

# Approved Minutes 12-22-2010



## New England Society of American Foresters (NESAF) Executive Committee (EC) Meeting Wednesday, December 22, 2010

Location: Conservation Center, Concord, NH

### Members present:

Deborah Boyer	Website Administrator
Paul Dolan	Rhode Island State Representative; Nomination Chair
Andrew Fast	Secretary
Peter Greeno	Membership Chair
Mel Harder	Connecticut State Representative; Grants Chair
James Harding	Forest Science Coordinator
J Peter Howland	New Hampshire State Representative
Ron Lemin Jr.	Chair
Ed O'Leary	Vice-Chair
Spencer Meyer	Maine State Representative
Russell Reay	Treasurer
Randy Stone	Massachusetts State Representative; Awards Chair
Kurt Zschau	Vermont State Representative

### Guests:

None

### Members not present:

Don Floyd	Canadian Representative
George Frame	Council Representative Region VI; Immediate Past Chair
Scott Machinist	Co-Editor of NESAF News Quarterly
Margaret Machinist	Co-Editor of NESAF News Quarterly

**Meeting opened by NESAF Chair, Ron Lemin Jr. at 9:35AM**

### A. Standard items:

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

**Welcome:** Ron L. welcomed the EC. and circulated a sign up sheet for new name badges. Ron L. also requested that new EC members provide their contact information on a separate sheet of paper that was circulated. Russell Reay was introduced to the EC. He agreed to assume the Treasurer's position. **A motion was heard from Spencer M. to accept Russell Reay as Treasurer; a second to the motion was heard from Ed O'L. The question was called and the motion passed unanimously.**

This was Jim H.'s last meeting as Forest Science Coordinator. Roger Monthey is willing to assume the position. Roger M. is in Washing D.C. until the end of February. Jim is willing to help during the first few months of the 2011 to ensure a smooth transition. **A motion was heard from Jim H. to accept Roger Monthey**

## Approved Minutes 12-22-2010

as Forest Science Coordinator; a second to the motion was heard from Paul D. The question was called and the motion passed unanimously.

**Antitrust statement:** The antitrust statement was presented. Ron L. can provide a copy of the antitrust statement to members of the EC upon their request.

**Add/Adjust agenda:** Ron L. reviewed adjustments to the revised agenda that were previously emailed to the EC. Spencer M. added "addressing EC member voting rights" and Pete H. added "Return of NH's grant" to old business.

**Corrections/Additions for the September 22, 2010 EC meeting minutes (Fast):** Revised minutes were circulated with corrections from Peter G. **A motion was heard from Jim H. to accept the amended meeting minutes as presented; a second to the motion was heard from Kurt Z. The question was called and the motion passed unanimously.**

**Treasurer's Report (Reay):** Russell R., Dana Hachigian, and Ed O'L. met in November. Russ R. distributed three documents: a "Net Worth Report as of December 22, 2010" and two legal size budget worksheets (income and expenses). Russell R. reviewed the net worth report. Under assets, \$15,331.01 was presented in total cash and bank accounts. Russ R. noted that the "Total Cash and Bank Accounts" total in the net worth report did not coincide with the checkbook register (approximately \$60 difference); however, as long as the checkbook shows the lowest number, it should not be a problem. Nonetheless, Russ. R. will do his best to identify the error. He also pointed out that the "NESAF Fund Earning Account" is not a true separate account. The figure of \$1,667.38 is based on notes from Dana and interest payments that we have on record when the CDs reach maturity. The \$1,667.38 is included in the NESAF Savings Account. The money in the "NESAF Fund Earning Account" should be tracked for grant purposes, but through a different mechanism than it is now. This is now reflected in the net worth report and in the future it could be a notation, asterisk, or a true separate account could be opened. Russ R. is waiting on Andy F. to get paperwork into the banks so they know Russ R. is the new Treasurer and he can access NESAF financial information.

The CD value was presented as \$15,423.05. There is \$1,200.00 in liabilities. Total net worth was presented as \$29,554.06

Russ R. reviewed the budget worksheets. Since NESAF needs a proposed budget for 2012, he took some initial steps entering figures that are consistent with previous years' budgets.

