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2 **New England Society of American Foresters (NESAF)**  
3 **Executive Committee (EC) Meeting**  
4 **Wednesday, December 12, 2007**

5  
6 Location: SPNF Office, Concord NH  
7

8 **Members present:**

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

24  
25 **Guests:**

26 Joseph P. Barsky (2008 newly elected) Connecticut State Representative  
27 Merv Stevens NESAF Fellow  
28

29 **Members not present:**

30 Don Floyd Canadian Representative  
31

32 **Meeting opened by NESAF Chair, George Frame at 9:35 AM**  
33

34 **A. Standard items:**

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

36 **Welcome:** George F. welcomed all EC members.

37 **Antitrust statement:** The antitrust statement was presented.

38 **Add/Adjust agenda:** Under item (7) add new 2008 meetings; under item B (Old Business) add the  
39 History Project; and under item B. (Old business) discuss the easels.

40 **Corrections/Additions for the September 12, 2007 EC meeting minutes (Kittredge):** Previous  
41 corrections from Ken L. have been incorporated into the draft minutes. No new corrections were suggested.

42 **A motion was heard from Ken L. to accept the meeting minutes; a second to the motion was heard from Jim**  
43 **H. The question was called and passed unanimously.**  
44

45 (Tom D. joined EC at this point.)

46

47 **Treasurer's Report (Rousseau):** Larry R. distributed the NESAF Net Worth Balance as of 12/12/07  
48 and Budget Report as of 12/12/07. Larry noted the increase in EC operating fund, the increased award  
49 expense for duplicating integrity award (3 times) and website expenses (includes redesign); total assets of  
50 \$56,586.18. In review of the budget, income to date is \$32,322.63; expenses to date are \$29,007.87. **A**  
51 **motion was heard from Brad W. to approve the Treasurer's Report; a second to the motion was heard from**  
52 **Spencer M. The question was called and the motion passed unanimously.**

53

#### 54 **B. Old Business:**

55

56 **NE/NY Winter Meeting Update:** Jerry Milne (through Larry R.) reported that Winter Meeting is  
57 still on track (2/27-29). The NYSAF newsletter is out with meeting information and so far 21 members have  
58 registered on line. Jim H. is in charge of the NESAF graduate student research and has received no student  
59 submissions yet and is hoping to get the word out. This is a new program for NESAF and students may need a  
60 little encouragement.

61

62 Paul D. is working on the auction and will be looking for items. A discussion continued about whether or not  
63 the proceeds will go to NESAF or to the foresters' fund.

64

65 **Easels (Spencer M.):** NESAF is currently paying \$65/month to store the easels. Spencer M. brought  
66 a \$42 version of a more modern easel to the EC meeting that is both sturdy and compact. In larger volumes  
67 NESAF can purchase these for ~\$21 each. Maybe a tote bin could be used to store and carry the new easels.  
68 An advantage exists if NESAF could order these all at once by saving shipping and reducing the cost per  
69 easel. Maybe NESAF should order 60 easels because NESAF sometimes uses more than 50 at a time. **A**  
70 **motion was heard by Brad W. to modify the 2008 budget and buy 60 easels in time to use for the February**  
71 **2008 Winter Meeting. A second was heard by Randy S. Jim H. will locate a school and will donate the**  
72 **current wooden easels. Spencer M. will order the easels in January 2008. The Motion passed unanimously.**  
73 The value of this purchase is about \$ 2,600.

