

Approved



New England Society of American Foresters (NESAF)
Executive Committee (EC) Meeting
Tuesday March 20, 2007

At Lake Morey Inn, Fairlee VT

Members present:

Tom Degnan	Connecticut State Representative; Grants Chair
Paul Dolan	Rhode Island State Representative; Nomination Chair
Roger Dziengeleski	Council Representative
George Frame	Chair
James Harding	Forest Science Coordinator
J Peter Howland	New Hampshire State Representative; Policy Committee Chair
Mariann Johnston	Website Editor
Anne Marie Kittredge	Secretary
Ken Laustsen	Immediate Past Chair
Ron Lemin Jr.	Vice-Chair; Membership Chair
Spencer Meyer	Maine State Representative
Ed O'Leary	Vermont State Representative
Larry Rousseau	Treasurer
Randy Stone	Massachusetts State Representative, Awards Chair
Brad Wyman	NESAF News Quarterly Editor

Guests: None

Members not present: None

Meeting opened by NESAF Chair, George Frame at 1305

1. Standard items:

Sign in sheet (Kittredge) - verify contact information: The standard sign-in sheet was circulated.

Welcome: George F. welcomed all EC members.

Antitrust statement: The antitrust statement was presented and distributed.

Add/Adjust agenda: No additions were suggested to the adjusted agenda.

Corrections/Additions for the December 6, 2006 meeting minutes (Kittredge): Previous corrections from Ken L., Mariann J., have been incorporated into the draft minutes. No new corrections were suggested. *A motion was heard from Ken L. to accept the meeting minutes; second to the motion was heard from Brad W. The question was called and passed unanimously.*

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41
42 **Treasurer's report (Rousseau):** Larry R. distributed the NESAF Budget Report and Auditor's
43 Statements and Accounts Balance as of 3/20/07 and itemized updates. Income: Most of the dues payments
44 from the National Office have been received. The NQ receipts are ahead of schedule. The Grants Account is
45 up because of a CD reinvestment. Expenses: Larry highlighted a few items. All accounts are now with TD
46 Bank north. Key Bank accounts have all been closed. Larry recently tried "on-line banking" and he notes that
47 SAF accounts need to be segregated by account number to reduce confusion and potential errors. The
48 situation needs to be resolved. **Larry R. will submit a transfer between the savings and checking accounts**
49 **once this situation has been resolved.** A motion was heard to approve the Treasurer's Report from Paul D.; a
50 second to the motion was heard from Pete H. The question was called. The motion passed unanimously.

51
52 **OLD BUSINESS: Committee Chair Appointments:** The following committee chair appointments were
53 discussed and agreed upon: Membership - Ron L. will continue in this position; Awards - Randy S. will take
54 over this position from Anne Marie K.; Grants - Tom D. will continue in this position; Policy - Pete H. will
55 continue in this position; Nominations - Paul will continue in this position.
56 (Roger D. joined the EC during this discussion).

57
58 **NEW BUSINESS:**

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60 **2. Electronic Ballots for all NESAF elections:** George reviewed an e-mail that he received from the
61 National Office relative to a newly designed and soon to be instituted protocol for elections (National).
62 Local elections could proceed electronically as well - if desired. A flat fee will help defray costs and the fee
63 will be based on membership numbers. This new process should reduce the costs of the former US mail
64 format. For NESAF, this electronic election process will cost about \$220. Members may also select to vote
65 by mail (200 NESAF members do not list e-mail addresses. NESAF now pays about \$800 to mail ballots. Paul
66 D. anticipates that this new system may work well and may increase the voting response from NESAF
67 members. Question about how NESAF (or the National Office) will merge the electronic votes with the
68 mailed votes? Can NESAF opt into this system and opt out of this system at a later date? This system will be
69 available by September 1st. The National Office requests a response relative to NESAF's willingness to join
70 this system before April 1st. **Brad moved that we accept this option. Does anything in the by-laws keep us**
71 **from agreeing to this? Ken L. checked. The tellers committee will still need to verify the ballots according to**
72 **by-laws. Can this really be used by all sub-groups? NESAF's local units maintain a variety of schedules for**
73 **ballots and elections. Ken L. seconded this motion. The motion passed unanimously. George F. will return our**
74 **decision to National and will announce this at membership meeting. George F. will ask National: Who will tally**
75 **results and how? Do all elections need to happen at the same time?**

76
77 **3. Standing Committee reports:**

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79 **Nominations and Election (Dolan):** The terms for the RI, NH and CT state representative will
80 expire at year-end. The NESAF secretary and treasurer terms will also expire. NESAF seeks nominations
81 for these positions before the election this fall. **The EC members will begin to solicit new names and submit**
82 **them to Paul D. If NESAF decides to accept the option of electronic elections (before the Oct elections)**
83 **NESAF needs to be ready immediately following the National elections.**

