

Approved 6-19-08



New England Society of American Foresters (NESAF)
Executive Committee (EC) Meeting
Tuesday, February 26, 2008

Location: Saratoga Hotel, Saratoga Springs NY

Members present:

| | |
|------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|
| Joseph P. Barsky | Connecticut State Representative |
| Paul Dolan | Rhode Island State Representative; Nomination Chair |
| Andrew Fast | Secretary |
| George Frame | Chair |
| James Harding | Forest Science Coordinator |
| J Peter Howland | New Hampshire State Representative; Policy Committee Chair |
| Mariann Johnston | Website Administrator |
| Ken Laustsen | Immediate Past Chair |
| Ron Lemin Jr. | Vice-Chair; Membership Chair |
| Ed O'Leary | Vermont State Representative |
| Larry Rousseau | Treasurer |
| Randy Stone | Massachusetts State Representative; Awards Chair |

Guests:

None

Members not present:

| | |
|--------------------|-----------------------------|
| Roger Dziengeleski | Council Representative |
| Don Floyd | Canadian Representative |
| Spencer Meyer | Maine State Representative |
| Bradford Wyman | NESAF News Quarterly Editor |

Meeting opened by NESAF Chair, George Frame at 9:27 AM

A. Standard items:

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

Welcome: George F. welcomed all EC members, introduced newly appointed Secretary, Andy F., and all members present introduced themselves.

Antitrust statement: The antitrust statement was presented.

Add/Adjust agenda: Under item B (Old Business) add update on the History Project and bylaw changes needed for electronic balloting.

Corrections/Additions for the December 12, 2007 EC meeting minutes (Fast): Previous corrections from Ken L. have been incorporated into the draft minutes. Edits from the floor were incorporated and a motion was heard from Ken L. to accept the meeting minutes as edited; a second to the motion was heard from Ron L. The question was called and passed unanimously.

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44 **Treasurer's Report (Rousseau):** Larry R. distributed the NESAF Net Worth Report as of 12/31/07
45 and Budget Report as if 1/24/08. In review of the budget, income to date is \$32,391.57; expenses to date
46 are \$31,915.19; and total assets are \$57,204.04. Larry R. reported that the new easels are paid for (\$2,500)
47 and are currently in the possession of Spencer M. The old wooden easels will come out of storage and be
48 redistributed by Jim H.

49
50 Ken L. asked about arrangements for audits. After discussion about chapter/division v. NESAF responsibility
51 of reporting to IRS, Larry R. informed the EC that there is \$1,000 in the budget to hire a CPA. Ron L.
52 suggested that a single CPA should represent all divisions. After continued discussion, George F. offered to
53 check with the Forest Society to glean insight from their experience and process.

54 55 **B. Old Business:**

56
57 **NE/NY Winter Meeting Update:** George F. received an email from Jerry Milne reporting that 183
58 members have registered with more "flooding in." Paul D. is in charge of the raffle and should be contacted if
59 you have something to donate. John Clarke (clarkeforest@msn.com) should be contacted if you want an
60 exhibitors table. Lack of sponsorship is a concern and could be a reflection of markets. Brad W. has the
61 banner and will bring it to the meeting. Ron L. expressed the need for a sponsorship chair. George F.
62 expressed that there will be a tight schedule for meetings. Ron L. informed the EC that the bus going to the
63 meeting from Maine will stop along the way if there is participation from other states.

64
65 Jim H. is in charge of the NESAF graduate student research presentations. There are presently 8-9
66 student oral presentations scheduled for the meeting, which is on pace for the target 9-12. Jim H. relayed
67 confusion among graduate students about what presentations (oral, poster, etc.) were available to them.
68 Many posters have been submitted and the cutoff for poster submissions is at the end of the month
69 (January).

70
71 **The NESAF history project (Ken L.):** George F and Ken L. have both been in contact with Charlie
72 Thompson. He is embarrassed to be so far behind in the project. He will get accumulated materials including
73 .pdfs and digital material to Randy S. Each state representative is responsible for identifying and bringing
74 the names of potential author(s) who will work to produce the state summaries of changes in forestry
75 over the last 40 years by next meeting.