**A motion was heard from Paul D. that the EC is in receipt of the Treasurer's Report; a second to the motion was heard from Pete H.** It was pointed out that the Net Worth Report is approximately \$20,000 less than it was last meeting. The NESAF fund CDs are approximately \$10,000 less than they should be. This may have been a typo. It was also noted that the approximately \$25,000 NESAF fund is in 2 CDs. Minutes and discussion should reflect this. At points, the CDs have been referenced as a single CD. The maturity dates of the CDs are only a few days apart (Dana H. corrected this information through email - one CD matures in March the other matures in September). The EC may want to consider whether it makes sense to continue with the current setup, consolidate to one CD, etc. The CDs could be listed separately on the net worth report with an indication of their respective maturity dates. **The motion was amended by Paul D. to state that the EC is in receipt of the Treasurer's Report acknowledging current shortcomings of the report and expecting clarification at the next EC meeting; a second to the motion was heard from Pete H. The question was called and the motion passed unanimously.**

There was extensive discussion about whether to use pencil and paper, Quicken or an Excel spreadsheet for the budget. Spencer M. encouraged Russ R. to use whatever he is most comfortable with as long as it is accurate and consistent with accounting principles. Kurt Z. pointed out that there should be a process or software that provides continuity between Treasurers and uses standard accounting principles. Russ R. will take more time with the budget.

Russ R. informed the EC that he had expense reimbursement forms if EC members were submitting expenses for the meeting.

## Approved Minutes 12-22-2010

By next meeting Russ R. expects the budget to be much clearer with some of the discrepancies worked out. Russ R. also mentioned that he thinks it is important to carry 4 years of expenses and income on the budget worksheets to better define trends.

The EC thanked Russ.

### B. Old Business:

**Winter Meeting Update (Zschau):** Kurt Z. circulated the program and registration form for the 2011 NESAF winter meeting in Fairlee Vermont. GMD has a full planning committee; Dan Kilborn and Kurt Z. are chairs. Mark Twery is Chair of the program committee and has developed a full program. Kurt Z. reviewed the location and program. Registration costs have been finalized including credit card usage. The planning committee is comfortable with where they stand. Kurt Z. has merged the existing donor, exhibitor, and sponsor forms into one. It serves a similar function, but reduces paperwork.

A letter goes out to potential donors, exhibitors, and sponsors after the new year. EC members should let Kurt Z. know of any historical sponsors, donors, or exhibitors that may not be on their existing list. There should be adequate space at the hotel for attendees (or little overflow). No National SAF representative has been invited to date. Kurt Z. asked for input on the process of inviting a National SAF representative, i.e. does the invite come from the NESAF EC or GMD? Ron L. indicated that Roger Dziengeski will likely be there. Ron L. will take responsibility for getting a National SAF representative. Kurt Z. should get a 2011 NESAF winter meeting agenda and registration form to Deb B. for the website and Maggie M. for the News Quarterly.

Spencer M. made Kurt Z. aware of a couple errors in the winter meeting program flyer. Spencer M. will email suggested edits to Kurt Z. Mark, T. and Dan K. Deb B. discussed turning the registration form into an interactive .pdf with the EC. Deb B. will turn the winter meeting registration form into an interactive .pdf.

Ed O'L. informed Kurt Z. that Jay Maciejowski handled donors, sponsor, and exhibitors last meeting at Lake Morey. Kurt Z. may wish to contact him for help or advice. Pete H. suggested Kurt Z. or Dan K. contact Harold Cook about sponsorship.

Kurt Z. showed the EC a letter that will be going out to donors, and reviewed additional materials that will be sent out. There is a two tiered system for sponsorship; \$250 for a booth, \$200 for a non profit (registration for 1 is included in a booth). There are no criteria or restrictions dictating who can establish a booth. Interested sponsors can contact Kurt Z.

Kurt Z. suggested templates be included in the planning manual including letters, registration, and lists of sponsors. Kurt Z. can send Ron L. proposed content for the planning manual. Kurt Z. and Peter G. plan to touch base and discuss options for students. Spencer M. noted that Will Mercier spearheaded the Maine student volunteer effort in the past and may be willing to help.

