

**Granite State Division - Society of American Foresters**  
**Winter Meeting Minutes**  
**Grappone Conference Center, Concord, NH**  
**Thursday February 20, 2020**

Committee Members: Chair – Steve Roberge (present), Chair Elect – Matt Chagnon (present), Treasurer – Gabe Roxby (present), Secretary – Sam Taylor (present), Past Chair – Maggie Machinist (present), NESAF Rep – Jon Nute (present), Education Chair – Tim Fleury (present), NHTF Rep – Adam Lunsford (present), Policy Chair – Hunter Carbee (present), Science and Technology Chair – Andrew Howard (present), Awards Chair – Janice Mulherin (present)

Meeting called to order at 11:07 am.

A) Memorials

- 5
- Moment of silence observed for those foresters and natural resource stewards who have passed away since our last meeting: John Lanier, Ted Natti, Isobel Parke, Mary Reynolds, Paul Savchick, Bruce Schwaegler, Robert Slagle, Dan Sundquist, and Carl Wallman

B) Review Minutes

- 10
- 2019 Winter Meeting minutes were reviewed; MOTION by J. Reynolds to approve; seconded. VOTE – Unanimously APPROVED.

C) Treasurer’s Report and 2020 Budget (G. Roxby)

- 15
- 2019 Report
    - Thanks to incoming treasurer, S. Romano
    - ~\$3,400 net revenue from 2019 GSD Winter Meeting
      - Better than expected due to lower venue costs
    - Student sponsorship covered all students at GSD Winter Meeting
    - Student internship program – received and funded three applications - \$3,000 expense
    - 20
      - Left \$2,000 unspent that had been rolled over from 2018
    - Forester’s Fund forest cover study closed out from financial standpoint
    - Other expenses line represents money for UNH Extension beer barrel project
      - GSD only serves to hold the money - paid out as expenses come in
    - 25
      - Budgeted ~\$9,700 deficit spending
        - Actual only ~\$2,600 deficit spending
      - Ending Balance \$27,281.41
    - 2020 Budget Proposal
      - Budgeted less this year for Winter Meeting revenue
      - Forestry internships back to \$3,000
      - 30
        - Forester’s Fund - \$1,000 in both income and expense lines
          - To serve as contribution to make project more viable
          - To be funded through member solicitation
        - \$7,325 deficit spending proposed
        - Proposed 2020 ending balance \$19,956.41
        - 35
          - Question from the floor (F. Borman): Would the EC include money for student registrations to the National Meeting in RI?
            - MOTION by F. Borman to include \$3,000 for that purpose; seconded.
            - Discussion

- 40 a. F. Borman - large presence of students at past meetings he's attended, and other state chapters contribute to make that possible
- b. Question from the floor (S. Francher): Do we know what the student registration rate is?
- i. Answer: Don't have that information on hand
- 45 c. C. Levesque – should be required that these be students attending NH schools
- VOTE – Unanimously APPROVED.
- MOTION by J. Nute to approve treasurer's report & budget; seconded. VOTE – Unanimously APPROVED.
- 50 D) SAF Council Report (M. Johnston)
- Current CEO of SAF is Terry Baker
  - Some staffing changes
    - Baker focused more on customer service
      - Stephen Glover – Director of Membership
        - a. Also hiring assistant
      - New communications & marketing staff
      - Working on iMIS database training, etc.
      - Naomi Marcus - Director of Professional Development and Certification
        - a. Certified Forester & Continuing Education credits
        - b. Also hiring a new position to help with this
        - c. Wrapping up audit review of Certified Forester program
          - i. Seeking to streamline the CFE process, as well as how to reduce costs
  - SAF mansion sale
    - Property around it was sold a few years back
    - Decision made to sell building – offer by developer has been accepted
      - Plan is to renovate and lease
        - a. Currently in 45-day discovery period
        - b. Planned lease-out – 6-month period to find a new headquarters while still using the building
          - i. One month prior to move-out, building will be open for SAF membership to visit
    - Question from the floor (M. Machinist): What's going to happen with the named pavers that were sold a few years ago?
      - Answer: Unknown
    - Question from the floor (H. Cook): The money from the sale of the land was spent. Will the money from the mansion sale be protected?
      - Answer: The money from the land sale wasn't entirely spent; it was used to set a floor (~\$15 million) above which the operating budget must function
    - Question from the floor (H. Cook): What's the sale price?
      - Answer: \$2.5 million (around \$2 million after closing costs, etc.)
    - Question from the floor (B. Berti): Would the money from the sale be put into a fund to ensure it's not used up in a few years? Hopes it's not just to run for the short term.
      - Comment (H. Cook): Recommend setting up an endowment
        - a. Answer: Unsure if such an endowment may already exist; recommendation taken under advisement
  - Membership services will be based on month you joined
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- Golden Member (not to be confused with Gold Membership Level) – 50-year (600-month) recognition – no more dues
  - 90 • 2019 was Johnston’s final year as Council Rep – will need a new volunteer to follow
- E) NESAF Report (J. Renaud Evans on behalf of Jake Metzler)
- House Society of Delegates Meeting
  - National working on customer service
  - 95       ○ Working on getting written down what responsibilities fall to National and which fall to states
  - NESAF has a point person at National, now, so contact should be more direct
  - Leadership academy held again this year
  - National Meeting in RI in 2020
  - 100 • Need items for silent auction at both NESAF and the National Meeting
  - Tracking legislation in MA eliminate forest management on public lands in the name of carbon sequestration
  - In study committee
  - NESAF sent opposition letter
  - 105       ○ Similar attacks in OH
  - Working to pay attention to carbon and climate change as topics
- F) GSD-SAF Report (S. Roberge)
- Strategic Plan – minor changes
  - 110       ○ 2019 revision covers 2020-2022
  - Provided comments on biomass legislation and wetlands rules changes
  - Science & Technology – wrapped up forest cover study – currently under review
  - Timber Yield Tax Subcommittee – looking at the tax and whether it is serving its stated purpose
  - 115 • Had representation at Farm, Forest, Garden Expo
  - Signed MOU with Tree Farm as cosponsor and participant in Tree Farm Field Day
  - Workshops
  - Making Maps with LiDAR
  - Red Oak Management
  - 120 • Upcoming workshops
  - Making Maps with LiDAR
  - Forest Carbon Dynamics & Bringing Carbon to Market
  - Forest Health Hands-on – up north
  - Low Density White Pine Management – at Bear Brook
  - 125 • Thanks to T. Fleury for all efforts organizing the Winter Meeting
- G) Meeting opened to resolutions from the floor:
- No resolutions
- 130 H) S. Roberge presented executive committee recommendations for 2020 officers and appointed members of the executive committee:
- Officers
  - Chair – Matt Chagnon
  - Chair Elect – Gabe Roxby
  - 135       ○ Treasurer – Susan Romano
  - Secretary – Sam Taylor

- Appointees
  - Education Chair – Tim Fleury
  - Policy Chair – Hunter Carbee
  - NESAF Representative – Jon Nute
  - Tree Farm Representative – Adam Lunsford
  - Science and Technology Chair – Andrew Howard
- MOTION by P. Auger to approve full slate as presented; seconded. VOTE – unanimously APPROVED.

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I) Gavel passed from S. Roberge to M. Chagnon

- Chagnon recognized departing members of executive committee – S. Roberge as outgoing chair (staying on as past chair); G. Roxby as treasurer (staying on as chair elect)

150 MOTION by B. Berti to close business meeting; seconded. VOTE – unanimously APPROVED. Meeting closed at 11:56 am.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Sam Taylor, GSD Secretary