76
77 EC State Representatives relayed their progress: Ed O'L. expressed challenges associated with the
78 short timeline of the project (3-6 months) and suggested a year might be a more appropriate. There was
79 general agreement with the analysis and Ken L. offered to orchestrate the project over the revised
80 timeline. Ed O'L to send Ken L. Vermont author (name?) contact information. Ken L. endorsed Max
81 MacCormick to be author of Maine's article but Max M. is unable, and will provide Ken L. with a list of
82 suitable replacements. JP B. is pulling together a number of authors in Connecticut and will assume an
83 editorial role. Paul D. has identified three individuals from R.I. Randy S. has identified 4 potential options in
84 MA.

85
86 Ken L. conferred that old issues of *News Quarterly* are being used to provide fodder for the NESAF
87 portion of the history publication.

88
89 **Bylaw Changes:** Ken L. contacted Louise Murgia from National SAF to incorporate language they
90 developed during a similar process. Ken L. reviewed proposed changes, which included replacing three

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91 paragraphs in the elections section to accommodate electronic balloting and slight changes to the nomination
92 process. Ken L. also noted there is a standard minimum set of bylaws no matter where you are in the
93 organization (division, national, etc.). George F. articulated the details of the online voting process and a need
94 for awareness that there is only one opportunity to log in to vote. If the computer is disconnected or no vote
95 is cast during that login period, the opportunity is missed.

96
97 There was discussion about the timing and process to get bylaws changed. Each EC State Representative
98 should send a copy of their bylaws to Ken L. If voting changes to electronic ballots, there still requires
99 paper ballots for members who may not have email addresses and other problems. Ken L. suggested that
100 these mailing costs should be reflected in the budget. In terms of timing and cost, George F. suggested it is
101 better to wait longer and make sure that there is a single vote incorporating all bylaw changes rather than
102 multiple mailings, changes, and votes. Ken L. suggested a mailing in April/May, results can be tabulated and in
103 June changes can be approved to NESAF. Other EC chapters can be encouraged to make changes at their fall
104 meetings. The only thing that needs to be brought up at the winter meeting is the process. George F.
105 suggested ballots should consist of a NESAF page and a separate page for each state, potentially color coded
106 to avoid voting confusion for membership (e.g. Maine members get a Maine paper ballot and NESAF paper
107 ballot mailed to them). Ken L. affirmed that he would make the ballots.

108
109 The costs of mailing and bulk mailing permits were discussed. George F. offered to look into volunteer help
110 from the Forest Society in order to cut costs.

111
112 There was continued discussion between Ed O'L., Ken L., Ron L., and George F. about which quarterly mailing
113 to send the ballot out in and the specifics of electronic voting.

114
115 George F. reminded everyone that the nominating committee needs to be actively recruiting replacements at
116 the chapter/division level. Ron L. identified upcoming vacant positions with NESAF include three state reps,
117 and the Vice chair. Everything (bios, etc.) needs to be in to National by September 1st.

118 119 C. NEW BUSINESS:

120
121 **1) 2007, 2008 and proposed 2009 budgets:** Larry R. handed out the Budget sheets. The NESAF fund CD
122 generated \$1,100 in interest. Next changeover is in March and should generate approximately \$550. Larry R.
123 reviewed the draft budget. Income increased from News Quarterly advertisements and interest on savings.
124 Expenses were driven up by awards, EC exceeded the \$5,000 cap, easel storage, and 50% of the website
125 upgrade cost. In the revised 2008 budget, administrative assistant line dropped by \$1000 since we have
126 incurred no billed time in this category. The only expense was the annual contribution and elections dropped
127 by \$250 with the expectation of going electronic. Larry R. added \$1000 to general operations for the 2008
128 and 2009 budget for general tax preparation.

129
130 Ken L. and George F questioned the reduction in election expenses and after discussion, Larry R. is going to
131 raise the election expenses to \$1500. There was additional discussion about expenses without change.

132
133 George F. raised concerns about going to membership with the largest deficit ever. Discussion followed about
134 the net worth of NESAF and Larry R. related trends of decreasing dues and increasing revenue from
135 meetings. George F. and Ed O'L. articulated that expenses are being reinvested into the organization to make
136 it more effective.

