New England Society of American Foresters
Executive Committee Meeting
April 3, 2006
At the Sheraton Tara Hotel: Nashua, New Hampshire

Members present:
Tom Degnan Connecticut State Rep.
Paul Dolan Rhode Island State Rep.
George Frame Vice-Chair
J Peter Howland New Hampshire State Rep. - Policy Committee
Laura Kenefic Forest Science Coordinator
Anne Marie Kittredge Secretary, Massachusetts State Rep., Awards Chair
Leo Laferriere Council Representative
Ken Laustsen Chair
Ed O'Leary Vermont State Rep.
Larry Rousseau Treasurer
Brad Wyman NESAF News Quarterly Editor

Guests:
Mariann Johnston Website Editor/Administrator
Jerry Milne Yankee Division Chair
Jim Oehler Webmaster
Mervin Stevens Granite State
Janice Mulherin General Chair, NESAF Winter Meeting 2006
William Bentley CT Chair
William King New England Forestry Foundation

Members not present:
Tom O'Shea Immediate Past Chair

Meeting opened by Chair Ken L. at 1300

1. Standard items:
   Sign in sheet (Kittredge) – verify contact information: The sign-in sheet was circulated.
   Welcome: Ken L. welcomed all and circulated new corrected agenda. Members present introduced
   themselves to guests.
   Antitrust statement: The routine antitrust statement was presented.
   Add/Adjust agenda: Additions to the agenda noted by Ken L.
   Corrections/Additions for the December 7, 2005 meeting minutes (Kittredge): No further
   corrections were suggested. Motion to accept the meeting minutes from Brad W. Second from George F.
   Motion passed unanimously.
   Treasurer's report (Rousseau): Larry R. distributed "Net Worth Report". Accounts are in the black
   with nearly $60,000 of net worth. There are still some outstanding debts; NESAF is currently in excellent
   shape. Some of the previous budget line items that used to be assigned to the Executive Director are now
   assigned to the Administrative Assistant contract. Motion to approve the budget from Tom D.; Second from
   George F. Motion passed unanimously.
NESAF Chair Appointments

i. Mariann Johnston - Website Editor/Administrator for 2/1/06 to 1/31/08. Motion to approve the appointment from Peter Howland; Second from Paul Dolan. Motion passed unanimously.

2. Standing Committee reports

NESAF Website

i. Progress (Johnston, Website Editor) and (Jim Oehler, Webmaster):

Jim O. and Mariann J. reviewed the past and current status of the Website. A bobcat photo now replaces the timber wolf on home page. Jim reviewed the navigation of the current design, links, and homepage. Items including but not limited to Grants, Awards, Policy, Forest Science/Working Groups, Officers’ job descriptions, News Quarterly issues (2 years worth), Meeting Minutes, Calendar, Budget, SAF History file, Employment opportunities, Bylaws, SAF Membership Application, Membership Trends, Interactive membership bulletin/message board or forum. Ken L. will continue to act as the contact with Jim O. and Mariann J.

Mariann suggested several changes to the organization of the site. "About NESAF" includes, Executive Committee [with link that contains officers & other members and meeting minutes] National SAF, Divisions/Chapter Links, Bylaws, NESAF History. Division and Chapter links will be a link under "About NESAF". The EC decided to let the Website Editor do her job. Each state will send information to Mariann that should go on the state links. These items can be sent to Mariann from one representative from each Division or Chapter [marianng@uidaho.edu]. Mariann will add a link to other co-sponsors and their calendar events. Maine and Green Mountain request a hot link. Bylaws have been added. NESAF history document is huge and Ken will re-scan this information so that it becomes a smaller document that will more easily fit on the Website. A calendar of pending NESAF meetings will be posted. Deadlines [NQ, awards, nominations, etc] will appear within a real calendar as well as within the individual item category. Meeting registration information will be available on the calendar item; PDF on-line registration forms are a possibility [except paying by credit card - at this point]. Third party services [PAYPAL =3%] is one way to facilitate the credit card payment services and may be discussed again in the future.

Grants: this information is missing to date but is being revised and will be submitted soon.

Membership: a direct link to National Office [with a downloadable PDF application] will be added.

Nominations & Elections; this section is currently empty. We will post pending vacancies and position description as they occur.

The Policy Position Statements section is current. A link will be added to National or Chapters or Divisions or NESAF.

Forest Science and Technology: Lists of working groups and a contact will be added. One or more of the groups may want an individual page. List NQ themes with a link to the NQ issue that contained the theme. It may be possible to accept NQ theme suggestions from members for Brad W. and Laura K.

