


MESAF Executive Committee Meeting

April 6, 2004

Huber Resources Office, Old Town

Attendance: Ken Laustsen, Ben Dow, Mandy Farrar, Sue Aygarn, Bill Livingston, Dick Scott, Tony Filauro, Laura Audibert, Kenny Fergusson, Bob Wagner , Marc Johnson, Bob Chandler (arrived at 11:00 AM).

Anti-trust Statement

Kenny began the meeting at 10:06 AM by making an anti-trust statement.


Meeting Agenda


Kenny reviewed the meeting agenda.

Minutes from Last Meeting

Ron mentioned that there has been no action by the Awards Committee yet this year.


Kenny talked to Dave Field and will meet with him on April 9 about getting the policy committee going again.

Bob  asked that the minutes be amended by removing the second paragraph under the Website heading. He did not understand this to be true.

Ben moved that the minutes be accepted as amended, Bob  2nd, motion approved.

Treasurer's Report

Ken audited Bill's 2003 (calendar year) spreadsheet. He found it to be in compliance. **Bill** will now send the audit information to National, as required for our non-profit status. **Ken** will send Laura a copy for the Division records. Ken has the information if anyone else would like a copy.

Bill handed out the account balance sheet. He has set up a separate account for the 2005 NESAF meeting in Portland. Ron, Bob  and Bill will be signatories (?) on the account.

Mandy moved to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented, Bob  2nd. Approved.


NESAF Report

Maine was the only division to apply to NESAF for money to attend the Leadership Academy. NESAF sent out the \$1000 check for the academy.

The Nominating Committee is in a shambles and is not defined well.

Awards Committee needs help. Usually it's only one person, but more are needed.

Ron is the Membership Chair and has a new manual. Each division is supposed to have its own Membership Chair, but Maine does not currently have one. The Chairs meet annually at the NESAF Winter meeting.

Ron passed out the Delinquent Member list he received from National. The sheets were divided among the group. Page 1= Ron, 2=Tony, 3=Sue, 4=Bob , 5=Mandy, 6=Ben, 7=Kenny, 8=Dick. The group will contact the delinquent members and report the status to Ron by April 13. There are ~50 names on the list, many are probably just late in paying.

Laura Kennefic has volunteered to be the Forest Science Coordinator for NESAF. She will handle Working Group activities, among other things. She has volunteered to be the Forest Technology Coordinator for the 2005 NESAF meeting. She will take care of the technical posters and working group meetings. She will try to get the program presentations ahead of time to be included in the meeting Proceedings.

Policy Issue

NESAF has had much discussion on the subject, but they couldn't decide if the position should be defining policy or communicating policy. They recognized that the policy issues are not being solved satisfactorily with volunteers. They tabled the topic until their June meeting.

Ken put together a proposal for funding a full-time paid position as a regional policy person for NESAF (see Straw Man handout). He proposes that the funding be a series of grants that each division in NESAF would apply for. He envisions that the position would spend time on each division's issues proportional to the amount of money they contribute to the position funding.

Ken wants to hear what our Maine members think about the issue. The exec. comm. had a lengthy discussion on the subject. The group agreed to take the following action:

- Ken will re-write the Foresters' Fund grant to fund a Maine position only. He will apply for the \$5000 grant and a \$1500 grant by June 15, 2004. The proposal would fund a salary, travel expenses, postage and other "costs of communication;"
- Ken will be the Project Manager/Grant Administrator for the project;
- Laura's contact information will be used;
- Ken will distribute a draft proposal to the exec. comm. via email shortly for comment;
- Kenny will present the idea/proposal to the membership in his upcoming Chair Letter and mention that the issue will be discussed briefly at our Spring Meeting;
- Bill will send an email to the membership asking for comments on the proposed idea;
- Laura will include a section on the Spring Meeting Evaluation form to allow for comments on the proposal.

Student Chapter Report

Bob Chandler reported on the Student Chapter's activities this past year. Members went on two field trips, participated in the Poster Contest with one school, held the Noon-time Lecture Series, had a separate speaker from the American Chestnut Foundation and sold T-shirts for the forestry program's 100th Anniversary celebration as a fundraiser. They currently have 45 members, with 15-20 active.

Upcoming activities include working on signs for the University Forest on Maine Day, volunteering at a Woodsmans Meet at Nutting Hall, work on trails in Veazie Town Forest, future trip to Maine legislature.