74

75 **The NESAF history project (Ken L.):** Earlier this year Charlie Thompson held a conference call on  
76 the status of this centennial project that is focused on updating NESAF's history. The participators in this  
77 conference call believe that each of the state chairs may be the ones responsible for writing the individual  
78 state portion of the project. There are 2 documents that need to be updated. One is a chronology of New  
79 England events. The other is a narrative of each state's progress through time. Max McCormack (through e-  
80 mail) let the EC know that he believes that NESAF needs to work on this and accomplish this project more  
81 quickly before NESAF loses the pool of contributors. The EC shares Max's frustration with the progress on  
82 this important project. George Stevens, Nancy Gordon, others (?) are possible contact to get this project  
83 moving. Ron L. will ask if Max M. is willing to work on this project for the state of Maine. Candidates for NH  
84 (Bofinger or Bennett) were suggested. **Ken L. suggested that he could take over one of the documents - the**  
85 **NESAF one.** The former RI chief (Tom Dupree) may be one candidate to assist with the project for  
86 Connecticut. "A Half Century of Forestry" (the latter of the 2 documents). **EC members will find a contact**  
87 **to take over their state's compilation before next meeting (January 2008).** Will this be accomplished  
88 under one editor? **George F. will contact Charlie T. and let him know that the EC has a new plan.**

89

90 **C. NEW BUSINESS:**

91

92 **1) Fellow Information (Stevens):** What does a Fellow need to accomplish relative to this honor in order to  
93 contribute to this organization? Is there a need? Fellows have been exploring this concept (at the Fairlee VT  
94 winter meeting). The discussion included ideas about how to organize Fellows to the benefit to SAF and  
95 NESAF? These 10 fellows came up with a list including ideas about how to work with students, young  
96 foresters and others. Merv S. and others have contacted all Fellows from New England and are hoping to  
97 organize the following: 1) A Fellow/Student breakfast financed by Fellows. They anticipate 10 Fellows and 20  
98 students will attend (2/28/08 7-8 am). During this breakfast it is hoped that Fellows can help Students  
99 better understand what Fellows did in the past; it is hoped that these relationships may spin off into a  
100 mentoring program. 2) A program that develops Fellow role models and mentors to young foresters. 3) A  
101 program designed to contact those who drop out of SAF and explore what Fellows could do with this  
102 declining membership trend. Pete Hannah will organize Fellows in Maine and Hans Bergey will organize fellows  
103 in Rhode Island. A strong interest exists at the national level in this kind of a model Fellow program. Other  
104 ideas that were discussed by the EC include: - could Fellows play a key role with the History Project? Could  
105 Fellows help endorse and implement the Future Foresters Challenges Project (the white paper)? The NESAF  
106 EC endorsed these Fellows project ideas. A copy of that breakfast invitation to students could go to Caitlin  
107 Cusack (at Yale) so that she can advertise this to NESAF student chapters directly. Perhaps this breakfast  
108 idea could be expanded from just students to include young members. The EC respects and supports this  
109 Fellows' effort and thanks Merv S. Merv and the Fellows group may report back to NESAF regularly.

110

111 (11:00 AM. The EC took a brief break at this point.)

112

113 **2) Standing Committee reports:**

114 **Nominations and Election (Dolan):** Members of the EC brought forward critical letters from Laura  
115 Kenefic, Max McCormick and others relative to the 2007 nomination and election outcome. The EC discussed  
116 this issue at great length. Currently the nominating committee recruits nominations each year. This year no  
117 nominations were received for the Secretary or Treasurer positions and several other positions were  
118 uncontested. The ballots were mailed and received by members during mid-November. The term(s) for the  
119 RI, NH and CT state representatives to NESAF were filled for the new term by Paul Dolan, Peter Howland  
120 and Joseph Barsky (Congratulations!). The NESAF Secretary and Treasurer terms will expire at the end of  
121 the 2007; no new candidates have been found however Larry R. has agreed to fill the Treasurer duties until a  
122 replacement comes forward. 7.8% of the NESAF members voted in the fall 2007 ballot. It was suggested  
123 that a new nominating committee be re-developed that will work to fill all positions (For example, the NQ  
124 Editor will soon retire). NESAF needs to diligently engage young members and who can then move into a  
125 variety of leadership roles. This "lack of volunteer" issue is not specific to SAF. Other organizations face a  
126 similar dilemma. One new component of the website will establish a direct e-mail communication with  
127 members and may help the EC to reach more people and new faces. EC members could write a small piece  
128 describing the satisfaction that EC members get out of NESAF activities. The process of adding more  
129 structure to the nominating committee's request for nominations may improve the results. It was suggested  
130 that one person per state may become responsible for picking 5 other people to make calls for nominations.  
131 Members may be more likely to respond and become an active EC member if the call comes from someone  
132 that they know. The next election will be electronic and NESAF will need the candidate names before the  
133 September electronic election. It was discussed that additional member activities might help young members  
134 become more involved. (The EC discussed the role that the national leadership academy may play in this  
135 question. The Academy may be run next year however a location that fits the protocol has not been located).  
136 The EC discussed the possibility that a NESAF forester fund grant could be used to help develop a NESAF

