

1 New England Society of American Foresters
2 Executive Committee (EC) Meeting
3 Thursday, September 15, 2005
4 New Hampshire Division of Lands, Urban Forestry Center, 45 Elwyn Rd, Portsmouth, NH
5

6 Members and guests in attendance:
7

8 Paul Dolan Rhode Island State Rep
9 George Frame Vice Chair
10 J Peter Howland New Hampshire State Rep & Nominations/Teller Committee
11 Laura Kenefic Forest Science Coordinator
12 Anne-Marie Kittredge Massachusetts State Rep
13 Leo Laferriere Council Rep
14 Kenneth M Laustsen Chair
15 Edward D O'Leary Vermont State Rep
16 Ronald C Lemin Jr Maine State Rep
17 Larry Rousseau Treasurer
18 Raymond J Toolan Secretary
19 Bradford Wyman NESAF News Quarterly Editor
20 Charles Thompson presented first thing in the morning
21

22 Members not in attendance
23

24 Tom Degnan Connecticut State Rep
25 Tom O'Shea Immediate Past Chair
26

27 Meeting opened at: 0934 by Chair Ken L
28

29 1. Standard items:
30

31 Sign in sheet (Toolan) – verify content information:
32

33 Welcome: guest Charlie Thompson
34

35 Antitrust statement: covered by chair Ken L
36

37 Add/Adjust agenda: none noted at this point.
38

39 Corrections/Additions for the June 2, 2005 EC Minutes (Toolan): motion to
40 approve

41 Brad W moves to accept as written, second by Laura K. Moved and passed
42 unanimously
43

44 *[Move to item 2 at this point. Larry R is not here at this time]*
45

46 Treasurers Report (Rousseau) – motion to approve.
47

48 Larry points out that the Key Bank is now charging for everything. **Larry R will**
49 **check on some other banks to see if there are any with no charges or less.**
50 There is some discussion around the possible difficulty in opening new
51 accounts under the homeland security measures. Larry R hands out the "Net
52 Worth Statement". He goes over some of the particulars. Larry R is still
53 waiting for bill from Lindsey S for her time. This is a big unknown. **George will**
54 **talk to Lindsey to see what the deal is.** Our share from the Maine meeting has
55 been deposited. Leo had some questions about the amount of the CDs. Leo L:
56 "We need to maintain whatever was designated in 1995". **Motion to accept**
57 **Treasurers report as presented, Brad W, second from Peter H. Called and**
58 **passed unanimously.**
59

60 2. NESAF Publications – Update (Charles Thompson):

61
62 Charlie hands out various publications produced by SAF. [*Larry R arrives at this*
63 *point*]. The question is if there is sufficient interest to re-do any of these
64 publications. Charlie goes over particulars of the different publications, mostly
65 around their history. Charlie goes over the various issues around the mechanics of
66 getting the publications redone: cost, time, interest, etc. There is some discussion
67 around the pros and cons. George would like to see these publications maintained
68 and updated. Brad feels that the current membership doesn't really care but if we
69 don't keep it up it will be lost to those who are interested. Brad offers that he has at
70 his house a lot of history. George indicates that various chapters also have bits and
71 pieces of history recorded. There is a fair bit of discussion on this. Laura K likes the
72 history but would like to see the material condensed to the important elements.
73 Anne-Marie would like to see our history continued in print. There is some
74 discussion on how this might be done, by intern, committee or some combination.
75 There is some discussion around how we obtain the information to update the
76 existing documents as well as if the existing documents are complete up to the date
77 they were last updated. Ed O indicates that Maryland is already updating their
78 history. There are two specific documents involved in this discussion: "History of
79 the New England Section, Society of American Foresters" and "A Half Century of
80 Forestry". Consensus appears that we should update but the question is how and
81 what we want in these documents. **George F makes the motion: "We support**
82 **Charlie Thompson in bringing together a committee to assist in bringing the**
83 **historical documents (see above) up to date. Charlie will bring a proposal back to**
84 **NESAF". Second from Ed O [*Paul Dolan arrived at this point*] Some more discussion.**
85 **Motion called and passed unanimously.**
86

87 [Return to Treasurers report above]

88 89 3. Results of NESAF Referendum on SAF VOS-TF Report Recommendations

90
91 All items passed with large margins. Ken L is disappointed by low turnout
92 (20%). Ken L will report as shown by the results of the vote. [*Ron Lemin arrived at*
93 *this point*]. There is some discussion around those results. Ken will report
94 tomorrow. We are the only state society who held a referendum. Ken was surprised

95 on item 1 as there had been much verbal dissention. There is more discussion. Leo
96 raises the issue of "clear mandate". Is 20% a clear mandate? Individual comment
97 period ends on November 9, 2005.