Bob C. mentioned that the student chapter website is under construction. They will probably link it to the University's site and/or to MESAF's site.

Bob C. passed out a sheet with suggestions on how the Student Chapter can connect better with MESAF. One idea is to have a mentoring program. **Bill** will work with them on developing a list of MESAF members who would be willing to serve as a mentor. *(did I remember this correctly??)*

This is Bob's last year as Chapter Chair, next year it will likely be Roy Eckhart.

Bill will work with new Chapter officers to schedule more seminars for next year and advertise them off-campus to area foresters.

Poster Contest

Sue displayed the County winning posters at the poster session at the NESAF meeting in Quebec City recently.

Sue had a steering committee meeting in March. She distributed the minutes to the group via email after the meeting. They discussed aligning the contest presentations with the Maine Learning Results. PLT's Pat Maloney is working on fixing the outline to meet this objective. Lynn Wilson is streamlining the presentation package for foresters and looking into preparing a "canned" PowerPoint CD. They want to make it easier so more foresters will volunteer for the program. They want to make the contest better. The teacher letter will be going out this spring.

Sue indicated that she planned to apply for a Foresters' Fund grant to help with the contest. **Ken** will send Sue a copy of a previous grant application. We still need to send in the final letter to close out our previous Foresters' Fund grant. **Sue** will send it to **Ron**, who will submit it to National.

Laura will send out fundraising letters ASAP to companies who have donated in recent years.


Laura mentioned that she was tired of the current contest and she felt MESAF needed to develop a new program to meet our educational objectives. She suggested a type of forestry field day, where school classes would be invited to an outdoor site where they would participate in a series of stations, learning different info and skills.

Sue, Bill, Kenny, Tony, and **Laura** will collaborate to develop a new program. Pat Maloney will also be asked to participate. The 2004 contest will proceed as planned, with the new program

implemented, possibly in 2005. Sue will apply for a NESAF grant to cover any costs. Deadline for the grant application is December 1, 2004.

Ken mentioned that the China School has a Forestry Field Day every spring.

MESAF Website


Tony listed his suggestions for what to post on our website. Bob W.  contacted Jim Oehler and Tom O'Shea about the NESAF site. He decided that for now, Maine should continue its own site. Someday, if NESAF can provide a "full-service" site for us, we may post our page with them. Ron mentioned that NH and VT are proceeding as we are.

Laura will list our website address on our stationery so more people may use it.

Laura also agreed to be the website manager, since she is the most permanent person and is the central contact for information. She will need to learn the process. **Bill** will purchase the software at the University.

Ron made motion that MESAF purchase the needed software (FrontPage and an Adobe-like program) for Laura and sponsor her to attend a FrontPage class. Ben 2nd. Motion passed.

Spring Meeting

Dick needs to finalize things with the hotel by April 27. **Ben** and **Mandy** will get Dick the info on what the speakers need for AV equipment soon. Bob  has a portable PA system he will bring for the outdoor sessions.

Mandy will post the meeting announcement in the next SWOAM newsletter. **Laura** will try to get an announcement in the Forestry Source.

Dick estimates ~75 attendees for the dinner and ~50 rooms will be needed.


Fall Meeting 2004

Bill has reserved Wells Commons for November 18, 2004.

The topic and other details will be discussed at the next Exec.Comm. meeting.

NESAF 2005 Portland Meeting

Ron passed out the current organizational chart. He still needs volunteers to fill major slots. **Ron** will send an email and schedule a meeting for all volunteers in the near future.

Bob W.  has the poster easels at his office. He will find a chair for the Poster Committee.

Sue agreed to be Entertainment/Door Prize Chair. **Kenny** will work with Laura on Registration. **Ben** will work with Ron on Hotels.

Max McCormack secured Tom Rufkin of Time-Warner to be the keynote speaker.

Leadership Academy

Dan Simonds, **Kenny**, **Ken L.** and **Mandy** will be attending the Academy. Bill sent in the money.

Arthur's Books

Laura mentioned that elderly Yale forestry graduate, Arthur Muschler, passed away and his widow would like to donate his forestry library to a worthwhile institution. UMFK has agreed to take them, but they don't know how many books are involved. Laura suggested that MESAF make a donation to assist with the shipping of the books to the University and then put SAF nameplates in the books.

The group needed more information on the nature and number of the books. The issue was tabled until **Laura** gets more information.

The meeting adjourned at ~ 2:30 PM.

Submitted by

Laura Audibert