

Granite State Division - Society of American Foresters
Winter Meeting Minutes
Attitash Grand Summit Hotel & Conference Center, Bartlett, NH
Friday February 10, 2023

Committee Members: Chair – Alexa Kosalek (present), Chair Elect – Connor Breton (present), Treasurer/NESAF Rep – Susan Romano (present), Secretary – Sam Taylor (present), Past Chair – Ethan Belair (present), Education Chair – Tim Fleury (present), NHTF Rep – Geoff Jones (present), Policy Chair – Don Floyd (present), Science and Technology Chair – Ranjit Bawa (present), Awards Chair – Matt Chagnon (present), NESAF Representative – Ted Howard (present)

Meeting called to order at 11:00 am.

A) Memorials

- Moment of silence observed for those foresters and natural resource stewards who have passed away since our last meeting: Mike Lambert, Tom Ryan, Tim Hill, and Gary Salmon

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B) Review Minutes

- 2022 Winter Meeting minutes were reviewed; MOTION by C. Levesque to approve; seconded. VOTE – Unanimously APPROVED.

10 C) 2022 Treasurer’s Report and 2023 Budget (S. Romano)

- Reviewed trends in end of year balance over past 20 years – presented graph
 - Peaks represent years in which NH hosts NESAF Annual Winter Meeting; valleys represent deficit spending during in-between years
 - Had one extra year between hosting NESAF meetings this time, so balance is at a lower point than many years
- 2022 Report
 - Income
 - Meeting income: \$1,000 reimbursed from Attitash deposit (meeting was held virtually); \$1,000 for NESAF 2023 was money that came in from NESAF and went right back out as meeting expense
 - Workshop income: \$1,000
 - Received \$2,520 in dues
 - \$16.50 income from account interest
 - \$5,536.50 total 2022 income
 - Expenses
 - Student internship program – received and funded three applications - \$3,000 expense
 - a. 3 students interning for 4 businesses (2 businesses shared an internship)
 - Student scholarships – \$3,000
 - Continued to contribute to PLT and Envirothon (\$1,000 & \$500)
 - \$1,000 contribution for member participation in Leadership Academy
 - \$91.50 of contingency fund spent
 - \$10,747.82 total 2021 expenses
 - Budgeted ~\$7,550 deficit spending
 - Actual only \$5,211.32 deficit spending

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- 2021 Ending Balance \$17,382.16
- MOTION by J.B. Cullen to approve 2022 year-end treasurer’s report; seconded. VOTE – Unanimously APPROVED.
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- 2023 Budget Proposal
 - Main changes are income and expenses for GSD Winter Meeting (\$9,600 income/\$10,500 expense) and NESAF Annual Meeting (\$75,000 income/\$60,000 expense)
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 - Question from the floor (S. Francher): Does the NESAF expense line include the portion of revenue that goes to NESAF?
 - a. Answer: Yes, that is included in that value
 - Call for amendments to proposed budget
 - MOTION by K. Bennett on behalf of L. Maslan to amend budget to include \$250 donation to NHTOA Forestry Field Day; seconded. VOTE – Unanimously APPROVED.
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 - Reduced interest income estimate to \$16 (\$34 decrease)
 - Added Farm & Forest Expo \$300 expense (did not participate previous year)
 - Removed \$1,000 line item for Leadership Academy due to cancellation
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 - Proposed income of \$91,116; proposed expenses of \$83,650; net income proposed: \$7,466
 - Proposed 2023 ending balance \$24,848.16
- MOTION by S. Francher to approve proposed 2023 budget as amended; seconded. VOTE – Unanimously APPROVED.
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D) SAF Council Report (K. Bennett)

- New staff hired
- Implementing Strategic Plan that is good through 2024
- Business operation project – incorporating each of the 30 state societies
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- #ForestProud – started in June
 - Digital communication platform using social media to promote forest management as a climate change mitigation tool
- Partnerships
 - Developing two new credentials in addition to Certified Forester: Urban Forestry & Forest Technician
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- Forest Policy
 - Three new position statements: FIA, Forest Regen, Invasives
 - Two position statements in development: Forest Offsets in Carbon Trading, Endangered Species
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 - Also reviewing three expiring statements
 - Two-pager addressing “Proforestation”
- Bennett attended NYSAF Annual Meeting
 - Climate Leadership & Community Protection Act
 - “Decarbonize” the Economy
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 - Mentor program
- Convention news
 - Can view 2022 National Convention on demand until March 1st – free for attendees/\$225 for members
 - Next Convention in October in Sacramento
- 85
- Forester’s Fund
 - \$47,420 spent on 18 Units in 2022