137 leadership academy. Ron L. will submit this application next month. Ken L. will work on this with Ron. Ron L.  
138 and Ken L. are also willing to begin the process of establishing a leadership academy for 2008 and will need  
139 "in-kind" contributions from NESAF. Ron and Ken will have more details for the EC to review at the January  
140 EC meeting. Should the SAF hold both a national and a regional leadership academy? Maybe both are  
141 important; however there is a better chance that members can afford to attend a local meeting. A discussion  
142 of electronic voting process followed including the need to update NESAF's bylaws to conform to electronic  
143 voting.

144  
145 **Policy (Howland):** No NESAF action items are pending. The Green Mountain Division was recently  
146 asked to submit legislations to support funding for all natural resource agencies in Vermont. It is possible  
147 that the NESAF EC will be asked to review and support the Green Mountain's position.

148  
149 The EC took a break for lunch (12:00) and resumed the EC meeting at 12:40 pm.

150  
151 **Membership (Lemin):** Ron L. reported that Mike Goergen at HSD summarized membership issues.  
152 NESAF loses 2% of its members per year. Retention is our biggest challenge to membership. Student  
153 membership is up 1.7%. Retaining students after their University experience is the bigger challenge.  
154 Membership change rates have been approved. Membership surveys reveal that members believe that SAF  
155 has not aligned itself with the real needs of its members and that SAF maintains a traditional narrow  
156 definition of forestry. More research managers, wildlife biologists etc join - a different type of professional  
157 is joining our work force. A schism exists in council relative to the definitions of sustaining members - if the  
158 definition of "forester" changes, it is believed that a high proportion of traditional members will leave SAF.  
159 There appears to be a real line in the sand relative to this issue.

160  
161 **Forest Science Coordinator (Harding):** Jim H. discussed the themes for the NQ. The January NQ  
162 theme will focus on 10 years after the Ice Storm (1998). The EC reviewed other future themes for the NQ  
163 including but not limited to: forest land ownership patterns, beech bark disease, managing landscapes,  
164 technology transfer, guest columns, how SAF interacts with other professional. The first theme that was  
165 developed for the NQ was forest pests - it was suggested that this theme could appear in the NQ as an  
166 annual topic. Substantial change in the forest industry has occurred relative to markets; this topic could be  
167 developed into a theme. Other potential themes that were suggested included urban forests and the  
168 interface between foresters and arborists, forest history, emerging carbon markets, membership, and  
169 ecosystem services. Jim H. discussed his progress with Working Groups. Jim has not been able to fill one  
170 working group position. WGs will not play a role at the winter meeting. After the 2008 winter meeting, the  
171 EC could talk in more detail about the role of WGs in NESAF.

172  
173 **NESAF Website (Johnston):**

174  
175 i) New Website Details - Mariann J. worked with the website developer and subcommittee. The new look  
176 has been designed and the EC reviewed a hard copy. The EC discussed the possibility of using the same color  
177 bar and adding some new photos. A library of digital pictures would be ideal. To generate a digital library for  
178 this purpose, maybe the EC should try a photo contest. A trial website will be ready soon. The EC discussed  
179 who should be able to go into the site in order to chapter updates. Mariann reminded the EC that one 3-4  
180 hour training session will be available for the state representatives. Each state representative should  
181 develop a list of people who will want to be able to access the website to make changes. The NQ editor  
182 should also be trained. Mariann J. was commended for her work on behalf of her subcommittee. In the final  
183 version of the website, the EC will probably drop the photo credit option (on the photo on the front page).  
184 Once the website has a collection of photos, it will not need those photos from contributors who require

185 photo credits. The EC looks forward to this newly revised NESAF website and anticipates that the new  
186 website will be so efficient and functional that each individual state chapter will want to cooperate. Mariann  
187 J. reminded the EC that E-mail lists represent an additional feature of this new website. Each chapter and  
188 division should have their own lists to facility efficient communication without the "spam issue". The  
189 maintenance of the e-mail lists represents one difficult issue.