NQ section is in good shape. [E.g. submitting content, deadlines, view NQs].

Member services w/name change to "Job Opportunities": job postings in a timely fashion within NESAF can now occur at no charge. There may be some redundancy with the SAF National Website.

Should the EC establish a link to Cooperative Extension? This is remains a topic for discussion.

Question: When do we go live? Should we move forward with some tasks that are still yet to be completed? The June issue of the NQ will cover the Website in an article by Brad. There was general agreement among the EC to go live with the Website on June 1, 2006 as a target. The Executive Committee thanks Jim O. and Mariann J. for the presentation, assistance, progress and support.

ii. Delegating the completion of the remaining Website tasks: Most of this information can be found in the Operations Manual and in other cases the assignments have been made.
Grants (Degnan)

i. CT and RI Chapter Annual Progress Reports from 2005 NESAF Grant Funding:
The status report from CT has been submitted. Project completed. RI grant status has been submitted.

ii. June 6, 2006 NESAF Retreat – SAF Forester Fund Request (Laustsen): A grant application was submitted on time with assistance from Mervin Stevens. The National SAF Office approved the request for funds. The total budget will be $3,000. Approximately forty NESAF members will be invited to attend this Retreat which will be professionally facilitated. There are 4 Objectives: (1) Develop a white paper that outlines what professional foresters must do to meet the “Race for the Resources” and other challenges of managing lands in the northeast into the future of 2020; (2) Establish a foundation for a programmed process of professional development in this Northeast region that is undergoing rapid urbanization; (3) Provide a unified definition of what a professional forester is and what a forester should be; (4) Create a strong sense for foresters to want to belong to SAF, along with other professional foresters and within their professional Association. The EC will try to invite some one young member per state to join us at the Retreat; they will be the leaders in 2020. State representatives will work with Division Chairs to name a few young individuals. A (reading) package will be mailed to all invited attendees by Ken L. Continuing Education Units may be available. Attendees include the current EC, young members, Chapter Chairs and Division Chairs. Discussion of a facilitator followed: some members preferred non-forester facilitators; some EC members accept the idea of a facilitator with forestry/natural resource background. Ken and Mervin will proceed and choose a facilitator.

Awards (Kittredge)

i. Status of Status for tomorrow’s Award Luncheon: Anne Marie K. and Ken L. ordered, received and carried the various award plaques to this EC meeting for the Award Banquet. Tim Hawley received the nominee biographies from Anne Marie K. Tim processed that information and produced the text for the Award Brochure. That text was e-mailed to Brad W. during March. Brad arranged to have the Awards Brochures printed and Brad brought the Brochures to this NH meeting. Several of the award recipients accepted extra banquet tickets that were offered to them. Anne Marie K forwarded those requests to Ken L. and NESAF will pay for these extra banquet tickets. For the record, the outcome of the Award nominations follows:

- Integrity in Conservation: Northern Woodlands Magazine
- Distinguished Service: Dave Field
- James Toomey: no nominations
- Austin Carey Practicing Professional Award: Geoffrey T. Jones
- Ernest M. Gould Technology Transfer Award: Michael C. Snyder
- Mollie Beattie Young Forester Leadership Award: Laura Kenefic

Policy (Howland)

i. Policy statement status: Because 3 of the 4 NESAF Policy Positions expire in 12/2006, it is time to review, revise, renew or terminate them. The individual EC members will review these policy statements and we will discuss these in an upcoming meeting.

ii. Update: Pete L. participated in a conference call on 3/22/06 with Policy Chairs from all over the country to discuss how each Policy Chair connects with area Legislators. Most have a reception (breakfast, lunch, etc). One held “Forestry 101”. The next conference call will occur in July. Conference
calls will occur quarterly. Suggestion: try to have Policy Chair meetings at each of the Winter Meetings and National Meetings.

Membership (Lemin): During this NESAF Winter Meeting, Ron will meet with individuals from each state to discuss membership issues. Ron will report on this membership meeting at our June 2006 EC meeting.

Forest Science Coordinator (Kenefic): The NQ theme (bio-energy and biomass) has been submitted to Brad W. Global change will be the next theme for the NQ. The Working Groups have been inactive. They will meet at this 2006 Winter Meeting. There will be more to report at the next EC meeting in June. Laura K. will add the Forest Science Position Description to the Winter Meeting "Bible" to enhance co-ordination of during the planning and implementation of each Winter Meeting.