**Winter Meeting Planning Guide (Lemin):** Ron L. discussed the status of the Winter Meeting Planning Guide. Ron L. brought a copy for EC members to look at. He suggested Kurt Z. review the insurance information since there are fieldtrips at the upcoming winter meeting. In addition, Kurt Z. can speak with Spencer M. who has had experience working with National to insure fieldtrips. NESAF falls under national SAF's insurance. If a unit lets national know about fieldtrips, national can get a general rider. However, the unit should contact National with plenty of lead time, preferably at least three months.

Ken Laustsen continues to be a tremendous asset. Janice Mulherin and Will Mercier have contributed on the student section. Ron L. would like to circulate a draft in January. Kurt Z. has suggested changes and will email them to Ron L. Ron L. will send the latest version to the EC after Ken L. makes some final corrections.

## Approved Minutes 12-22-2010

**NY-NE Joint Winter Meeting (Lemin):** NYSAF wants to conduct another joint winter meeting with NESAF. Ed O'L. put Andy Hayes in touch with MASAF. It will not work for the winter meeting in UMass, but perhaps a future meeting. Maine is next in the winter meeting rotation after MA/Yankee. Ron L. discussed the possibility with MESAF. MESAF is willing to delay their turn for a year to allow for a joint NESAF-NYSAF meeting. All other states/divisions would have to approve a similar delay and agree to a five year (rather than four year) rotation. Randy S. suggested discussing the issue at the annual meeting. Spencer M. brought up the need for local support when planning the winter meeting. As such, a local chapter/division may be involved. There may be issues determining how to split profits between NYSAF, NESAF and potentially a local chapter/division. One option is to split profits evenly three ways. Ed O'L. suggested Burlington, VT as a future location for a joint meeting. Ed O'L. will contact Sam Schneski to get the topic on the next GMD meeting agenda. Pete H. will discuss the topic with GSD. Ron L. will discuss the topic with Yankee Division.

**Addressing EC Member Voting Rights (Meyer):** Spencer M. raised the issue of EC voting rights. According to the bylaws, the Website Coordinator does not have the ability to vote. The EC felt that the Website Coordinator should have that power. The change would require a change in the bylaws. The EC discussed whether there were other necessary bylaw changes, e.g. associated with a policy chair, policy ad hoc committee, etc. Peter G. and others were comfortable moving forward with changes to the bylaws to allow for the Website Coordinator to vote. Additional changes could be addressed in the future if necessary. A proposed bylaw change will require a vote from all of membership. Spencer M. will speak with Ken L. to ensure the right process is followed. There was discussion about the cost of such a change (approximately \$500) and the potential for the proposed change to go out in the *News Quarterly* to ensure the proposal reaches all members. After continued discussion, it was agreed that the best step was to talk to Ken L. about next steps. A motion was heard from Ed O'L. to amend the bylaws to include the Website Coordinator as a voting member of the Executive Committee and to have Spencer M. contact Ken L. to determine a course of action; a second to the motion was heard from Pete H. The question was called and the motion passed unanimously.

**Granite State Division NESAF Grant (Howland):** Granite State Division is returning the \$1,000 grant that they have received from NESAF. All division efforts have been going to completing the publication *Good Forestry in the Granite State*.

(The EC took a break at 11:20am resumed at 11:30am)

### C. NEW BUSINESS:

#### Standing Committee reports:

**Nominations and Election (Dolan):** Paul D. circulated election results from the Divisions/Chapters that participated in electronic voting. Paul D. sent out 100 ballots above and beyond what National sent out. There was a 35% return on local elections and approximately 30% on national elections. National is accepting NESAF's format. Paul D. had to do a little formatting, but overall things were smooth. A motion was heard from Jim H. to accept the Tellers Committee Report; a second to the motion was heard from Ed O'L. The question was called and the motion passed unanimously.

There was discussion about how to inform successful candidates that they were elected. Next year, when National sends the results to the Tellers Chair, the Tellers Chair will inform the NESAF EC Chair. The NESAF EC Chair will inform successful candidates (or Chapters/Division Chairs) of the preliminary results, to be finalized by the EC at the December meeting.