190

191 ii) The Transition from one Website to a New Website - Mariann J. reports that the existing website is  
192 still functional. The launch of the newly revised website will represent an opportunity for a "good news  
193 announcement" during the next Winter Meeting and the spring NQ.

194

195 **Grants (Degnan):**

196

197 i) Distribution of Grant Requests - Tom D. received and distributed 4 complete grant applications  
198 representing requests for as much as \$14,000 from CT, VT (2) and NH. The EC has \$3,080 to distribute.  
199 One way that the EC could approach this task is to review each request for the required components; an EC  
200 ranking from 1 to 4 sometimes works well but in this case a ranking will not help the EC to determine the  
201 level of funding that will be approved for each request. In the past, the EC divided the \$3,080 evenly  
202 between requests. These electronic copies are not signed - original signature sheets exist. The EC discussed  
203 the required involvement of the local chapter or division. EC voting members will review these requests to  
204 determine whether or not each request meets NESAF criteria (or not); the EC will then prioritize and decide  
205 upon the appropriate funding level. Questions from the EC can be forwarded directly to Tom Degnan. The EC  
206 will discuss these applications again during the January 2008 EC meeting.

207

208 ii) Discussion of NESAF-only funding of projects: the need to substantiate other in-kind was reviewed.

209

210 **Awards (Stone):** The request for award nominations appeared in the recent NQ twice with  
211 conflicting due dates. Randy distributed the nominations packages to the state representatives and asks  
212 representatives to rank these nominations and send the results of the ranking to Randy S. before the end of  
213 December 2007. Anne Marie K. will look up June 2007 minutes relative to using the \$ and price of award  
214 relative to number of awardees as a criterion for ranking. FYI NESAF EC: Anne Marie K. copied the  
215 following highlighted text from the approved June 2007 NESAF EC minutes. **Awards (Stone):** George Frame  
216 read a letter received from 2007 Integrity winners requesting NESAF reconsider their decision of awarding  
217 a single award to multiple winners. Lots of discussion and points of view, including: Should NESAF offer a  
218 certificate/plaque/mini-print of award for all winners with the actual framed print being hung in a  
219 general/central location? Are there still more prints available from artist? Ed O'L. makes motion for  
220 NESAF to reimburse one of the Integrity Award winners for his personal purchase of a print and framing,  
221 and then prepare and award two more prints, so that all four winners are equally recognized, Peter H.  
222 seconds the motion. There is continued discussion regarding the motion. The range in additional cost would  
223 be \$1,000 to \$1,400. Motion is called and passes, with Ken L. abstaining. Ken L. will proceed to contact and  
224 make reimbursement arrangement for the awardees' out-of-pocket costs and will initiate the process of  
225 getting 2 prints in inventory framed, matted, name-plated, and delivered to the two other awardees.

226

227 **3) 2007, 2008, and 2009 Budget (Rousseau):** Larry R. distributed the Draft Budget Report 2006-2009.  
228 Larry reviewed the 2007 year to date expenses including notes on the integrity award, website enhancement,  
229 a line item for winter meeting expenses (for easels). The EC will need to add an accountant's (line item) fee  
230 for a Form 1099 for NESAF's excess gross income (>\$25,000). The EC will review the budget and discuss in  
231 more detail during the January 2008 EC meeting. Income: dues continue to decline so the line item has been

232 reduced to reflect anticipated income; the web master line item has been eliminated as suggested during  
233 past EC meetings.

