NESAF Report Continued (S. Francher)

- 100
- NESAF meeting - February 15 is early bird deadline – March 27-28-29 meeting dates
    - Reviewed the many people helping to organize the event
    - Bulk of profits from meeting come from sponsorships, exhibits, raffle, and silent auction
    - Black Fly Storytime to be hosted by C. Levesque one evening
- 105

G) GSD-SAF Report (M. Powers)

- RPS bills – resolutions from 2017 Winter Meeting
  - Testimony & position statement for bill strengthening right-to-harvest law
  - Timber tax bills
    - Didn't support repeal bill since it didn't have a replacement
    - Did support a version of the other improvement bill
      - Formed a subcommittee to study the timber tax
        - a. Carbee spoke briefly about what the subcommittee is doing – looking at the big picture
  - 3 Student internship grants last year
  - Thanks to donors to the Student Incentive Fund to help cover student registrations for meetings
  - Cosponsored several workshops, including the forest health workshop at Fox Forest
  - GSD will now contribute to Northeast Silviculture Institute for Foresters
  - 4-H Program – 9 foresters participated in the partnership
    - Thanked extension foresters for participation
  - Membership – if you're a licensed forester in NH, it is to your benefit to join
    - Comment from the floor (H. Cook): Non-members are not attending the Winter Meeting due to the \$85 cost
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H) Meeting opened to resolutions from the floor:

- MOTION by A. Howard, read by M. Powers:

Title: SAF Certified Forester Resolution

130 Topic: Adding SAF Certified Forester credentials to the qualifications for Forester licensing in NH

Sponsors: SAF GSD Executive Committee

The GSD membership,

135 Whereas the New Hampshire law for licensing Foresters does not recognize the qualifications of foresters with the SAF Certified Forester designation as meeting the education and experience requirement for licensure, and

Whereas the State of Vermont, as part of its recent adoption of licensing of foresters, recognizes the SAF Certified Forester designation as meeting the education and experience requirement for licensure in that State, and

140 Whereas the requirements for obtaining and maintaining the SAF Certified Forester designation exceeds the education and experience requirements for licensure as a forester in the State of New Hampshire, and

145 Whereas SAF member foresters should be provided with incentives to pursue the most rigorous program for recognition as a professional forester in the United States, and in so doing, promote SAF within the State of New Hampshire.

It is hereby resolved by the Granite State Division of the Society of American Foresters:

1. To direct the GSD-SAF Executive Committee to contact the New Hampshire Board of Licensure for Foresters and any other appropriate parties to pursue the addition of SAF Certified Forester status as meeting the education and experience qualifications for Forester licensure.
2. To encourage the GSD-SAF membership to contact the New Hampshire Board of Licensure for Foresters and the appropriate legislative committee hearing such change indicating their support for the addition of SAF Certified Forester status as meeting the education and experience qualifications for Forester licensure.

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- MOTION by T. Fleury to accept resolution; seconded.
    - Question from the floor: Has there been any discussion with the licensing board?
      - Answer (A. Howard): They've been given a heads-up
  - VOTE – APPROVED. B. Simpkins abstains.

160 I) M. Powers presented executive committee recommendations for 2018 officers:

- Chair – Maggie Machinist
- Vice Chair – Steve Roberge
- Treasurer – Gabe Roxby
- Secretary – Sam Taylor

165 • MOTION by M. Chagnon to approve full slate as presented; seconded. VOTE – unanimously APPROVED.

- 170
- M. Powers recognized appointed members of the executive committee
    - Education – Tim Fleury
    - Director of Policy – Hunter Carbee
    - NESAF Representative – Jon Nute
    - Tree Farm Representative – Tom Hahn
    - Science and Technology – Andrew Howard
    - CFE Contact – Andy Fast

175 J) Gavel passed from M. Powers to M. Machinist

- Machinist recognized departing member of executive committee – M. Powers as outgoing chair

180 K) Comment from the floor (B. Berti): suggestion to have GSD Winter Meeting at Grappone again in 2019

MOTION by M. Chagnon to close business meeting; seconded. VOTE – unanimously APPROVED.  
Meeting closed at 12:16 pm.

185 Respectfully Submitted,  
Sam Taylor, GSD Secretary