

MESAF Executive Committee Meeting

June 14, 2004

Huber Resources Office, Old Town

Present: Ron Lemin, Mandy Farrar, Kenny Fergusson, Tony Filauro, Bob Wagner, Laura Audibert, Bill Livingston, John Bryant, Ken Laustsen (arrived at 10:35 AM). Ben Dow and Dick Scott were not able to attend.

Anti-trust Statement

Kenny began the meeting at 10:08 AM with an anti-trust statement.

Review Agenda

Laura added a Forest Forum item to the agenda.

Minutes from April 6, 2004 Meeting

Ron motioned to accept the minutes as presented, Mandy, 2nd, passed.

Portland 2005

Mandy is the Program Chair, with Max McCormack as a "silent assistant". The small woodlot component will be organized by Tom Doak of SWOAM. Charlene Donahue will handle the NE Pest Council component and The Wildlife Society section will be organized by Barry Burgason and Jerry Levigne.

Ron, Max and **Mandy** will make another site visit to the Sheraton soon. Ken L. suggested we book the group Woodsong for a public concert one evening of the meeting as an outreach activity. **Ron** will pursue this idea. We agreed that advertising would be very important.

Planning for the 2005 meeting is on schedule, more organizational meetings will be held in the future.

USFS will pay for and produce the meeting Proceedings and have them available at the meeting, free of charge. The deadline for speaker papers is likely to be mid-January 2005.

Tony will help Marc Johnson as Public Info Chair. **Bob** will have Dan McConville get the Call for Posters into the News Quarterly by the September 27 deadline.

Leadership Academy

Mandy Farrar, Dan Simonds, Ken Laustsen and Kenny Fergusson attended from the Maine Division. Kenny was favorably impressed and felt it was money well-spent. Bill L. sent the receipts to NESAF for reimbursement. The Academy will be offered at least every other year.

Ken commented that the Maine Division is well ahead of other divisions in involving the local Student Chapters. Bill commented that the Noontime Seminar series is extremely helpful in keeping in touch with the students.

Treasurer's Report

Bill passed out the account balance information. The checking account has \$8268.46, and the savings has \$2952.84, for a total of \$11,221.30. All our accounts together total \$13,551.79. John motioned to accept the Report as presented, Bob 2nd, passed.

Spring Meeting 2004

Everyone agreed the meeting went very well. Financially, we took in \$7016, and paid out \$4892.88 for a net of \$2123.12. The hotel bill was \$2542.50 and we made out fine, even with the mix-up on the room and meal costs.

Some evaluation comments lamented the large tour group size. The exec. committee decided to have an emcee for future indoor and outdoor meetings to make sure questions are repeated, answers are heard and that side-bar conversations are minimized. We preferred keeping large groups together so all attendees hear the same messages.

Kenny mentioned that a fellow associated with the Turkey Federation (?) suggested we have a joint meeting with them next spring.

Fall Meeting 2004

We decided to have a one-day session at Wells Commons on the successes, opportunities and realities of the Maine wood products industry. The morning would be spent on the MESAF business meeting (8:00-10:00 AM) and on mill situations, with a panel of speakers (10:00-12:00). The afternoon would have a panel of speakers on future opportunities (1:00-3:00PM) and a tour of Habib Dahger's wood composite lab. Industry and gov't speakers will be approached.

Mandy will contact Lloyd Irland and Dave Field to come up with an appropriate title. **She** will keep us informed on progress.

NESAF Rep Report

Ken reported that the exec.comm. last week on Cape Cod and followed the business meeting with a fishing trip. He mentioned that NESAF is solvent and that they approved MESAF's Forester's Fund application for the policy work we want to do. The application has been sent on to National.

Ken is seeking nominations for the Maine rep to NESAF, since Ron's term is up at the end of the year. Gary Bahlkow said he was interested a while ago. Dan Simonds' name also came up. The Vice-Chair position is also open.

NESAF netted ~\$5000 from the winter meeting in Quebec City. An idea was floated at their meeting to rotate the winter meeting over five years, with the fifth year being in a new location.

The NESAF silviculture working group tour will be at the Penobscot Experimental Forest on August 4, 2004.

Ken wants MESAF to submit award nominees for all NESAF awards.

NESAF grant money is available, \$3500, December 1 is the deadline for applications.

The NESAF website will be re-opened shortly. It will have a membership password accessible section and forms for downloading. The News Quarterly will also be available on the website.

Policy Committee/Website Development

Ken expects an answer on our Foresters Fund application in mid-July. Ken will send a copy of his final fund proposal to anyone who would like it.

Bob has the NESAF winter meeting intensive silviculture meeting PowerPoint presentations in pdf format. He will put it on a University server and Laura will put a link to it on our website.

Laura mentioned she had a request from our server, Prexar, on proof of our 501C status. Ken told her to forward it to Louise Murgia at National SAF, since they have the documents. Laura will do this right away.

Dave Field has paper copies of all his MESAF policy stuff. It was agreed that the Student Chapter will be approached by Kenny to scan all this info so it will be in electronic format. Bob and Bill will look into having it scanned for keywords so they can be searchable. The target for completion of this work is Christmas break in December 2004-January 2005. The Student Chapter should invoice us for the work, so it is clear we are not "employing" them. This way we will know the outcome of our grant application which is intended to fund this work. If our grant is not approved, we will put the request in the 2005 budget so we can get the work done.

Laura will contact Prexar and find out how much space our website has on the server and what the cost would be to purchase additional space. She will email this info to the group.

The group agreed that our policy statements should be accessible to everyone, but policy creation information should be accessible to members only.

The group agreed that all members should be invited to participate in MESAF policy creation. Roughly 70% of members have email, the remainder will need a traditional mailing of information.

It was decided that the Communications Committee would serve as the editorial board for our website content. Laura will post items and the Comm.Comm. will review and request changes. If Laura has doubts about material, she will run it by the Comm.Comm. before posting.

Poster Contest Update

Laura mentioned that the contest is proceeding as usual for 2004, but changes may be made for 2005. The Poster Committee is transforming to the Forestry Awareness Committee. A conference call with Sue and Lynn is scheduled following the Exec.Comm meeting. Tony, Kenny, Ken and Laura will participate.

Arthur's Books

Laura reported that Arthur's widow has not yet had a chance to inventory his forestry book collection. Laura will give an update at the next meeting.

Forest Forum

Laura mentioned the idea of resurrecting the Forest Forum concept under MESAF organization. There is a particular need for forestry information/seminars in northern Maine.

The group was interested in this idea. **Laura** will check with foresters in her area for support and to gauge the level of interest. **She** will report at the next meeting.

Next Meeting

Thursday, September 2, 2004, 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM at the Huber Resources office in Old Town.

The meeting adjourned at 2:15 PM.

***** Poster Contest Conference Call *****

Kenny and Ken spoke with Sue and Lynn. They were just putting the final touches on their Foresters Fund application for the contest. There was apparently a misunderstanding on the proper routing of the application for approval. It is due at National on June 15 (tomorrow). Ken gave them Tom O'Shea's (NESAF Chair) email address to see if he could approve and sign off on the application and forward it to National by the 15th. The grant is needed to supply the speakers' packets with Lynn's PowerPoint presentation and other materials.