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138 There was discussion about the regional leadership academy and costs associated with it. Ken L. expressed
139 that it may require a \$0-5000 commitment and asked that a footnote be made to propose this at the winter
140 meeting. NESAF will be responsible for coordination, but chapters and divisions will be responsible
141 financially for getting members there. If money is received from the Forester's Fund then NESAF will not
142 be required to contribute additional money. Nonetheless, an \$1,000 addition was suggested by Ken L. as a
143 contingency, which later was raised to \$3,400 by Larry R. Ken L. suggested we may want to retain the option
144 of using interest from 2008 to fund the leadership academy. Ken L. will bring it up again at the business
145 session of the annual meeting if more is known, Larry R. will place on asterisk by the line item and it will
146 be discussed further at the annual meeting. Randy S. inquired into the frequency of the leadership academy.
147 Ron L. and Ken L. informed everyone it is approximately 25 individuals every other year. A motion was heard
148 from Ken L. to approve the Treasurer's Report; a second to the motion was heard from Pete H. The question
149 was called and the motion passed unanimously.

150

151 (11:00 AM. The EC took a brief break at this point.)

152

153 2) Standing Committee reports:

154 **Grants (JP):** Distribution of Grant Requests - Ed O'L. distributed the "NESAF grant request
155 proposal outline" during the break and brought it to the attention of George F. when the meeting resumed.
156 George F. asked the EC to consider whether all 4 submitted grants were valid clarifying that non-SAF
157 hierarchy requests would be considered invalid. Ed O'L. confirmed the validity of the two grants from
158 Vermont. Ken L. questioned whether the NH grant request was a work in progress since an advisory group in
159 Maine began a similar project that was never completed. There was continued discussion about the
160 similarities (content, audience, geographic scope, etc.) between the proposed work and an existing
161 Northeastern Area State and Private Forestry publication, "Northeastern Forest Regeneration Handbook."
162 George F. suggested Granite State EC should determine if it is filling a need and Mariann J. recommended a
163 copy be provided to Granite State EC. Pete H. will discuss it with Granite State EC.

164

165 The grant requests were summarized. George F. suggested everyone rank their favorite projects and the EC
166 can vote in the afternoon whether they wish to support individual projects with more/less money or provide
167 equal financial support for all of them.

168

169 **Awards (Stone):** Randy S. informed the EC that the results of the voting are in and orders for
170 awards have been placed. 3 agencies were recipients of the Integrity Award. Discussion followed about
171 benefits of plaques v. print awards, availability of plaques, and awarding individuals the award v. the agencies.
172 There was continued discussion how to recognize the individuals. Ron L. suggested all individuals be invited
173 onstage to receive the award for their organization. Ken L. suggested that letters should be sent inviting
174 individuals, letting them know they have been noted for their work, and we would like them to be recipients
175 on behalf of their respective organizations. A motion was heard from Paul D. to purchase two more prints
176 and give them to the principal agencies, with individuals invited to receive the award on behalf of the
177 agencies; a second to the motion was heard from Ed O'L. The question was called and the motion passed
178 unanimously. George F. encouraged the EC to revisit what Integrity Awards should look like at the June
179 EC meeting. The awards budget line item was revisited and raised from \$1,500 to \$2,000. Ken L. will call
180 about availability of two more prints.

181

182 Randy S. received the 50 year service awards, but needs to order the pins (5 of them). Ken L. offered to
183 order them. National SAF congratulatory letters will likely be mailed to the chair. They will go to awardees,
184 but not fellows.

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Nominations and Election (Dolan): Paul D. expressed a need for additional volunteers to fill positions. JP B. suggested highlighting leadership opportunities at the academy for newly elected officers as a draw. Ron L. inquired about bylaws for previous chairs being elected again. Ken L. read the bylaw and language specifies that certain positions will be ineligible for reelection to that office. Discussion ensued about a bylaw change to allow officers to re-serve in positions after a certain amount of time. No action taken.