- Deadlines are February 15, June 15, and September 15
 - Women in Forestry
 - Nominations for national awards due March 15
 - Think about nominating someone from District 6 for Presidential Field Forester
 - SAF Fellows Award – Presented award certificate to Janice Mulherin for 2022
- 90
- E) NESAF Report (A. Moore)
- Working on governance – voted in January to incorporate NESAF as NESAF, Inc.
 - Non-profit
 - Will be registered in NH
 - Will have foreign entity certification in the other states
 - NESAF executive committee will be the board of directors
 - Will therefore be 18 representatives, rather than the 5 recommended by National
 - Bylaw adjustments will need to be made to integrate the divisions within NESAF
 - Main reason for this process is formalization in order to protect against liability, and to mitigate financial risk
 - Seeking a mast for a schooner
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- F) NESAF Winter Meeting Update (S. Roberge)
- Roberge is Chair
 - March 14-16 at Sheraton in Nashua
 - Early bird rate ends today
 - Any changes to the meeting will be available at www.nesaf.org
 - Program available on website
 - Plenary speaker – Charles Canham of Cary Institute of Ecosystem Studies
 - Treevia on Tuesday evening
 - Alumni socials
 - Call for volunteers
 - Vendor space available
 - Seeking raffle/auction items
 - Opportunity to sponsor the meeting and students
 - Review of the Planning Committee organizational structure and members
 - Thanks to participants for donating their time and labor
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- G) GSD-SAF Report (E. Belair)
- Cosponsored North Country forest health workshop
 - Continuing student support
 - Work experience internships – Meadowsend, Forest Society, joint internship between Martin and FORECO
 - Student of the Year awards
 - Received great feedback from D. Phan on the boost she felt from having her effort rewarded
 - NESAF Annual Meeting planning includes some EC members – Roxby (Planning), Romano (Treasurer)
 - Timber Tax Subcommittee and Report – A. Howard, T. Hahn, C. Moreno, P. Farrell
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- H) Meeting opened to resolutions from the floor:
- No resolutions
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I) 2023 slate of officers and appointed members of the executive committee presented (elected in October):

- Officers
 - 140 ○ Chair – Alexa Kosalek
 - Chair Elect – Connor Breton
 - Treasurer – Susan Romano
 - Secretary – Sam Taylor
 - Past Chair – Ethan Belair
- 145 • Appointees
 - Education Chair – Tim Fleury
 - Policy Chair – Don Floyd
 - NESAF Representative – Ted Howard
 - Tree Farm Representative – Geoff Jones
 - 150 ○ Science and Technology Chair – Ranjit Bawa
 - Awards Chair – Matt Chagnon

J) Gavel passed from E. Belair to A. Kosalek

- Kosalek recognized departing members of executive committee – E. Belair as outgoing chair (staying on as Past Chair); A. Howard as Science & Technology Chair

MOTION by J. Mulherin to close business meeting; seconded. VOTE – unanimously APPROVED.
Meeting closed at 11:49 am.

160 K) Post-business meeting item: Timber Tax Subcommittee Report

- Resolution: We resolve that the SAF GSD subcommittee on the New Hampshire timber yield tax is authorized to continue work on the study of the tax and report back to the membership on its progress.
 - MOTION by M. Chagnon to adopt resolution; seconded.
 - 165 ○ Discussion and comments from the floor
 - C. Levesque: Gave thanks for subcommittee’s hard work. Also commented that it is not a given that the tax can be removed or changed without affecting Current Use – nothing is certain where the legislature is concerned
 - 170 ▪ B. Berti: Noted GSD is going to have to sell the legislature on it – it will be confusing to them. Also noted the need to work with the Municipal Association, as well as look at the cost/impact to individual towns, not just statewide averages.
 - R. Klemarczyk: Question – what does the DRA think about the proposals?
 - Answer – not yet known
 - 175 ▪ C. Neibling: Stressed the importance of quiet upfront due diligence with lawmakers and others – need to have a supported package ready to go because otherwise it is unlikely to be understood and approached thoughtfully. Also noted that the benefits of Current Use far exceed the burden of the Timber Yield Tax.
 - Request from executive committee to temporarily suspend discussion in favor of time and vote on the resolution
 - 180 ▪ MOTION by S. Lagueux to Call the Question; seconded. VOTE – unanimously APPROVED.
 - VOTE on resolution as presented – APPROVED: one nay vote, all others yea.

185 Respectfully Submitted,
Sam Taylor, GSD Secretary