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

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

NEW BUSINESS:

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

3. Standing Committee reports:

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

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

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

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

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

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

NESAF Website (Johnston):

i. Affiliate Website Links - still a work in progress. One comment from MA chair relative to links which seemed to represent a good strategy. Mariann distributed a spreadsheet for members to review as well as a list of national links that are available at SAF's national site.

ii. Results of design change and maintenance contract research - the conversion of NESAF's current site status. Mariann J. e-mailed a request for proposals (RFP) to the Executive Committee to review. Spencer M. noted that it will remain the responsibility of each unit to decide how much or how little they want to use their own sites. The calendar will be a NESAF calendar - not a state calendar but rather with links that relate back to state sites and state information (if desired). The next step will be to put this site conversion project out to bid. Jim O. is trying to work out the details of database driven websites and Jim O. would like to stay in the NESAF loop. Jim O. may submit a bid to NESAF. The NESAF EC members who know of other consultants should let Mariann so that she can send information to them. Mariann J. will E-mail all Executive Committee members to remind them that she is looking for any consultant names that we know about. EC members that see changes to the RFP list should contact Mariann. Ron L., Jim H., Ken L., and Spencer M. all agree to volunteer to serve with Mariann J. on a committee that will review the proposals (due April 20th).

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

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

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

Awards (Kittredge): All award categories will be awarded at the Annual Meeting Award Banquet. Randy S. will be available to assist nominators as the plaques and the print are handed out. Three (3) more prints are still “in stock” and being stored by Ken L. for future recipients of the Integrity in Conservation Award. Field forester nominations are due to Roger D. by May 31st. Review by council will occur in October.

(The EC recessed for a brief break at 2:45 and reconvened at 3:00.)

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

(Jerry Milne joined the meeting at this point)

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

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

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

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

8. State Reports (NESAF State Representatives):

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

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

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

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

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

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

9. SAF Council Report: (Dzienieleski): Roger D. will serve on the finance committee. Barbara Burns agreed
Roger D. updated the EC on the following items.

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

10. Chair Potpourri (Frame):

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

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

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

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

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