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

Revisit Grants (Degnan): George F. reopened discussion about grants after lunch. *A motion was heard from Ed O'L. to accept all grant proposals as valid and acceptable to NESAF; a second to the motion was heard from James H. The question was called and the motion passed unanimously.* Ed O'L. asked for the results of the grant rankings. Ken L. tallied the results which follow (fewest points = top ranking): NH grant received 18 points, Vermont (calendar project) received 21 points, Vermont (PLT collaboration) received 22 points, and the Connecticut grant received 35 points. A motion was heard from Ken L. to award \$1000 to each of the four grant applications. Mariann J. wanted to ensure the NH project is not redundant. The motion was amended. *A motion was heard from Ken L. to award \$1,000 to each of the four grants. The NH award pending a review of the "Northeastern Forest Regeneration Handbook"; a second to the motion was heard from Pete Howland. The question was called and the motion passed unanimously.*

Policy (Howland): Pete H. has nothing new to report.

Membership (Lemin): Ron L. reported that he would like state representatives to make themselves available to discuss membership over breakfast at the annual meeting. If a state representative is not available the state chair or vice chair should come in their stead. Ken L. will be responsible for bylaw changes.

Forest Science Coordinator (Harding): Jim H. reported the new *News Quarterly* covers impacts of the ice storm after 10 years. He is happy with the author contributions. Next theme in the April issue is Forest Carbon. Writers have been found and are proceeding. A discussion on working group chairs is an alternative discussion for the business meeting. Jim H. will make a pitch to membership asking what their desires are for working groups and if members will function as chairs. Raising the issue at the business meeting will function as a mechanism to get more feedback than has been received at previous meetings. Mariann J. requested that Jim H. clarify to membership that signing on for National SAF working groups is not the same as NESAF. Jim H. reported that he has not considered subject matter for the *News Quarterly* after the April issue. Ron L. relayed two ideas that Spencer M. suggested: 1) Spruce budworm a retrospective and likely resurgence. 2) The current state of the small woodland owner.

NESAF Website (Johnston): Mariann J. reported on that she is still in the process of working with Jim Oehler to keep the old website updated while working to get the new website up and running. The new website is designed but needs content. The new test site should be up in a couple weeks and the EC can begin testing it. There is a backlog of material to put on the old website. There was discussion on whether to keep Jim O. updating the old site. Larry R. informed everyone that there is money in the budget if we wish to continue working with Jim O. *A motion was heard from Ron L. to pay the necessary money to get the last stages of the old website fully updated and functional for the next month (through mid-Feb.); a second to the motion was heard from Ken L. The question was called and the motion passed unanimously.*

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Fellow Information: Ron L. informed the EC that Max M. informed him the fellowship committee wants packages for fellow nominations by mid-March rather than the end of March as stated in *News Quarterly*. There was discussion about procuring a list of contenders. A number of potential individuals were suggested. George F. suggested the EC get a list of 3-4 names to bring to Max M.

NESAF News Quarterly: Brad W. is News Editor for *New Quarterly* through June. Ed O'L, suggested informing membership there may be changes to the *News Quarterly* schedule, or no *News Quarterly* if no replacement is found. Ed O'L. recommended Brad W. speak with Gary Salmon about taking the office back. Randy S. offered a semi-annual *News Quarterly* schedule as a consideration.

State Reports (NESAF State Representatives):

MA - Randy S: Mike Flemming who up to December 2007 is presently filling in as Chair. The Treasurer's position is vacant. Gov. Patrick is proposing an 8.3% increase for Massachusetts DCR. Randy received a notice that there is a short window for the Partnership Matching Funds Program. The State will match any private grant proposal that reaches out to civic groups, institutions, or organizations that help make open space available. The State will provide a 2-1 match for proposals over \$25,000. Randy will meet with Mike Flemming prior to the NESAF annual meeting to work on the state report.

CT - JP B: The winter meeting was Jan. 8 and focused on forestry ethics; specifically, the Connecticut forest practice act ethics code vs. the SAF code of ethics. State regulations will be adopted that require foresters to pass a test in ethics. There were three speakers, a study guide was presented, and comparisons were drawn between foresters and other professions with ethics codes. The focus was primarily related to the business side of forestry in CT.

VT - Ed O'L: The Green Mountain Division has not met. There has been no new activity besides getting ready for the Green Mountain Division winter meeting. The State Forester is in the hospital as well as a county forester.