98
99 [10 minute break at this point]

100
101 4. Standing Committee Reports

102 Nominations and Elections: Offices up for election.

- 103 i. State Representatives (Connecticut, New Hampshire and Rhode
104 Island)
105 ii. Secretary
106 iii. Treasurer
107

108
109 Paul D points out that he sent out three notices and Ken sent one out
110 himself. The list of candidates is not overwhelming. We have a ballot, we
111 have the bios and we are ready to go. Lindsey will be tasked with getting the
112 ballots out. There is some discussion on the particulars. It will be out by
113 October 15th. Ballots need to be returned by November 15th. Bills for 2004
114 elections have been finalized and dealt with. Can we still get candidates in?
115 Paul D, yes. Treasurer, New Hampshire and Connecticut have no second
116 candidates at this time. Ken L brings up the issue of the Canadian rep. It
117 appears that the Canadian Rep has not been to an EC meeting in at least 16
118 years. There is more discussion around the membership of Canadian
119 foresters. There is a question of dues. Laura suggests we leave the Canadian
120 rep position blank as there has not been an election. Leo asks if state
121 chapters allow person running for consecutive terms. He allows that in
122 Vermont there is only one term for at least Chair. Ed O'Leary will check on the
123 particulars at the GMD tomorrow.

124
125 Forest Science and Technology (Kenefic) – working groups, News
126 Quarterly Themes

127
128 Working groups: hard to maintain positive energy.

129
130 Resources Measurement: No one showed up at last meeting other than
131 Ken L. who is the acting chair.

132 Forestry Systems – acting chair Merv Stevens - is pretty much inactive.
133 Ecology -Mark Ashton was still the elected chair but this year he resigned.
134 Currently there is no chair.

135 Management and Utilization -John Bressette is chair and seems to be
136 working okay. This group is quite active.

137 Decision Sciences was Paul Sendak but turned over to Don Dennis. Going
138 okay. This is an active group.

139 Social Sciences – elected chair is Jim Harding. This group is active.

140

141 Laura asks for input. [note: acting chairs have been appointed by Forest
142 Science Coordinator and should be holding an election at their annual
143 business meeting]. Working groups were not able to put together technical
144 sessions for upcoming NESAF annual meeting. There is an apparent
145 breakdown in communications about setting up working sessions. Laura goes
146 over some of the difficulties encountered with the working groups. Currently
147 has a group of disgruntled working group chairs. It appears that the planning
148 committee has its sessions set up and did not need or feel it needed the work
149 done by most of the working groups. Brad W suggests some better
150 coordination between the program chair and working groups for 2007
151 meeting in VT. There is more discussion. George F goes over some the issues
152 around the upcoming NESAF meeting in NH (2006) and why the program
153 chair did not use the working groups more. There is a fair bit of discussion
154 around the difficulties that have historically occurred between program chairs
155 and working groups as well as in keeping working groups active and
156 interested. It seems to be the consensus that it is not too late for the working
157 groups to participate in the program for 2006. Anne-Marie points out we
158 "need to fix the Bible". There is a program meeting next Thursday (9/22).
159 Ken L asks if he may attend. Diedre Raimo is the program chair for 2006.
160

161 Theme for Quarterly – Forest Reserves. We have contributions. Laura lists
162 them off. We are in good shape for this theme. There is a question about
163 promoting non-profits in the Quarterly within the space allocated for theme
164 material. There is discussion around the mechanics of getting material
165 through Laura to Brad. Brad would like to see an editorial committee. Ken L
166 volunteers to serve on such a committee. Laura is concerned that the
167 material should be an article and not appear as a promotional brochure for
168 any particular organization. There is more discussion. Ken L supports an
169 "oversight" committee which is what Brad has asked for. This issue seems to
170 garner a lot of general discussion. Brad, wants names from each state. Laura
171 has a system she has been using but does not have a set network. She
172 supports the idea of having a "fixed" person in each state. Volunteers for the
173 committee are Larry R (CT), Ken L (ME), Ed O (VT), Paul D (RI) and Anne-
174 Marie (MA). Brad suggest Laura simply e-mail to the entire EC for
175 ideas/material. Invasive plants is an upcoming topic.
176

177 Membership (Lemin)

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179 Ron L is just getting back in circulation after a tough summer,
180 professionally. He mentions the use of different rates for events for members
181 and non-members as is being used in Maine. Students get a discount.
182 Membership numbers have decreased at about 5% over the last couple of
183 years. We are seeing the same people as volunteers so there is some
184 stagnation in this area. There is some discussion especially around involving
185 new people in the volunteer positions. The issue is raised as to potential
186 members and what we see of value in joining SAF. Ken L mentions purged
187 figures.