The Winter Meeting 2006 poster abstracts (250 words) were scheduled to be collated and published for all attendees. The poster committee is not planning to collate and publish the copies. Does NESAF want to pay for this printing? Motion: Ron Lemin made a motion that: "NESAF will temporarily pay for the copying the abstracts for the Posters. The Winter Meeting will reimburse NESAF for this task." Laura seconded the motion. Ron or Larry will take these to Staples tonight and pick up in the morning.

3. Budget (Rousseau): Audit statement has been completed. Auditors noted a few minor items that did not occur in check register (e.g. 1 interest payment etc). Clarification followed of a discussion that occurred at the last EC meeting relative to Leadership Training funding. If all available NESAF funds are not requested or granted in a given year, will the remaining funds become available to those additional leaders who plan to attend the Leadership Academy? At the end of a year, NESAF could consider reimbursing the state divisions who sent a leader to the Leadership Academy. Motion from Tom D; "NESAF tries to support 6 leaders (one from each state) and to pay registration fees for National Leadership Training Academy; if 6 applications for reimbursement of registration fees do not arrive in the form of 1 application from each state, then NESAF could pay the registration fee for more than one person/state in an effort to ultimately send 6 leaders from NESAF to the National SAF Leadership Training Academy. "(Discussion about deadlines to apply for Leadership Training Registration will be decided later.) Question called. Brad W. seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. Ken L. will notify Division and State Chairs about this motion and remind each to apply for these funds ASAP.

Final review - 2006 Proposed Revision and 2007 Proposed Budget: Larry R. distributed the Draft Budget Report for Years 2004 through 2007 (inclusive). Larry R. provided explanation of small revisions. "Based on discussion today, we move to present a revised 2006 budget and proposed 2007 budget to the membership at the NESAF Annual Business Meeting" Motion made by Ed O. and second from Brad W. Motion unanimously passed.

i. Administrative assistant contract: This vacancy was filled by New Hampshire Timberland Owners Association (NHTOA) staff. Ken signed this contract in January 2006.

4. NESAF Operational Manual (Frame) George F. continues to work on the Manual. Laura needs to review Forest Science position. Larry will provide some information on the budget and audit process.

5. 2006 Winter Meeting status (Janice Mulherin and Howland)

Program Committee: The sponsors and exhibitors are well represented. The program is diverse and interesting and includes a wide variety of speakers and topics.
Arrangements Committee: The Committees are currently setting up and working in the hotel! The Winter Meeting registration exceeds 300 to date. The list of things to do differently next year is growing. It was noted that it is cheaper to burn CDs than to produce paper copies of the Poster Abstracts. There will be a "Registration Folder Stuffing Party" in Room 662 from 7ish PM tonight 'till it is done.

6. 2007 Winter Meeting (Dates and Theme) (O'Leary/Russ Reay): Both the Green Mountain Meeting and the NESAF Winter Meeting Committees met recently. Most of the committee leader appointments have been made. No theme available at this time. The 2007 Winter Meeting is scheduled for March 20-22, 2007 at Lake Morley Inn, Fairlee, VT.

7. NESAF News Quarterly (Wyman): The April Issue will be distributed later than usual in order to accommodate and include photos and information from this later than normal Winter Meeting. Brad W. will keep on the current schedule for the June issue. Some format changes have been made to the NQ which were inspired by the Website design.

8. State Reports (NESAF State Representatives):
i. 2006 Division/Chapter Officer Lists: Lists were distributed at the January EC meeting and as new elections occurred in the various states, state representatives updated the officer list and distributed the results to Ken L. - except for the very busy Granite State Division

MA - EOE: continues to coordinate a committee that is working to establish a forest reserve system including the identification of potential locations for forest reserves on state land. The MA DCR is seeking a contract with a FSC in an attempt to Green Certify private forest lands (current use/Chapter 61 forests). In conjunction with NESAF, MA SAF/Website plans are now underway. The MA State Forestry Committee participated in public discussion relative to possible revisions to the MA Forest Cutting Practices Act’s regulations and forms. A MA Forest Forum will meet again during May 2006. The Forum’s goal is to find common ground and address issues of forest viability in MA. The "Forestry Innovation Grant” co-authored and co-sponsored by DCR, MAPF, MFSG and MASAF, is still in the development stage with a goal of improving forest management through increasing use of professional foresters - a marketing approach.