84
85 **Policy (Howland): Presentation of the final "Global Climate Change" Policy Position:** Pete H.
86 distributed this final version of the proposed policy which is also available on the NESAF website. The
87 Committee reviewed the version and made the following suggestions: a) remove "draft #6"; b) full literature

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88 citations and website links could be added. Mariann already looked these up for the web version - this policy
89 will appear in the NQ. **Pete H. will write a 2-3 sentence intro for Brad W.**

90
91 **Membership (Lemin):** Ron L. submitted all membership report information from various states to
92 Roger D. The overwhelming majority of members accept all parts of the proposal. Maine made suggestions
93 relative to retired members and initial membership fees. The SAF Council will vote on these this weekend.
94 Other constitutional changes will be presented to members on the next ballot. Technician member status and
95 other items remain an issue in some regions of the country.

96
97 i. **Focus groups and surveys:** **Ron L. offered to serve on this group that will focus on those**
98 **additional services that the National Office can supply to state units.**

100 **Forest Science Coordinator (Harding): General Comments:** Jim H. discussed the themes for the
101 NQ. Beech bark disease represents his first theme. Jessica Leahy from Maine will take over as one of the
102 working group chairs. The working group meetings were originally removed from the winter meeting schedule
103 but have now been added into the schedule. Jim H. was contacted by Jerry Milne and Jim H. will work as
104 poster chair for 2008 winter meeting.

105
106 **NESAF Website (Johnston):**

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108 i. **Affiliate Website Links** - still a work in progress. One comment from MA chair relative
109 to links which seemed to represent a good strategy. Mariann distributed a spreadsheet
110 for members to review as well as a list of national links that are available at SAF's
111 national site.
112
113 ii. **Results of design change and maintenance contract research** - the conversion of
114 NESAF'S current site status. Mariann J. e-mailed a request for proposals (RFP) to the
115 Executive Committee to review. Spencer M. noted that it will remain the responsibility of
116 each unit to decide how much or how little they want to use their own sites. The calendar
117 will be a NESAF calendar - not a state calendar but rather with links that relate back to
118 state sites and state information (if desired). The next step will be to put this site
119 conversion project out to bid. Jim O. is trying to work out the details of database driven
120 websites and Jim O. would like to stay in the NESAF loop. Jim O. may submit a bid to
121 NESAF. **The NESAF EC members who know of other consultants should let Mariann so**
122 **that she can send information to them. Mariann J. will E-mail all Executive Committee**
123 **members to remind them that she is looking for any consultant names that we know about.**
124 **EC members that see changes to the RFP list should contact Mariann. Ron L., Jim H.,**
125 **Ken L., and Spencer M. all agree to volunteer to serve with Mariann J. on a committee**
126 **that will review the proposals (due April 20th).**

127
128 **Grants (Degnan):** The NESAF grants fund has about \$950 plus the CT dollars that will be returned
129 soon. CT has 2 ideas and they will submit new grant proposals. New proposals should be submitted through
130 each state chapter to NESAF by the deadline, December 15th (if possible, prior to the EC meeting, Dec 12th
131 2007).

132
133 Tom D. correctly noted that the EC meeting minutes from 1/ 23/07 do not accurately reflect the EC's full
134 discussion of two questions relative to CT's request for flexibility in the Grant proposal format. The first
135 question was from Bill Bentley. Bill B. asked if NESAF could consider a request from CT before December

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136 2007 (because one new CT project will require funding earlier in the fall). Ken L. suggested that CT request
137 funds from the Forester's Fund which has available funds and a more flexible deadline. Ken L. made a motion
138 and Spencer M. seconded a motion to amend the January minutes to more accurately reflect this
139 conversation. The motion passed unanimously. Anne Marie K. will amend the January EC meeting minutes and
140 e-mail them to EC members. The March EC meeting minutes now reflect this motion.

141 **Awards (Kittredge):** All award categories will be awarded at the Annual Meeting Award Banquet.
142 Randy S. will be available to assist nominators as the plaques and the print are handed out. Three (3) more
143 prints are still "in stock" and being stored by Ken L. for future recipients of the Integrity in Conservation
144 Award. Field forester nominations are due to Roger D. by May 31st. Review by council will occur in October.
145 (The EC recessed for a brief break at 2:45 and reconvened at 3:00.)
146