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[break for lunch at 1204]
[reconvene at 1245]

NESAF Website – Design (Laustsen) and job postings (Frame)

Ken L got hold of Jim Ohler [web master]. Site was down as the bill (submitted to Tom O'Shea) was not paid. This issue has been dealt with as bills now go to Larry R.

George F – question of employment ads. We have a format that should work. At this time if there is an employment ad that applies to forestry we will put it up for 30 days without cost. There is a process that George would like to have in the Quarterly. George goes over particulars. There is some discussion around the issue of appropriateness. We need to see who responds to the service before we try to fine tune the service.

Ken L – two years ago we allocated money to an outside entity to put together a working website for NESAF. Jim has been responsive to getting stuff up there. "The redesign sort of got lost". Jim will work on the redesign with Ken L. What do we want on the website. Laura reminds Ken L that the working groups wanted a page on the site with possibly a list-serve or similar forum. Input needs to go to Ken L. **Laura will re-send material she had originally sent to Tom O.** Digital photos are wanted/needed. Jim will be at our December meeting. One item is an "events calendar". There is some discussion around ideas. George wrote down a list while Ken talked/listened: Main Buttons to include; NESAF Quarterly, Working Groups, Grant Opportunities, Awards, Policy Statements, Membership Statistics, Upcoming events, Contact information, Contact List, Related Links and Winter Meeting information. There was the question of registering for NESAF meeting on line. Additional ideas: opportunities to serve, process of nominating and running for offices, link membership applications to National and/or have a form on the NESAF site.

Grants (Degnan)

Tom D is not present.

Ken L goes over the grant project done in Maine around membership survey. A copy of the report is passed around. Some of the particulars are discussed. This spins off a brief discussion on why people do not join. Ken L feels we got our money's worth out of this grant project.

Awards (Kittredge)

Call for nominations will be put in upcoming Quarterly. Ken L does have the five prints for the Integrity Award. We have old applications but they

235 really need to be updated. Some effort was made to do this last year. Status
236 of this aspect is unknown. Anne-Marie asks about who may be on er
237 committee. She is advised that the voting must be done by the stat reps. This
238 is some discussion around the “backlog” of nominees. Who has the
239 paperwork? Rob Rizzo is suggested. **Anne-Marie will check with Rob R.**
240 Suggestion is made to place a time limit on nominations.

241 Policy (Howland)

242 Policy items has been submitted to web-site. Ken L mentions GMD position
243 statements. Most were updated both the one on the FRAC issue needs to be
244 updated.

245 5. State Reports (NESAF State Representatives)

246 RI – Paul D – Walk in the Woods is being done again. 100th anniversary of
247 state forestry is coming up. Forest Expo is being worked on.

248 MA – Anne-Marie K – nothing to report

249 NH – Peter H – reinstate student program. There is concerns that the
250 redistricting (National) will have an adverse financial effect on them.

251 ME – Ron L – last state meeting was last Monday. Ron L missed it. They
252 sent two individuals to the Leadership Academy. Bob Chandler has just about
253 finished report on grant. A meeting is coming up around the clear-cutting
254 issues in Maine. Several people are running for chair and other positions of
255 Maine chapter. Working on a ew awards candidate for each award.

256 VT – Ed O – Ed missed the last GMD meeting. Tomorrow is summer
257 meeting on Vermont Monitoring Cooperative. Project Learning Tree is not an
258 SAF program. There has been money allocated to PLC for training school
259 teachers. Budget will cover 25 teachers, last weekend in October. VT, NH,
260 MA, ME and RI are involved. Next Walk in the Forest will include Tree Farm
261 and Vermont Woodlands Owners to increase interest and material.

262 CT – Larry R – also doing a Walk in the Woods program.

263 Ken L: State societies are asked to provide items for the auction to benefit
264 the Forester Fund for National meeting. There is a contest around this effort.

265 6. NESAF Operations Manual (Frame)

266 George F keeps adding to the list of things that need to be explained. He
267 would like to add a section around preparing for the planning the budget. He
268 would like to see a bit more planning on possible budget items. The issue of
269 the internet items is raised. We need to codify procedures for the website.
270

282 Ken L asked George to list them out and send them around to everyone for
283 input. George agreed he could do that and would. Ed visits the idea of the
284 Quarterly editorial board. Also he touches on an official contact with web-
285 master. Present officers should be suggesting items. Should there be a
286 financial committee? There is a question about fund-raising to supplement
287 dues as a source of income. What sort of archives do we/should we be
288 keeping? Laura mentions that there does not appear to be anything on the
289 Forest Science Coordinator. Laura's version was blank and Ed Os copy ad a
290 section on this.