ME: Ron L. read a summary provided by Spencer M:

1. nominating committee is getting started early
 - a. Spencer is going to communicate NESAF online election process to MESAF nominating committee (Todd Caldwell and Gary Bahlkow) to get process started early
2. Membership
 - a. 12 new students signed up for SAF through MESAF in 2007
3. NESAF and New England forestry history projects
 - a. Documents were described to MESAF
 - b. MESAF officially endorsed Max McCormack to lead the writing of the Maine section of the New England forestry history update
 - c. Max was asked to serve by Ken Laustsen but Max declined the offer. He did offer to read through MESAF membership to suggest someone and to act as minor contributor and reviewer.
 - d. In a conversation outside of MESAF meeting, Tony Filauro's name came up as someone who might be interested in helping edit or compile one or both projects. Tony has not been approached about it.

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- 278 e. MESAF offered to put up some operating costs for Maine component of history projects, if
279 needed.
- 280 4. NY/NESAF Winter Meeting Fellows breakfast has been advertised to MESAF and in halls at UM and
281 to student chapter of MESAF
- 282 5. MESAF still wants to keep their own website but understands new NESAF site will have link to
283 MESAF page. Spencer encouraged MESAF to at least consider using the list-serve features of new
284 NESAF site, when available.
- 285 6. MESAF has organized bus with several stops (flyer attached). Cost is \$75 per person, regardless of
286 starting point and there is no cost for students (grad or undergrad).
- 287 7. NESAF 2009 Winter Meeting (I presume Ken will say a few words about this).
- 288 8. MESAF is having 3 field meetings this spring and summer instead of the traditional 1 field tour. The
289 workshops will focus on 1) conservation easements - Katahdin Timberlands Telos-Debsconeag
290 easement, 2) biomass silviculture - changing practices due to biofuel market with possible pellet tour
291 and 3) nature-based tourism - tour of opportunities and tourism infrastructure in Bigelow/western
292 Maine regions.
- 293 9. Maine PLT and MESAF Forestry Awareness Committee
- 294 a. Working together again to seek funding through Dept. of Energy grant supporting forest-
295 related education
- 296 b. Involved with promoting Envirothon and getting foresters to act as judges and school liaisons
- 297 10. Suggestion was made that MESAF develop brochure about forestry and SAF in Maine as
298 communications material. Possibly would also develop poster or something to place in prominent place
299 for tourists to see. Committee thought that was responsibility of Maine Forest Service, but that
300 SAF might play a role.

301

302 NH - Peter H: Peter H. reported the EC is looking at ways to invest money at a higher yield. The winter
303 meeting is on Feb. 15th and the theme is markets and how do we move into the future. There will also be
304 voting on bylaw changes at the meeting. Student sponsorship is in its 3rd year of more sponsors than
305 students. At the winter meeting, sponsors can meet with students. NH lost two of its foresters, Ethan
306 Howard and Ken Sutherland. Membership retention to top of list at the next EC meeting.

307

308 RI - Paul D: The RI chapter met last week. The Tree Farm meeting is coming up and The Envirothon efforts
309 continue. RISAF is Partnering with tree council to have an arbor fair (planting programs etc.). They are
310 looking at developing a webpage which will connect buyers with products (sawmills, etc.) in an effort to retain
311 local markets. They are also trying to reissue a "foresters that care for the land program" and working to
312 develop materials to hand out at careers day supporting forestry careers.

313

314 Canada - Don Floyd: (not present).

315

316 SAF Council Report (Roger D.): Roger D was not in attendance but his Councilor report from the News
317 Quarterly was reviewed. In it he reported on: 1) sale of SAF campus. 2) Preliminary membership survey
318 results and 3) group forester certification. Roger makes himself very available by phone or email so if you
319 have any questions you should email him.

320

321 **Chair Potpourri (Frame):** George F. received a letter from Ray Toolan. Ray has been active in the
322 Green Mountain Division and on the NESAF EC. Ray applied to the SAF Certified Forester Program and was
323 denied because of too few silvicultural credits in his education despite a long forestry career. Ken L. asked
324 whether he appealed or asked to take the written exam? Paul D. shared a similar experience. He appealed

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325 with the support of many foresters in RI and it came to a satisfactory result. Ken L. confirmed that
326 becoming an SAF Certified Forester is an issue that comes up for a number of technicians with 2 years
327 degrees. Ken L. will contact Ray to see how we can help clear up the issue.