147 **4. Budget (Rousseau):** A 3rd Draft of the Budget was distributed. Income revisions include: The March CD
148 is now included. The expense modifications include: increased NQ expenses from \$4000 to \$5000; website
149 maintenance stipend was zeroed (converted to a new hourly rate). Grants: removed Leadership Academy.
150 The new electronic format for elections may change the expense line but the EC decided to leave this item
151 the same until we test the system. A website one time fee (\$1,200 - \$1,300 fee may represent a reasonable
152 estimate) needs to be considered. Individual state unit charges may help with this fee. Does NESAF need to
153 add an expense line for this new website expense? A motion was heard from Ken L. to increase the line item
154 for website maintenance and enhancement expenses from \$1000 to \$2000 for 2007 budget. A second was
155 heard from Brad W. This motion passed unanimously. Tom D. moved to approve the 2007 and 2008 budgets
156 as revised. Pete H. seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously passed. The Audit report has been
157 received, and statements are found to be in good shape. This will be noted at business meeting tomorrow.
158

159 (Jerry Milne joined the meeting at this point)

160 **5. 2008 Joint NE/NY Meeting - status (Milne):** The contract for the meeting has been signed with the
161 Saratoga Hotel and Conference Center, for February 26-29, 2008. SAF will do electronic registrations and
162 name tags at the national office. The traditional hockey game at a rink or park may include liability issues
163 that need to be worked out. NYSAF members are enthusiastic about this meeting. Much of NYSAF
164 membership is from eastern New York. Hayes and Savage and Roger D. have been working with NESAF.
165 Jerry M. distributed brochures for the Saratoga area. Representatives from Saratoga attended the Yankee
166 Division meeting last month. All costs and revenues will be split between NYSAF and NESAF. Anticipated
167 attendees exceed 400. NYSAF used the National Office last year for registrations (including nametags) for
168 a cost of \$5 /person and that worked well. The business meeting schedule may change compared to NESAF's
169 traditional schedule. All committees will have NYSAF/NESAF co-chairs. No theme has been decided on yet.
170 Jerry will hand out brochures at the banquet and business meeting. Ken L. reminded all that NESAF has
171 exhibit booth here at this winter meeting and Jerry M. could leave Saratoga information at the NESAF
172 booth. Randy S. will e-mail or talk to Jerry M. about hockey game liability insurance alternatives. A (Federal)
173 government room rate will be available at Saratoga. Committee chair still needed for sponsorships committee
174 and a few others.
175

176 **6. 2007 Winter Meeting (O'Leary):** About 300 pre-registrations have been received. The Hotel will set
177 the dining room up for 400 attendees. All overnight rooms have been booked. A Northern Forest Center
178 exhibit "Ways of the Woods" will arrive tomorrow and be located in the parking lot for NESAF Winter
179 Meeting. 292 NESAF members have pre-registered. The Hotel has been cooperative. Everything is ready for
180 a great meeting in this new location.
181

182 **7. NESAF News Quarterly (Wyman):** The spring issue is shaping up. Another larger than normal issue is

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183 anticipated this time and will include the winter meeting materials. **Brad W. will advertise the need for a new**
184 **NQ editor in this issue of the NQ.**

185

186 **8. State Reports (NESAF State Representatives):**

187 MA - Randy Stone: A March 7th meeting represented the combined membership of MAPF and MA SAF and
188 information was presented on the following subjects: changes to the Current Use Law (Chapter 61, Chapter
189 61A and Chapter 61B) and the MA Forest Cutting Practices Act, Chapter 132; forest health issues (winter
190 moth projections); and soil scientists' presentation on web-based soil survey reports for forestry
191 applications. The Massachusetts' Sawmill Directory is complete and will soon be available electronically.

192

193 RI - Paul D: Liberty Tree planting ceremonies will become a part of the Arbor Day celebration with American
194 Forests and SAF as sponsors. RI's participation in the Envirothon continues. No annual membership meeting
195 has been scheduled yet.

196

197 NH - Peter H: The 2007 Winter Meeting was held in Waterville Valley on February 9th. The budget was
198 increased and new officers were elected. The keynote presentation focused on who will manage our forest in
199 the future and included a panel-discussion. Over 150 foresters attended. George Frame was presented with
200 NH Forester of the Year Award. The booth at The February Farm to Forest program was a success. Two
201 memorials were noted for deceased members. The SAF student sponsorship continues and is going well. A
202 recent meeting sponsored by SPNHF and others attracted 360 attendees interested in the climate change
203 issues. The meeting included presentations from regional and national experts.

204

205 CT - Tom Degnan: At the January 24th Annual Meeting, members discussed the membership analysis and
206 proposals to retain members. Members also discussed NESAF's white paper. New officers were elected.
207 Spring and late summer/fall meeting are being planned including: April 2007: Family Day Tour of a local ship
208 yard. Tom D. apologized for missing last two EC meetings due to new job duties. Tom D was congratulated for
209 new career change.