RI - Paul D: State is gearing up for the envirothon which will occur on the 3rd Thursday in May. RI Chapter is pulling out all the stops to celebrate the 100th year of forestry (state forest) in RI. April 7 activities will kick off the celebration. April 8&9: Forest Expo is scheduled in RI. Will purchase seedlings to distribute; Champion trees will go into a computer program soon.

NH - Peter H: Feb meeting with new officers. Policy position not filled at this point. The "Buy a Board for Humanity" program produced $1500 materials and $1200 cash. The Student Sponsorship Program is running well. A Mud Season Breakfast was held today. 140 foresters attended the Granite State Meeting.

CT - Suggestion that 2008 meeting held jointly with NE Association of Watershed Forest Managers. CT grappled with forest practices regulations and failed in fear of local regulations. Towns are now imposing local (169 total potential towns) regulations. DEP recently filled some positions.

VT - Ed O: Dry run at Lake Morey Inn occurred recently! The Northern Forest Alliance is developing a town forest project designed to inspire more towns to consider forest management. Green Mountain National Forest recently released its new Plan.

ME - The Division spring meeting will be June 8 in Jackman, Maine and partial harvesting on public and private land is the theme. 2nd day will involve discussion and preparation of a white paper. The Maine Chapter
will sponsor 2 individuals from Maine will go to the leadership academy. $1740 was sent to Mississippi from the Maine Chapter for hurricane relief. Bylaws revisions are in process. Five silviculture experts plus two others will join in a task force designed to classify/rename harvests with terms that are not value laden, outcome laden or previously existing silvicultural terms.

9. SAF Council Report: (Laferriere):

2006 District VI council election: NESAF is still seeking nominations for the next council member to serve NE/NY during 2007-9.

New District Fellow Committee composition and nomination timeline & process: The SAF National Office revised the bylaws for this process. Nominations are due June 1. Each district will create a “district fellows committee” that will consist of existing fellows; one from each state and district; 5 will be named. NY is already processing a nomination.

2006-2010 Strategic Plan: Existing document 2006-2010 Plan. Each state society is expected to pick and focus on an “outcome” from a list of what everyone around the country would like to see. This document may have limited usefulness locally. It is believed that the local units are already successful in the absence of a strategic plan. Strategic Plan implementation requires a great deal of local volunteer time. NY developed its own plan recently and has been successful with its own design.

Field Forester Applications: Nomination forms e-mailed to state representatives by Ken L. are due by May 31, 2006.

10. Chair Potpourri (Laustsen):

2008 Joint State Society Meeting (NE and NY) – Yankee Division: The Yankee Division will Co-host the 2008 winter meeting with NY. The location is still open to discussion. Montreal was suggested.

NESAF History Project: brief update. Several states have volunteered to assist. Charlie T. will update the membership at the Business Meeting.

New Horizons Project (Charles H. Foster, William A. King, Tanya Carpia and Rob?): NEFF is working with a small foundation in Siberia in an effort to study and develop solutions to global challenges. A Russian representative (from 1 of 89 regions) in western Siberia will be working with the New Horizons Project. 70 million acres of forestland will soon be privatized. The New Horizons Project representatives suggest that there may be an opportunity for a Russian “sister” region to the New England region? A proposal for a cooperative program between the Council of NE Governors and NE foresters and the Russian region representatives may facilitate the exchange of information between practicing foresters from the two regions. Who will participate in this project and who will pay? If all expenses were paid, some foresters would like to travel to Siberia to see how Siberian companies operate and how Siberian and U.S. companies could cooperate. The USFS has a decade old model of cooperative agreement with Russian regions. Researchers and managers currently travel and cooperate with Russian counterparts as part of this USFS model. The local contact= John Brissette. The New England region also has a long history of experience with the private land ownership model.

The EC found it difficult to understand the role that NESAF could play. Maybe the NQ could present some information within the next issue and we can continue this dialogue. The NESAF EC believes this represents an opportunity and the EC would like to be kept in the loop.

Brad W. is looking for MS publisher on a laptop for use during this NESAF Winter Meeting. Larry R. has one.
Ed O. suggests providing an incentive to applicants to the leadership academy that the applicants simultaneously seek a position as officer in SAF.

Calendar: The NESAF EC will meet on June 6 & 7, 2006 at the NEFF Office in Littleton, MA.
1) On June 6th the EC will meet from 1-5 PM and 7-8 PM for The Retreat (Littleton, MA).
2) On June 7th, the next meeting of the NESAF EC will begin at 9:30AM at the New England Forestry Foundation Office in Littleton MA.

Motion to adjourn from Brad W.: Second from Laura K.: Called and passed unanimously at 17220 hrs.