328 **Leadership Academy:** Ken L. circulated a proposal from NYSAF and NESAF requesting \$1,500 from
329 the Forester's Fund for the regional leadership academy. The only change Ken L. made was adding Roger D. to
330 the list on page 2. Ron L. added outside sponsors to the list, and clarified that outside sponsors who pay for
331 themselves need to be on the list (shows in kind support). The leadership academy would be a one day
332 conference with approximately 25 attendees who have joined SAF in the last 1-9 years. Each state would be
333 responsible for looking at their own chapter/division and selecting candidates to go. Ron L. will send out 50+
334 letters and the first 25 that send the letters back would be admitted. Outside applicants would not be
335 denied, but NESAF hopes to have attendees primarily from NE and NY. George F. requested that Ken L.
336 contact NY to ensure their interest in being part of the proposal. A motion was heard from Larry R. to
337 accept the Forester's Fund Grant from Maine after New York acquiesces; a second to the motion was heard
338 from Ed O'L. The question was called and the motion passed unanimously. George F signed the revised
339 Foresters Fund proposal so it could be submitted before the Feb. 15 deadline.

340
341 **Other items for the good of the order:** George F. expressed an interest in taking steps to
342 implement recommendations of the Future of Foresters in the Northeast white paper. George F. requested
343 that State representatives speak with local units, determine what should be done and revisit on the
344 June meeting agenda. Ken L. mentioned that the report will serve as the theme for the 2009 Maine Annual
345 Winter Meeting. Discussion on Hotel logistics and pricing for the 2009 winter meeting followed; possible
346 dates are the first or third week in March. Ken L. started an organizational chart/ sign up sheet for the
347 Winter Meeting Planning Committee and discussion of costs of proceedings followed (proceedings cd v. bound
348 book). Jim H. offered to be responsible for the proceedings. Ken L. responded that there is someone else he
349 would like to ask, but he may come back to Jim H. at a later date. JP B. expressed a desire to see the
350 proceedings be in a format that is easily searchable or compatible with products such as Endnote.

351
352 Ken L. related that The Maine Wildlife Society and NE Pest Council would like to join NESAF and he
353 is waiting to hear back from the International Society of Aborculturalists. Randy S. inquired about adding
354 the Society of Wetland Scientists. George F. felt they may have a different focus.

355
356 Ron L. revisited Fellow information and informed the EC that there are currently 37 in NESAF. The
357 fellows' names were read.

358
359 Larry R. inquired whether NESAF should contribute to the memorial fund of the NY forester who
360 was killed. Based on discussions with Larry Burner in regards to another similar occurrence NESAF can
361 inform membership but it is most appropriate for individuals to make donations if they wish.

362
363 Ken L. informed everyone that the June meeting will likely be at the Audubon Society in Falmouth,
364 ME. The potential themes are:

- 365 1. "Who's eating your lunch? - Professional collaboration or cannibalism"
366 Engage and interact with our companion professional organizations (SWOAM, ACF, TWS, NEFPC,
367 and ISA) by giving them carte blanche to tailor the program from their perspective of telling
368 attending foresters how they need to change to stay relevant.
369 2. "The Times They are A-Changing"

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370 Use the Future Challenges for Foresters White Paper as a basis and use companion organizations
371 (SWOAM, ACF, TWS, NEFPC, ISA) to be active partners in program planning, direction, and
372 content to serve all of us in meeting future professional needs..

- 373 3. "Bi, Bi, Bio - diversity, mass, or products: Can New England become the Saudi Arabia of Wood?"
374 Use the expertise and research coming out of the UME Forest Biobased Research initiative
375 (FBRI), Vermont's BEREC, TWS, and others to take a broad scale look at what additional or new
376 biomass removals mean to natural resource management in terms of soil productivity, wildlife
377 habitat, diversity benchmarks, sustainability, social acceptance, landowner engagement.

378
379 A motion to adjourn was heard from Ken L. A second was heard from Jim H. The question was called and the
380 motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 2:30 PM.

381
382 Respectfully submitted,

383
384 Andrew Fast, NESAF Secretary

385
386 **Calendar: The NESAF EC will next meet on 6/12/2008 at 9:30AM in Portland ME .**

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

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

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