## Approved Minutes 12-22-2010

**Policy (Open):** To date, Ron L. and Peter G. have not received any interest in the Policy Chair position. The process started 1 ½ to 2 yrs ago, it may be time for membership to get involved if it is going to move forward. The Policy Chair position will be presented to membership at the winter meeting. Ed O'L. and Peter G. will discuss what can be done at the winter meeting. Ed. O'L. may make a comment at the beginning of the general session then again at the business meeting.

**Membership (Greeno):** Currently NESAF has 1112 members. This includes 96 inactives who will be purged on January 1. Peter G. had students calling inactive members to discuss SAF membership. Of 300 calls, there were 45 contacts, 52 bad numbers, and 15 members indicated an interest in renewing. Paul D. suggested calling members on Sunday nights. Some of money from the membership drive line went to the student chapter as a fundraiser to be re-used on the local level.

Peter G. will run the layout of the new brochure past the NESAF EC then will get it printed. Most of the two membership line items will be used up. The membership line item will be expensed first and extra grant funds will be carried forward into next year.

NESAF has until February to report back to National on the Foresters Fund Grant. NESAF has received \$1,200 and will receive the remaining \$300 once the final report is submitted.

**Forest Science Coordinator (Harding):** Roger Monthey will be assuming the Forest Science Coordinator position after February. Jim H. and Roger M. have been emailing back and forth discussing logistics. The next *News Quarterly* theme will be on SAF. There may be an opportunity to emphasize service. Materials for the April issue will be due the third week of March. Jim H. will work with Roger M. on that issue. It is likely that Jim H. will coordinate the working groups at the winter meeting.

**NESAF Website (Boyer):** Deb B. said there was not much to report. It has been pretty quiet. She fixed some typos. Deb B. is planning on sending out an email. Get information out to her as soon as possible, especially any winter meeting information. She has received some emails and forwarded them along as appropriate.

Barbara Burns from Fellows Committee contacted Deb B. and told her what needs to be changed for January.

For every mass email that is sent out, there is usually one person opting out. Deb B. was wondering if the EC had any ideas on getting feedback from these people as to why. Peter G. and Ed O'L. suggested sending those members a personal note. Spencer M. informed the EC that usually unsubscribe can be modified - including adding elements like a survey to determine the reasons members are opting out. There was general consensus that a single opt out every mass email was a very low number.

Spencer M. asked Peter G. if it is possible to track inactives year over year to determine if there are chronic inactives or if it is usually a one time event. Peter G. may want to look into this.

(The EC took a break at 12:10pm and resumed at 12:50pm)

**Grants (Harder):** Mel H. distributed a grant request from MESAF. Spencer M. asked if everyone read the grant; he can try and field specific questions. Spencer M. noted that MESAF is the principle applicant for the grant, and Tish Carr of MACD is a co-coordinator in administering the grant. Ed O'L. commented that he likes the tool training component of the grant request. He has been involved in similar programs and the tool element is often missing. Ed O'L. also noted there should be more recognition for NESAF. As condition of the grant, it should be noted when the tools are provided that they are made available through NESAF's support. Spencer M. will relay the message back to the project coordinators. A motion was heard from Paul D. that the grant request appears to meet the NESAF grant requirements; a

## Approved Minutes 12-22-2010

second to the motion was heard from Ed O'L. The question was called and the motion passed unanimously. If the grant is approved, a formal request may be made by MESAF and a check will be cut.

**Awards (Stone):** Dana H, has agreed to take on the Awards Chair position. Randy S. recounted the evolution of the Dave Smith Silviculture Award (detailed in the last meeting minutes).

Randy S. requested that members email nominations to him electronically this year. It has been a tremendous help despite a couple issues that still need to be worked out. Randy S. gave some examples such as a missing page to an award nomination form.

Over the next few years, he is hoping that all nominations will be electronic. Randy S. will send EC members electronic copies of the ballots. State representatives on the EC vote. A nominator may vote for the individual he/she nominated. EC members should get ballots back to Randy S. by the end of the year. Dana H. has all the old awards documents. Randy S. contacted the awards vendor to create a new award. There should be no problems. There is a full slate of nominations. Randy S. will inform Ron L. who the winners are and work with Dana H. to ensure everything is ordered on time.

Pete H. emailed Randy S. about a question GSD posed. They want to honor 50+ yr members. Randy directed them to the website. The website needs to be updated. Deb B. and Peter G. are working on that.