291 292 7. HSD Update (Laustsen) and action items (Frame)

293
294 George F will be voting delegate at HSD and Ken L is involved elsewhere.
295 Tom D submitted an issue to go to HSD and Ken edited it and sent it forward.
296 [Ken L wants a motion to support the member's right to choose any one of the](#)
297 [four national publications in place of the Journal. Paul D makes a motion.](#)
298 [Larry R seconds. Motion called and passed unanimously.](#) Other issues were
299 around a discount for students and another around graduated dues over time
300 rather than big step increases.

301 302 8. 2006 Winter Meeting Update (Howland)

303
304 Committee is meeting next week. Nothing else new at this time. Working
305 group issue will be brought up. April 4,5 and 6 are the dates. Brad asks if a
306 advance piece in the Quarterly should be put in. Peter H suggests Brad talk to
307 General Chair.

308
309 Ken L has been e-mailing with NYS Chair around possible joint meeting.
310 Idea of a fifth year meeting at NYS was mentioned again. Ken L wants some
311 input. There is some discussion. We may want to try it once before committing
312 to a long term plan. There is some discussion around the monetary input from
313 the annual meeting which goes to the host state society. There is a concern
314 that state societies may lose needed income.

315
316 Maybe we could be invited to one of theirs without impacting our normal
317 cycle. Maybe piggyback joint meeting on Yankee?

318 319 9. NESAF News Quarterly (Wyman)

320
321 Brad W has a question on possible change of organizational structure.
322 When might it happen if it does? October 2006 would be the soonest it could
323 go to the members for a vote. Jan 2007 would be the earliest that actual
324 change could take place. We could maintain NESAF as well as being part of
325 the four state regional chapter. Can we find enough people to fill the new
326 layer or do we dissolve NESAF? There is some general discussion around what
327 will become of the News Quarterly if the regional model becomes reality. Issue
328 of non SAF member obits. The consensus was we would leave it to Brad's

329 editorial discretion with an eye toward serving the interest of the members.
330 Some discussion of what is due to Brad for next issue from the Chair. Ken will
331 do a piece including a little history and the facts about low response to the
332 referendum.

334 10. SAF Council Report (Laferriere)

335
336 Council has not met since last meeting. June meeting was scrubbed due
337 to anticipated expense. They will be doing a lot of catch-up at National
338 convention. Leo is half way through his term. Not much to report largely due
339 to the problem of things moving very slowly. The Fellows election process
340 created a problem for NH as only one person per chapter may be nominated.
341 Leo voted against this restriction. Brad wants to do an article on this issue.
342 Another issue is the ethics code and bylaws. We have lost members over this
343 issue. Some effort has been made to work with other professional
344 organizations such as the Consulting Foresters organization. Leo feels this is
345 moving way too slowly. Financially SAF is being managed quite well according
346 to Leo L. The budget is break even without convention income factored in.
347 Leo will make the push to have some of the convention profits to go into the
348 Forester Fund. There is work around SAF investments. Monies to be moved
349 from mutual fund /equities into the bond market so as to produce a
350 predictable annual income. Leo feels that the Investment Committee is not
351 looking out for best interests of organizations resources. SAF should not be in
352 a position where it cannot deliver on a program (referring to Forester Fund
353 issue). Brad W wants to know what the policy is on spending money from the
354 current investments. Decisions are made on a five year rolling basis. Decision
355 is made by Financial Committee with input from Investment Committee.
356 Overall Leo L feels that everyone at Bethesda are working very hard as well
357 as the Council and HSD. Council members are all on their own nickel this year
358 for getting to National Convention as a cost saving measure. This may create
359 barriers for some to be involved in Council. Brad W disagrees with idea of
360 putting money in the bond market (such as CDs) due to low return on
361 investments. Leo is thinking he would put part in the bond market and part
362 into equities.

363
364 Laura K would like to have the subject of women and minorities brought
365 up as she feels ts is a real issue in SAF at a National level.

366
367 Ken asks for a motion to allow him to get reimbursed for is trip to
368 Vermont tomorrow. Motion so made by Paul D. second by Ron L. Motion
369 called and passed unanimously.

370
371 Leo L relates that Oregon has a "Tough Tree" award which is very similar
372 to our Integrity Award. Leo would like to see a National award of this sort.
373 They may call this award he Bristlecone Pine Award. Leo proposed it and the
374 Committee shot t down.

375

376 11. Adjourn

377

378 Next scheduled meeting is – December 7th at SPNHF, Concord, NH at 9:30am

379

380 **The Chair will send a Thank You to the facility.**

381

382 **Motion to adjourn. George F made the motion and Ed O made the second.**

383 **Motion called and passed unanimously at 1509.**

384