234  
235 **4) NESAF News Quarterly (Wyman):** Brad W. continues to advertise the need for a new NQ editor  
236 within issues of the NQ; Brad W. is still awaiting responses. Brad W. continues to review the NESAF  
237 membership list as a source of names. Brad directly solicited an application from ~40 potential candidates  
238 for the NQ editor position. About half of the potential candidates responded (negatively). This needs to be  
239 addressed before Brad's final NQ issue (June).

240  
241 **5) State Reports (NESAF State Representatives):**

242  
243 MA - Randy Stone: No recent state activity. DCR commissioner works to secure projects funds for park  
244 facilities and for hiring new positions including 7 new forester positions this year.

245  
246 RI - Paul D: The "Way of the Woods" trailer appeared at the Wood and Energy Expo on October 13 (and  
247 replaces the "Walk in the Woods" program.) The Champion Tree program continues to expand. The  
248 Envirothon efforts continue. Presently working on an arbor fair (tree planting, etc)

249  
250 NH - Peter H: The Annual Tree Farm meeting was a success on September 22. The October 4<sup>th</sup> workshop at  
251 the Bartlett Experiment Station celebrated its' 75th anniversary. The GSD's annual meeting is scheduled for  
252 15 February in Waterville, NH and will focus on 2008 market conditions. The NH Executive Committee  
253 worked on new a by-law change for voting deadlines. Student sponsorship continues in this 3<sup>rd</sup> year. Pete  
254 reports that volunteerism issues occur in NH as well as NESAF and elsewhere. The GSD is working on a  
255 guidebook with a NESAF grant that is progressing well.

256  
257 CT - Tom Degnan: Connecticut State Forester, Don Smith retires this year and this position has already been  
258 posted. A November 9, 2007 reading at Bushnell focused on conversations between Gifford Pinchot and  
259 Teddy Roosevelt. Conservation forum and research forum, policy and science (forest regulations) has a good  
260 representation =from the forestry community. Two new members have joined the CTSAF Executive  
261 Committee. Tom Degnan congratulated and introduced J.P Barsky the new CT representative to the NESAF  
262 EC. A winter meeting is scheduled for January 8, 2008 in Haddam (11 am-4pm) and will focus on the forest  
263 practice act ethics code vs. the SAF code of ethics with guest presenter, Lloyd Irland. The Yankee Division  
264 meeting will be scheduled for late February or early March.

265  
266 VT - Ed O: VT - Ed O: The Green Mountain Division's summer meeting was held on September 28th in  
267 cooperation with The Wildlife Society. It focused on CWD and Moose impacts, and was quite successful with  
268 about 70 foresters in attendance. The year 2009 represents the 100th anniversary of the first VT State  
269 Forest and the first VT State Forester. The GMD would like to republish the "Trees of Vermont" in  
270 partnership with Northern Woodlands Magazine, as part of the celebration of this event. A new full-time  
271 position "Conservation Educator Coordinator" for the Vermont Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation  
272 was recently appointed and her name is Rebecca Gies. GMD is developing an award program for students.  
273 Carbon is the topic of the upcoming GMD winter meeting to take place on February 1, 2008 in Montpelier.  
274 The GMD submitted comments relative to the proposed re-organization of the Vermont Agency of natural  
275 Resources, through a public comment process. A legislative summer study committee looked at Vermont's  
276 Use Value Appraisal program (current use) and legislation may be proposed in the upcoming session that could  
277 alter the UVA program.

278

279 ME - Spencer M.: The MESAF fall meeting theme focused on landowner change. MESAF is still planning to  
280 schedule one bus to transport MESAF members (and others?) to Saratoga Springs for the NE/NY meeting in  
281 2008. Interested members should contact Spencer Meyer. Max McCormick's suggests a by-law  
282 review/change relative to the date for electronic elections. **Ken L. is looking into this.** Carl Van Husen  
283 received his Golden Membership Award. The Maine Licensure Board now functions well. The Board recently  
284 administered an exam and accepted the SAF CF exam with an added Maine component.

285 Laura Kenefic and Max McCormick's E-mail comments regarding the nomination and election process  
286 and outcome were recognized by the EC and are summarized under that topic in these minutes. Max M.'s  
287 comments relative to the History Project were discussed under that topic and are summarized elsewhere in  
288 these minutes.