Randy S. emphasized that the criteria for the award should be understood and all requirements are met when nominating someone, Supporting documentation must be included in the package. Resubmissions can happen year-to-year if applicants are not selected.

Ken L. has volunteered to produce the brochure for the banquet.

**Budget Report (Reay):** Russ R. added a column "2012 proposed budget" which incorporated similar numbers from previous years' budgets, or his best judgment when numbers should clearly deviate from previous years. For example, interest income was changed to more accurately reflect current interest rates. In talking with Dana H., he understood the budget development was a collaborative process between the EC.

Under expenses, National Meeting Travel was reduced to \$4,000. The Membership Drive line item was reduced to \$500. Spencer M. noted that the approved 2010 and approved 2011 budget columns were missing. Ron L. produced a budget worksheet that had the approved 2010 and 2011 budgets. Russ R. took the date.

Peter G. noted that proposed budgets cannot be created in Quicken. There was discussion about how multiple programs including Excel and Quicken were used in the past. Spencer M. suggested that Russ R. contact Larry Rousseau to get a copy of the excel document he used and discuss how Larry R. was using it. It was noted that it would valuable and necessary have documents in the same format for a prolonged period of time, i.e. a budget from 1992 should look the same as a budget from 2000 or 2010. A Leadership Academy grant should be submitted for 2012. Ron L. will write a Leadership Academy Grant by February 2011. Russ R. is going to sort through the budget and will email the EC a revised budget if he gets it straightened out. There should be a footnote in the budget if NESAF is getting grant income in 2011 and spending it in 2012 for the Leadership Academy.

Under income, meeting advance income should be \$0. Vermont did not need an advance. Ed O'L. informed the EC that it is not common practice for a hotel to demand an advance and it is easy to negotiate with them to drop one if they are requesting it. Jim H. asked about the \$3,000 deposit required from Yankee Division in last meeting NESAF EC minutes. Mel H. is acting liaison between Yankee and NESAF and shared information from his report (see state update for details). Yankee is coming up with \$2,000 and NESAF is providing them with \$1,000 for a deposit. Meeting returns for 2011 were changed to \$3,000.

There needs to be an audit by the end of the year. Dana H. worked with treasurers of MA, CT, and RI. The audit needs to be presented to the EC and accepted prior to the business meeting. The audit should be conducted in person so everyone can get together and dig into the actual documentation. In preparing for an audit Russ R. may be able to discover any errors.

## Approved Minutes 12-22-2010

**NESAF News Quarterly (Machinist):** Scott and Maggie M. were not present. Ron L. reminded the EC that the deadline for the *News Quarterly* was today and to get all outstanding information to Maggie and Scott M.

### State Reports (NESAF State Representatives):

VT (Kurt Z.): *GMD* has been focusing on planning for the winter meeting. Typically, *GMD* hosts a legislative breakfast at the beginning of each biennium. They are going to skip it this year. There is a new Governor in Vermont and a new Secretary of the Agency of Natural Resources. Deb Markowitz will be the new Secretary of the Agency of Natural Resources. Patrick Berry has been appointed Commissioner of the Department of Fish & Wildlife, Chittenden County Forester and SAF member, Mike Snyder, has been named Commissioner of Forests, Parks & Recreation and David Mears will be the Commissioner of Environmental Conservation. Last year, the legislature came close to making significant changes to current use program, which could have had adverse affects. This year, the legislature may target the program again. A current use coalition formed and is working to make preemptive changes. The *GMD* may get more involved despite no policy position in the chapter.

RI (Paul D.): A Rhode Island teacher got Teacher of the Year. Last year, there was a pilot program to reactivate a tree farm. Students were involved in writing a management plan. The Rhode Island Chapter continues to support the Walk in the Forest Program, Envirothon, and state educational workshops. They are focusing on additional programming with partners (conservation districts, PLT, etc.) reflecting the International Year of the Forest.

CT (Mel H.): Mel H. provided highlights from the following reports:

#### Report from Phil Caspar, CTSAF Chair.

CT SAF has seated new officers. Deborah Spalding will ascend to chair after a year serving as vice-chair. Vice-chair will be filled by Mike Bartlett of Hull Forest Products. Secretary/treasurer position will be filled by Yale Forestry student Alex Barrett.

