

MESAF Executive Committee Meeting

April 12, 2005

Buchanan Alumni House, UMaine

Attendance: Bill Livingston, Bob Wagner, Bob Seymour, Rory Eckardt (left at ~9:00 AM), Bob Chandler, Mandy Farrar, Ken Laustsen, Marc Johnson, Sue Aygarn, Laura Audibert, Kenny Fergusson, Dick Scott (arrived at ~9:00 AM).

Bob W. began the meeting at 8:33 AM. Bob S. read the bylaws to determine if we had a quorum of voting members. We need five and once Kenny arrived we had five.

Anti-trust statement

Bob decided we didn't need one.

Review Agenda

Rory's items were moved up on the agenda so he could leave earlier.

Minutes from January 5 and February 15 Executive Meetings

Laura had emailed the January 5 minutes and Bill passed out the February 15 minutes he took in Laura's absence. A typo was corrected on the February 15 minutes. Bob S. moved to accept the January 5 minutes as emailed and the February 15 minutes as corrected. Mandy 2nd. Accepted unanimously.

Treasurer's Report

Bill passed out the report. The NESAF meeting receipts were:

NESAF:	\$28,959
Pest Council:	\$ 4,261
for a total of	\$40,817.61

Expenses totaled	\$32,443.84
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Profit:	\$ 8,373.77 (minus \$1,000 seed money = \$7,373, split in two with NESAF = \$3,686
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We have a grand total of \$24,427.95 in all accounts. Bob S. motioned to accept the report as it stands, Mandy 2nd. Unanimously approved.

Policy Scanning Project

Rory reported that all the documents are now digital. Next step is to meet with Ken L. to make a plan. They have a 2-year timetable, so time is not a problem.

Student Chapter Report

Rory listed some of their recent and upcoming activities:

- Volunteered at the NESAF meeting;
- 100th Anniversary film showings
- Maine Day Project—cleaning up Undergraduate Reading Room and student bulletin board;
- Help with booth at Fryeburg Fair;
- Help with Girl Scouts in Baxter Park in September;
- Peer Guidance – one movie night per month + education review for tests – their goal is to increase membership of 1st and 2nd year students;
- Mentor Program message board;

- Web Page—waiting for server upgrade, should be up by the end of the semester;
- Trips: plan to meet with forestry committee legislators on April 15, Huber Dolby woodyard (good trip, 19 attended).
- Fundraiser – 2006 Calendar of Maine scenery—asked for donations from companies, need telephone follow-up.
- Molly S. did a survey of students.

Bob W. thanked the students for all their help at the NESAF meeting.

Chandler LPF Survey Report

Bob Chandler sent out 855 surveys. He mailed them on March 7 and had 52% returned so far. He is in the data-entry phase now (25% done). He is doing the entry via a web server to make it easier to analyze. At this point it is hard to determine trends. There were many “older” respondents and they varied geographically. Bob expects to have the data entry completed by mid-May. He will then decide if he will have focus groups or individual interviews with some respondents. He will make a list of recommendations for changes or ways to fix our problems. He will be completely done by the end of August. He asked what we wanted for results. We decided he should make a presentation of his findings at the fall executive meeting. The NESAF grant process specifies mandatory results and to package them so others can use them. Bob does not need any help at this time.

Bylaw Revisions

Bob S. and Kenny met recently. They reviewed the current bylaws and divided tasks for providing revisions. They are looking at the NESAF operating manual. They want to create a MESAF Operating Manual. Our calendar should be included in our manual. The Division Manager position needs to be added and some non-existing positions should be dropped. The manual should be task-oriented and it will be important for the Chair to review, since that position is responsible for many items. **Bob. S.** will draft a template for a smaller committee.

Laura suggested that someone else besides the Secretary/Treasurer take the minutes at the annual business meeting, since the Treasurer has to make a report and take notes at the same time. It was suggested that the job description for the Secretary/Treasurer be amended to say that “secretarial duties can be delegated to another executive committee member.” This allows flexibility.

Ken said that SAF business cannot disenfranchise any member, so email review and voting will not be acceptable for bylaw revisions. It was suggested to post the bylaws and changes on the MESAF website and send the URL in a written letter. This would avoid the need to mail a paper copy of the bylaws to everyone.

It was suggested that **Laura** send another “email only” MESAF information request to the members, to cut down on mailing costs and paperwork. This should be done periodically, as more members get email.

MESAF Audit

Ken reviewed our statements and submitted that the audit is complete.

SWOAM Scholarship Request

Reference Tom Doak’s email to Bob W. (attached to hardcopy minutes). Much discussion. We decided that the third option, of giving SWOAM our \$150 to use as a scholarship in their name was a non-starter. We felt it was important for the hired intern to know that financial support

came from MESAF. Bill is concerned that we send a bad message if we ask for our money back. Mandy mentioned that Tom Doak has already spoken to a student about the intern position. Bob S. made an amended motion that MESAF support the SWOAM initiative to hire a summer intern. Our \$150 can be used for this purpose. Dick 2nd. Unanimous support (vote = 5-0 in favor). **Bob W.** will respond to Tom D.