289 Ron L. shared several E-mails with the EC about Wilfred Creighton, "the father of scientific  
290 forestry in Nova Scotia" who recently celebrated his 100<sup>th</sup> birthday! Chapter 3 of Jim Lotz's book Green  
291 Horizons, The forests and Foresters of Nova Scotia focuses on Wilfred who recalls: ....it seems only  
292 yesterday that I was a young radical forester eager for change and impatient because change could not come  
293 faster..."

294  
295 Canada - Don Floyd: (not present).

296  
297 **6) SAF Council Report: (Dziengeleski):** (This agenda item was covered before the state reports). Roger D.  
298 distributed a summary of Notes of December 2007 Council meeting. Council approved the 2008 budget that  
299 projects \$3.245 million in revenue and anticipates a \$3.195 million expense budget (\$50,000 in the black).  
300 Dues represent 60% of the revenues .New staff members were summarized by Roger D. A gap still occurs in  
301 membership and marketing. Insurances costs (riders) are still being studied. In the recent electronic  
302 election, 35% of the ballots were returned compared to nearly identical (34%) from paper ballots. The  
303 concept of group certification has been discussed for foresters (as a member service); this project may  
304 increase the amount of wood products that move into the market place and could financially benefit private  
305 landowners. The volunteerism dilemma will be brought up again at the March meeting. National award  
306 nominations are due soon; Roger encourages NESAF to provide one or more nominations. **Fellow nominations**  
307 **need to be received by Max M. by March 17<sup>th</sup> (this is new deadline).**

308 i) Current Issues - The sale of the SAF property has been resolved. SAF will do well a result of this  
309 change. Through the process Roger D. and Leo Laferriere pushed hard to move this agreement to completion.  
310 Roger D. will continue to stay involved with the process relative to the relocation process. Details and  
311 finalized closings will take at least a year.

312 ii) Fellow nominations- Region VI: Two Fellow nominations were recently forwarded from Max McCormick to  
313 Roger D. and as a result the Fellow nominations for David Kittredge and Bill Bentley have been confirmed.  
314 Dave K. and Bill B. will be recognized at Reno Convention.

315  
316 **7) Chair Potpourri (Frame):** George F. and the EC expressed gratitude to Anne Marie K., NESAF's  
317 Secretary and to Larry R. NESAF's Treasurer. Both terms expire at the end of 2007; however, Larry R. has  
318 agreed to temporarily continue to serve as Treasurer until a replacement is found.

319 i) HSD and National Convention - Ron Lemin and George F. attended 1.5 days of HSD. Some items got  
320 moved forward on the HSD agenda including success stories. HSD delegates were kept informed by Craig  
321 relative to the issues by the Convener System. Ken Jolly will be the next HSF Chair. Membership issues and  
322 electronic balloting were discussed by staff. NESAF was recognized for its outstanding project relative to  
323 the NESAF white paper. Ron L. and George F. recognized and thanked NESAF for financial support that  
324 continues to enable officers to travel to HSD and attend the national conference.

325  
326 **8) Other items for the good of the order:**

327 Brad W. reminded the EC members that he needs page 2 updates (new officer and committee) for NQ ASAP  
328 from each of the state representatives.

329  
330 A motion to adjourn was heard from Brad W. A second was heard from Spencer M. The question was called  
331 and the motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 3:15 PM.

332  
333 Respectfully submitted,  
334 Anne Marie Kittredge, NESAF Secretary

335  
336 **Calendar: The NESAF EC will next meet on 1/24/2008 at 9:30AM in Concord NH .**

337 January 24, 2008: Concord, NH: 9:30 A.M.

338 February 26, 2008: Saratoga, NY: 1:00 P.M.

339 June 12, 2008: Portland, ME: 9:30 A.M.

340 September 15, 16, 17, 18 OR 19, 2008 [The actual date and location are TBD].

341 Suggestions include: Moose Locker Bean Lodge (?) or Seyon Ranch (?).

342 December 10, 2008: Concord, NH: 9:30 A.M.