The Connecticut chapter held its annual summer meeting at the Pomfret School in Pomfret, CT in August. The discussion was framed around the Massachusetts Commonwealth Forest Heritage Plan. We heard from Charlie Thompson, Tom Worthley, Bill Labich, Chris Pryor, and Chris Martin, all great speakers. One of the conclusions of the meeting was that other organizations that care about forests should be viewed as potential allies. Foresters should get involved with other such organizations to share ideas.

The CT Chapter was a sponsor of this year's Connecticut Forest Conservation & Research Forum, held in West Hartford in November. Many members participated. An annual winter meeting is being planned, and CT leadership has put out a call for suggestions as to topic/theme.

#### Report from Shelby Semmes, Yale Student Chapter Chair

Spring 2010: Wildland Firefighter Training- Current students and career wildland firefighting professionals Matt Carroll (MF'10) and Jason Lawhon (MF '11) organized and taught a weekend course that offered participants two certifications: S-130 Firefighter Training and S-190 Introduction to Wildland Fire Behavior

Dinner with a Forester: Bob Perschel- SAF sponsored dinner with the Forest Guild's Northeast Director discussing biomass harvesting and retention

Spring prescribed burn at Yale Myers Forest- SAF students assisted the School Forest Manager in a prescribed burn of a small part of Yale Myers Forest. The purpose of the burn was to maintain early successional habitat within the French Division of the Myers Forest.

## Approved Minutes 12-22-2010

SAF tree planting with Urban Resources Initiative Greenskills on Arbor Day

Fall 2010: Yale SAF chapter held a retreat at Yale-Myers Forest: A dozen students and SAF members spent the night at the forest, clearing brush and cutting fireline in anticipation of a restoration burn of our Christmas Tree field for spring 2011

The chapter sent 12 students to the annual SAF conference held in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Jason Brown (MF '11, MDiv '11) and Gina Lopez (MF '11) submitted posters on the respective topics of Federal Employment Among Native Americans in Natural Resources agencies and Trends in Catholic Women's Ownership of Forestland

Dinner with a Forester: Christopher Riley, Forest Supervisor for Providence Water, who discussed his career at the intersection of forestry and watershed management

Hardwood Propagation workshop with Adam Wheeler, propagation and Plant Development Manager at Broken Arrow Nurseries.

SAF tree planting with Urban Resources Initiative Greenskills Program in New Haven CT

Christmas Tree Sale- This year the chapter hopes to sell 40+ Christmas trees, student made wreaths & ilex boughs to students, faculty and community members as part of our annual fundraising events (event forthcoming).

### Report from Yankee Division

Mel Harder, CT rep., is acting liaison between NESAF E.C. and Yankee Division. Yankee Division is host for the 2012 NESAF winter meeting.

### Bill VanDoren, NESAF 2012 Annual Meeting - Yankee Division Planning Update

Committees: The only vacancies left at this point are Quiz bowl: Tim Hawley has offered to moderate the Quiz Bowl; he has experience but it would be great to find someone to help him with it to get some new blood involved.

Poster session: This position, I believe, is usually filled by the Forest Science Coordinator. Jim Harding had asked a couple folks who declined; I asked Mark Rudnicki (UConn); he needed some more time to think about it as he's very busy. J.P. Barsky at the CT Experiment Station had indicated willingness to help with the posters at the 2012 meeting, but would likely not be able to be the FSC. Since he's willing, I think J.P. would be great with the posters. I had cc'd some of the NESAF leadership to see if would be an issue if the FSC did not do the posters...I think it's a relatively minor issue, but just want to check before its finalized.

Tours & Program Guide: I don't believe I've explicitly mentioned it Jeff yet, but once Jeff Ward starts off the Program Committee meetings I'll ask that committee to select people to fill those vacancies.

Co-hosting: I think there was some confusion about co-hosting with NYSAF...which has been worked out. The 2012 meeting will tentatively be co-hosted with the Northeastern Forest Pest Council.