Leadership Academy

Ben Dow was offered the professional member spot but declined for this year—maybe another time. Rory will be attending as the professional member and Molly Simonson will be the student member. It was not known if they had registered yet.

Employer Support Letter

Bob W. did an informal poll of CFRU members and only 3 of 12 employers financially support their employees' SAF membership. It was decided to wait for the results of Bob Chandler's survey to see if employer support is a big issue.

Delinquent Members

Ron Lemin has the list of delinquent members. He will be contacting them via email.

New Forestry Awareness Program

This committee is currently ad hoc. Sue reviewed the attached proposal. Bill feels that the approach is to "certify" a school's curriculum. Kenny likes the proposal but is hesitant about "setting the bar." The next step is a Coordinators meeting on May 6. Bob S. mentioned that the Forestry Awareness Committee needs a formal charter. There will be a PLT workshop for foresters on June 9 and the planning meeting will be May 9. After much discussion, the group's consensus was in support of the initiative. **Bob W.** will mention in his Chair Letter that the Forestry Awareness Program will be replacing the Poster Contest for 2005. It was decided not to amend the Foresters Fund grant proposal. We must spend and account for the grant money by June 2006.

Communications Committee

Marc and Tony met with the environmental writer for the Portland Press Herald on March 14. They spoke on many topics and mentioned the upcoming NESAF meeting in Portland. MESAF and the Maine DOC made a joint press release announcing the NESAF meeting. It was sent to the Portland Press Herald, Bangor Daily News, Lewiston Sun Journal, Kennebec Journal and TV stations. No one knows what actually got published.

Laura mentioned Rep. Nancy Smith's comments about putting scientific posters in the Hall of Flags in Augusta.

It was suggested that the MESAF website should be listed on all MESAF correspondence. **Laura** will send our URL to Brad Wyman for posting in the News Quarterly. Comments were made that the NESAF website was not very good.

Bill L. suggested that we should recognize and thank Ron L. for his work on the NESAF meeting. Bob W. motioned that we get him a \$100 gift certificate to the Olive Garden with a thank-you card. Mandy 2nd. Unanimous support. **Bill** will get the certificate and **Bob W.** will do the card.

Spring Meeting 2005

Scheduled for June 9. **Dick** is working on getting prices from the Augusta Civic Center. A 1st floor room is currently reserved for our 8:00 – noon meeting.

Robb Cotiaux suggested registration at 7:30 AM. The meeting schedule is tentatively as follows:

8:00 AM	MESAF business meeting—budget report, vote on Nutting Hall courtyard renovation donation
8:30 AM	Get on buses
9:00 AM	Ron L—herbicides and wildlife
9:30 AM	Turkey mgt
10:00 AM	Robb Cotiaux
10:30 AM	Upland game birds
11:00 AM	Lunch on buses
12:00 PM	Field tour, Frye Mountain
4:00 PM	Arrive back in Augusta

We need to line up two buses. We also need a moderator for the morning session and to figure out what we need for AV equipment. Bob W. motioned that MESAF (**Bill**) purchase our own bullhorn. Bob S. 2nd. Approved.

Mandy will email the agenda to the group for review. The final agenda must get to Laura by May 1 so the mailing can go out by May 14.

The ballot for the Nutting Hall Renovation Project donation will be handed out to SAF members at the registration table for voting at the business meeting. The business meeting agenda items will be added to the spring meeting agenda. **Sue** will put the Forestry Awareness Program info in the registration packet.

We decided to order box lunches (not from the Civic Center) and eat them en route to Frye Mountain. We will get a bus to leave from Old Town. There will be a limit of 100 registrants. No extra vehicles will be allowed except for an emergency chase vehicle.

Lunch

The group broke for lunch at 11:58 AM.

Fall 2005 Meeting

It was decided to have the meeting on October 11 at the D.B. Corbett Hall on campus. **Dick** will take the lead on organizing this meeting—Mandy was told to “sit this one out.” Bob S. suggested a silviculture topic with the title, “Fifteen Years of ABC (Anything but Clearcutting) Silviculture: How are We Doing?” A program committee was set up to organize the meeting (**Kenny, Bob S., Bob W., Dick** and **Steve**). Suggested elements are:

- Intro on how everyone operates;
- Characterize harvests;
- Regen and growing stock;
- Biodiversity;
- Wood supply;
- Institutional investors;
- Economics;
- Rehabilitation opportunities;
- Marking vs. not marking.

MESAF Website

The group agreed that the site was fine and functioning as planned.

There was some discussion on passing along emails or posting job opportunities on our site. Posting was discouraged. Some emails are done now. Bill gets the Chair's approval before sending something along.

Northern Maine Forest Forum

Laura mentioned that she had sent out an email to some people and there seems to be sufficient interest in getting the Forum started. **Bob. W.** will send Laura the E. Canusa mailing list to get Canadian names for mailing. Sue suggested getting the CLP logger list as well.

Girl Scouts

Bill L. mentioned the Sarah Medina Scholarship that gives two UMaine students \$750 to help at Camp Natarwi. The goal is to boost enrollment in the UMaine forestry program.

Adjournment

Bob W. motioned to adjourn, Bill 2nd. Unanimously approved to adjourn at 1:15 PM.

Submitted by

Laura Audibert
Maine Division Manager