210

211 VT - Ed O: A legislative breakfast scheduled February 2nd was followed by a 10AM business meeting that
212 focused on exotic invasive plants and the state's wildlife conservation plan. The Governor was invited to
213 legislative breakfast and he attended. A Vermont facility (Seyon Ranch State Park) is available for NESAF's
214 June meeting. Ginger Anderson has been appointed, Chief of Forest Management. The Winter and Summer
215 Meetings have been planned (jointly with TWS and SAF). The VT Wildlife Coalition is discussing alternative
216 funding sources and a position statement that will help to enhance the Department's funding. The Green
217 Mountain is discussing this option. The Vice-chair position is still vacant.

218

219 ME - Spencer M.: The MESAF May 24th spring meeting has been scheduled. ME SAF addressed the Forest
220 License Board issues in Maine and prepared a letter to the Governor that addresses issues and provides
221 suggested ideas for improvements. ME SAF suggested the use of the CF as long-term replacement to state
222 license requirements. No response has been received from the Governor to date. The Forestry Awareness
223 project generated a regional list of committee PLT facilitators that can help with the connection between
224 teachers and foresters. MESAF intends to offset elected committee members' costs in an effort to
225 encourage more members to serve. MESAF will consider charging a minimal fee for attendance at the spring
226 meeting. In response to the elimination of the 2007 Leadership Academy, ME SAF moved \$2,000 to two
227 scholarship funds at the University of Maine.

228

229 **9. SAF Council Report: (Dziengeleski):** Roger D. will serve on the finance committee. Barbara Burns agreed

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230 to serve on the Fellow Nominations Committee that will meet soon. NESAF now has 1,032 members. Roger D.
231 will attend the Council meeting this weekend. Membership changes that have been discussed will not be voted
232 on at the Council meeting this weekend. Roger D. distributed a copy of the SAF Position Development
233 Process text for the EC to review.

234
235 Roger D. updated the EC on the following items.

- 236 ▪ The Field forester nominations will be due to Roger D. before May 31st.
- 237 ▪ The EC and NESAF members should work on nominations for National Awards soon.
- 238 ▪ Any agenda items that NESAF would like presented to Council are due by the first week of February.
- 239 ▪ Roger expressed willingness to help present items from NESAF to Council.
- 240 ▪ The monthly reports from Roger to Council represent yet another opportunity for NESAF to present
241 ideas, issues and concerns (and are not just limited to good news stories).
- 242 ▪ All NESAF feedback relative to by-law changes will help Roger to best represent NESAF.
- 243 ▪ Fellow Nominations will be due soon and will be restricted somewhat by a more accelerated timeline
244 by the National Office.
- 245 ▪ The attendees at the recent 2006 Leadership Academy suggested an association name change (from
246 the Society of American Foresters to the Society of American Forests). This conceptual idea will
247 become part of a longer National debate.

248 249 **10. Chair Potpourri (Frame):**

250
251 a. Final tally: Golden Member and Award winners 'free lunch': Carl VanHusen would like a presentation of
252 golden member award at a Maine meeting as soon as possible. Three of the six Golden Members plan to
253 attend the Award Banquet to receive their awards. NEAF may want to develop a policy that describes the
254 process by which the Golden Member Award recipients' banquet tickets are paid for by NESAF. Does NESAF
255 want to continue this tradition? A motion was heard from Paul D. that NESAF will pay for 2 tickets (1 ticket
256 recipient may be needed to provide transportation for Golden Members to attend banquet); a second to the
257 motion was heard from Ed O. A motion was heard from Spencer M. for NESAF to make 2 banquet tickets
258 available for other award recipients (Award recipient plus escort). A second was heard from Ed O. Ken L.
259 made a motion relative to Fellows recipients that each Fellows recipient will receive 2 banquet tickets. A
260 second was heard from Tom L. All three motions were called and all three motions passed. One abstention
261 was noted (from Brad W.)

262
263 b. HSD Conveners - the big topics include: Member focus groups, SAF Name Change, Fellows Committee and
264 by-law changes. George F. reviewed HSD values and function. HSD will consider a new HSD annual award.
265 Ideas/issues that should be brought to HSD should be forwarded to George F. **George F. will e-mailed the**
266 **Issue Forms and Success Story Forms to EC members.** This next meeting will be in Portland, Oregon this
267 year. Ken L. will present the white paper at this winter meeting.

268
269 **11. Other items for the good of the order:** None heard.

270
271 **Calendar: The NESAF EC will next meet on 6/19/2007 at Seyon Lodge State Park, Groton VT**
272 **(9:30AM).**

273
274 **A motion to adjourn was heard from Ken L. and a second from Jim H. The motion passed unanimously.**
275 **The meeting adjourned at 4:15 PM.**

276