Financing & Conference deposit: I checked with Tom Worthley, YDIV Secretary/Treasurer, and we did indeed receive a check from NESAF for \$1,000 as seed money to help with our \$3,000 deposit to UMass Conference Services. Dana Hachigian was helpful in getting the check issued. We did not request the check far in advance, but it came promptly. Tom Worthley indicated that he's keeping track of the expenses and receipts thus far and will start a separate bank account in FY2011 so the accounting doesn't get overly complicated in advance.

Tax exempt status: I am trying to wade through the Federal, MA, and CT IRS/Dept. of Revenues to secure/renew YDIV's tax-exempt status. I believe Tom Worthley has maintained Yankee's tax-exempt status with the CT Dept. of Revenue Services, which means we would need to supply our 501c3 form and a Massachusetts Form to UMass Conference Services to avoid the sales tax on the conference. The only 501c3 forms I've seen have listed NESAF (as an exempt sub-group under SAF), not Yankee Division, but hopefully it won't be an issue.

## Approved Minutes 12-22-2010

The Connecticut Chapter did not have an election. They will need to address this, most likely at the next chapter meeting.

MA (Randy S.): The conclave of students, October 15-17, hosted by UMass went well. Dave Kittredge, Peter G., Ron L. and Randy S. all made it. Students toured the Quabbin and Harvard Forest. Close to 20 students attended representing Paul Smith's, UMaine, UMass and UConn. 2 more conclaves are scheduled. Governor Patrick appointed current DCR Commissioner, Rick Sullivan to Secretary of Energy and the Environment. DCR Commissioner and State Forester (Director of Forest Stewardship) positions are vacant.

ME (Spencer M.): Spencer Meyer submitted the following update:

MESAF (as well as NESAF) neglected to inform election winners of their election wins in a timely fashion. This may have caused some mild and perhaps not-so-mild hard feelings. NESAF and divisions should develop a protocol for disseminating the news. Our new and returning Executive Committee members are:

- a. Dan Simonds, Chair
- b. Katie Cousins, Chair-elect
- c. Dave Maass, Past Chair
- d. Bill Livingston, Treasurer
- e. Wilfred Mercier, Representative to NESAF
- f. Kristen Hoffman, Member-at-large
- g. Jessica Leady, Member-at-large
- h. Mark Andrews, Member-at-large

MESAF has submitted (as you know) a grant request for \$1200 for a new program to acquire forestry equipment to support Maine Envirothon programs. The proposal requires 1:1 match from schools. MESAF and Project Learning Tree already have a dedicated network of schools and teachers throughout the state who would benefit from the program.

Long-time MESAF member Bart Harvey passed away on October 30, 2010. Bart spent much of his career as a forester and manager with Great Northern and then as a commissioner for Maine's Land Use Regulation Commission.

The MESAF Student Chapter did their calendar fundraiser again this year with the theme of Wood Harvesting and Processing Equipment in Maine. The Student Chapter is also considering initiating a mentoring program for students to shadow industry foresters.

Lastly, I would like to say "Thank You" to all the members of the NESAF and MESAF executive committees since 2006 for including me. I have thoroughly enjoyed serving both committees in my capacity as MESAF Representative to NESAF (or is it NESAF Representative to MESAF?) during the last four years. I've been honored to serve among so many accomplished professionals and thankful for your thoughtfulness to engage me. This network of professional peers and friends will last a lifetime.

MESAF and NESAF are now in good hands with Wil Mercier, who has already been a very engaged, willing volunteer. I encourage you to sign him up for everything because he will deliver! I hope to return to the NESAF ranks in the future but in the meantime, may your maple be sweet, your pine straight and your enthusiasm for the woods eternal.

NH (Pete H): Andy F. read the following GSD report submitted by Pete H:

Good Forestry in the Granite State will be ready to hit the streets by the first of the year, 2011. We hope it will be out for the GSD winter meeting.

## Approved Minutes 12-22-2010

GSD commented on the biomass situation in MA to the commissioner of DOER. We will try to get that to Deb for posting if she so desires.

GSD will not have a booth at the Farm and Forest Expo in the spring of 2011.

The NH DES's new set of wetland rules has some changes that will benefit forestry and logging operations in the state.

The GSD winter meeting for 2011 will be held on 2/11/11 at Attitash Mountain in Bartlett, NH. GSD will be awarding the student scholarships at the meeting, along with NH forester of the year award.

