

**Granite State Division - Society of American Foresters**  
**Winter Meeting Minutes**  
**Zoom Video Conference**  
**Friday February 12, 2021**

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

Meeting called to order at 3:37 pm.

A) Memorials

- 5
- Moment of silence observed for those foresters and natural resource stewards who have passed away since our last meeting: Paul Bofinger, Arthur “Gibb” Dodge, Tom Howe, and Fred LeClair

B) National SAF Report (G. Kodama – President of Board of Directors)

- 10
- Filling committee positions
  - Moved office from DC to Maryland
  - New fund from mansion sale
    - \$1.95 million – invested; has increased to over \$2 million
  - New awards process
  - New staff - ~6 hires

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  - Budget has a set floor and ceiling in order to monitor finances – exceeded ceiling
  - Officers are/have been attending virtual meetings for regional SAF chapters
  - Membership numbers dropping – below 10,000 members
    - Increased focus on membership and marketing to try to reverse that trend

20 C) Review Minutes

- 2020 Winter Meeting minutes were reviewed; MOTION by C. Levesque to approve; seconded. VOTE – Unanimously APPROVED.

D) Treasurer’s Report and 2021 Budget (S. Romano)

- 25
- Presented chart of year-end balances over 20 years
    - Average ~\$21,000
    - Peaks on graph are result of NH hosting NESAF
  - 2020 Report

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  - \$2,038.71 net revenue from 2020 GSD Winter Meeting
    - ~\$1,500 improvement over budgeted revenue
  - Received \$3,282.50 in dues
  - Student sponsorship covered all student registrations
  - Student internship program – received and funded one application - \$1,000 expense
    - Budget allowed for \$3,000

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  - \$87.85 income from account interest
  - \$30 income from hats
  - \$1,400 of other expenses line represents money for UNH Extension beer barrel project

- Budgeted ~\$10,325 deficit spending
    - Actual only ~\$1,171 deficit spending
  - 2020 Ending Balance \$26,110.69
- 2021 Budget Proposal
  - Budgeted \$0 for 2021 Winter Meeting revenue and expenses due to virtual business meeting format
    - Also \$0 for student registrations
    - Rest of budget remains pretty much the same as 2020
  - Proposed income of \$5,475; proposed expenses of \$11,900; net deficit spending proposed: \$6,425
  - Proposed 2021 ending balance \$19,685.69
- MOTION by A. Howard to approve treasurer's report & budget; seconded. VOTE – Unanimously APPROVED.

E) SAF Council Report (M. Chagnon in lieu of M. Johnston)

- SAF settling into new headquarters
- Working on providing guidance for hosting virtual events
- Award nominations due 3/15
- Seeking District Field Forester – due 3/15
- M. Johnston leaving board as District 6 Council Rep – position open for 2022

F) NESAF Report (B Hill)

- B. Hill is now Chair
- New members
  - Diana Frederick – Chair Elect
  - Joelle Vautour – MA State Rep
  - Still need VT State Rep
- Working on Annual Meeting
  - Entirely virtual
  - Registration is now open
  - 101<sup>st</sup> anniversary celebration
- NESAF bylaws & operations manual
  - Referendum passed for new bylaws
  - Will hopefully approve final draft of operations manual at next NESAF executive committee meeting
- Movement taking root in southern New England to combat climate change by eliminating timber harvesting
  - Yankee Division has produced a thorough informational position statement that has been approved by NESAF; may subsequently be adopted by NESAF
- Working on improving social media outreach

G) GSD-SAF Report (M. Chagnon)

- MOA – support for Tree Farm
- Provided letter of support for P. Hackley as NH State Forester
- Provided letter of support for UNH Extension grant project relating to identifying and rehabilitating poor quality forest stands
- Provided letter of support for Northern Research – Oak on the Edge fire regen study proposal
- Supporting UNH Extension project exploring alternative woods for cask production
  - Beech, black birch, red maple
- Online workshops – webinar series

- 90
  - Forest Carbon series
  - Forest Health series
  - Well-attended and still available as recordings
- Forestry work experience – summer internship grants (\$1,000 from GSD + \$1,000 match from employer)
  - Ossipee Mountain Land Company
- 95
- Yield Tax Subcommittee is ongoing – working on written report for spring
- Forester’s Fund project on forest cover changes published in November issue of Journal of Forestry
- Bylaw changes
  - Standardized with NESAF, now
  - 10 articles instead of 12
  - Changed wording for standardization in some areas
  - Voting for elections will be done in fall online through NESAF
    - This year will be final election at Winter Meeting
- 100

105 H) Meeting opened to resolutions from the floor:

- No resolutions

I) 2021 slate of officers and appointed members of the executive committee presented:

- 110
- Officers
  - Chair – Gabe Roxby
  - Chair Elect – Ethan Belair
  - Treasurer – Susan Romano
  - Secretary – Sam Taylor
- Appointees
  - Education Chair – Tim Fleury
  - Policy Chair – Hunter Carbee
  - NESAF Representative – Jon Nute
  - Tree Farm Representative – vacant
  - Science and Technology Chair – Andrew Howard
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- MOTION by K. Bennett to approve full slate as presented; seconded. VOTE – unanimously APPROVED.
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J) Gavel passed from M. Chagnon to G. Roxby

- 125
- Roxby recognized departing members of executive committee – M. Chagnon as outgoing chair (staying on as past chair); A. Lunsford as NH Tree Farm Rep

MOTION by K. Bennett to close business meeting; seconded. VOTE – unanimously APPROVED.  
Meeting closed at 4:36 pm.

130 Respectfully Submitted,  
Sam Taylor, GSD Secretary