GSD will be returning the NESAF grant money at the December NESAF EC meeting. The forestry project fell apart this summer/fall.

The market situation in the state is varied, depending on the type of market. Hardwood logs are moving, pulp and biomass are all over the place, pine logs are slow, veneer is off with exception of white birch, hemlock is strong.

There were three workshops on wetlands issues in different locations throughout the state.

Tree Farm inspector workshops were run this year to bring all inspectors up to speed with the program changes. The new MOA was updated between GSD and Tree Farm in NH.

There will be two workshops sponsored by GSD in 2011. They include a program on biomass and forest restoration.

SAF Council Report (George F.): Ron L. read a SAF Council Report submitted by George F. and summarized below.

The SAF Council met in Bethesda Maryland over the weekend of December 4.

Most Council meetings are whirlwind affairs starting with a session Friday afternoon, going all day Saturday and ending with a morning session on Sunday. The agenda was 2 pages long and the supporting information took an additional 259 pages.

One of the big highlights of the meeting was a decision of the Council to rest for awhile before any action to raise dues. It was felt by the majority that more information was needed about the impacts of a raise on membership, on services and on recruitment.

We spent time discussing the committee's proposed changes to the Strategic Plan. This was followed up with a discussion of what was needed to increase the member awareness of the goals and actions of the plan to the chapter level. HSD spent considerable time working on this issue during their meeting in Albuquerque and the results of that time were shared with the Council and will be incorporated into the final document.

Convention was a very large success for SAF with attendance nearly 1500. Hawaii provides some good incentives for attendance next year so I hope everyone starts saving for it early. The overall budget picture is better than last year but still not in the black. The National office has done some extraordinary things to cut expenses but membership is still declining.

It is hoped that some of the steps taken that affect the services received by the membership like receiving access to all the Journals offered by SAF as part of your membership will turn this around. The new database, which was previewed at the meeting, should help members navigate the National website more easily with less logging in and quicker response time.

SAF policy Director Erica Rhodes presented a newly re-written Policy Guidebook that spells out the process for policy action within the organization. This is one of the areas where National SAF staff does yeoman work for the membership. More and more as forest-related issues intensify SAF is looked to for the well thought through science by Congress, Federal Departments and Legislative Committees. Whether successful or not this effort is highly regarded at the National level and is bearing fruit down to the local level as well. Yankee Division's and Mass Chapter's recent Department of Energy response is one example of local and National SAF working together to craft a well designed and meaningful document stating our case.

## Approved Minutes 12-22-2010

If you ever have any questions or issues to bring forward please contact me at [gframe@forestsociety.org](mailto:gframe@forestsociety.org) or call 603-224-9945.

Canada (Don F.): There was no Canada report.

**Chair Potpourri (Lemin):** Ron L. thanked the EC on behalf of himself and Ed O'L. for the opportunity to go to HSD. Some of the issues touched upon were increasing dues, strategic planning, and engaging non-forestry people and students.

A copy of the Form 990 that was submitted was provided to NESAF. Russ R. needed to get financial info from all Divisions/Chapters and compile a single package to send in. Divisions/Chapters can now work with National SAF's accountant. Ron L. is getting an estimate of what the accountant would charge for a similar service.

Meeting dates were set.

**Other items for the good of the order:** Ed. O'L. discussed correspondence among the EC. In addition, he thanked Spencer M., Randy S., Jim H., and Ron L. for their efforts and provided them with gifts. Russ R. has been following up with National about online registration issues. Michael Goergen has been very helpful and responsive.

**Calendar: The NESAF EC will next meet on Thursday, January 13, 2011 9:30am at the Conservation Center in Concord, New Hampshire.**

### Upcoming Meetings

Tuesday, March 29, 1:00pm-5:00pm, Lake Morey VT

Wednesday, June 22 9:30am-3:00pm, Scarborough ME

Friday, September 16, 9:30am-3:00pm, Groton SF VT

Wednesday, December 21, 9:30am-3:00pm, Concord NH

A motion to adjourn was heard from Jim H. A second was heard from Spencer M. The question was called and the motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 3:00pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrew Fast, Secretary