

**MESAF Executive Committee Meeting**  
**June 14, 2006**

UMaine campus, Buchanan Alumni House, Large Board Room

Attendance: Ken Laustsen, Laura Audibert, Will Mercier, Tony Filauro, Bill Livingston, Jake Metzler, Gary Bahlkow, Jim Runyan (arrived at 9:25 AM).

Bob Seymour opened the meeting at 9:05 AM with an anti-trust statement.

The agenda was reviewed by the group and no changes were made.

- **Minutes from Last Executive Meeting**

The minutes from March 21, 2006 were reviewed. Ken gave **Laura** written spelling fixes. **She** will revise and post on the website shortly. Jake motioned to accept the minutes as amended, Bill 2<sup>nd</sup>. Unanimous approval.

- **Treasurer's Report**

Bill passed out the Treasurer's Report. We made ~\$1600 profit on the Spring meeting. Laura has to turn in one more expense for supplies.

Our receipts from dues has increased, likely from student members moving into the professional category.

The Forest Policy funds will be returned, since the project was not completed. The actual expense for the Leadership Academy, \$2326.07 will increase by \$1100 as more bills are submitted. We still owe \$2500 for the Nutting Hall Courtyard project. One more \$500 Div. Mgr. stipend will be paid this fiscal year.

The current balance is \$10,954. Bill anticipates ~\$4000 in expenses, so we should end the FY with ~\$7000.

Bob S. motioned to accept the Financial Report as presented, Jake 2<sup>nd</sup>. Unanimous approval.

- **NESAF Report**

Ken reported in Ron's absence. NESAF held a one-day retreat recently to discuss the future challenges for foresters. A white paper will be developed. It will be reviewed internally then distributed to the divisions and chapters prior to their next meetings. The intent will be for each local group to embellish it with homegrown ideas. The paper will be discussed at next year's NESAF winter meeting and we will determine actions to be taken. The process is funded by the Foresters Fund, so it must be a template for others to use. The paper will be available by October 1, 2006 and posted on the website as a PDF file.

The group discussed that SAF is competing with members with the Forest Guild (*Jim R. arrived at this point*).

The profit from the NESAF winter meeting is \$16,800—the committee was surprised. \$8400 goes to NESAF and \$8400 goes to the NH division. The final attendance count was 330.

The 2007 winter meeting will be held at Lake Morey in VT on March 21-23. Rooms at the lodge are limited, but other hotels are available 30 miles away.

**Ron** needs a replacement as Maine's NESAF rep. He is being courted to run for NESAF Vice Chair.

- **MESAF Bylaw Revision**

**Bob S.** will send the revisions to the exec. comm. for review. **Laura** will post the revisions on the website, along with the current version. In early September, **Bob S.** will send out a chair letter with a page of the revisions. The fall mailing will include the chair letter, highlights of the bylaw revisions, fall meeting flyer, 2007 exec. comm. bio-sketches and ballot. The ballots need to be returned by October 1, 2006. The ballots will include the approval/disapproval of the proposed bylaw revisions. **Laura** will put a statement for members to contact her if they would like a paper copy of the current or proposed bylaws. For the bylaws to be revised, the changes must be approved by 2/3 of the members voting (2% of the membership must vote). This information will be added to the bylaw revision sheet so members understand that their vote is important.

- **Division Manager Contract**

**Laura** will email the current copy to Jim and he will have a company lawyer look it over quickly.

- **Harvest Practice Task Force**

Bob W. emailed out the survey results to the group. The TF will have another meeting to review the results. The coding of the cuts done during the field meeting will be tabulated later. Based on the survey, the majority of the SAF members want the TF to pursue the classification system. It is likely that any new definitions will be added to the current silvicultural terms, not replace them. The regeneration seems to be the most ambiguous.

Discussion included "who is the system for?" and "should we be tracking regeneration better?" Gary is concerned about the trajectory of stands, particularly with all the blowdown mortality in partial cuts. The group concurred that forester accountability needs to be increased.

The TF will continue to work on the classification system.

- **2006 Fall Meeting**

A report on the classification will be made at the Fall meeting—based on the meeting evaluations, many of the members want some kind of follow-up, though not an entire meeting. Some suggestions on topics included the concern for long-term management plans and the relationship between silviculture and stewardship.

A draft agenda looks like:

~8:00 – 10:00 MESAF Business meeting

10:00 – 12:00 Harvest Classification System

LUNCH

1:00 – 4:00 PM      What's Driving Future Forest Management?  
Futuristic Look?  
Ownership: Long-term vs. short-term

Other possible themes include:

- ♦ Technology
  - GPS
  - GIS-Mapping
  - Cruising
  - Silviculture

- ♦ What are future foresters in Maine going to be doing?
- ♦ Wood Supply Agreements and Implications for Long-term Forest Management
- **2007 Officer Ballot**  
**Laura** will email Gary page 7 of the 2005 Fall meeting evaluation with names of people who indicated interest in serving.
- **Forestry Awareness Committee**  
 Bill reported in Sue's absence.  
 Sue has received ~150 orange volunteer cards back, with 60-70 folks willing to visit a school if asked. Rusty Brann is compiling the list. **Laura** will email him the names she received from the spring meeting registration.

Some suggested near-term actions include:

- ♦ planning an activity to utilize those who signed up;
- ♦ offering funds for school field trips;
- ♦ sending a letter to the environmental resource group list to tell them that we have a database of foresters willing to help with future activities.

Ken mentioned that the 2-year grant deadline is up in June 2006. **Sue** needs to expense the environmental group meeting, postage and training. The balance of the grant will be turned back to National with a final report of the project. **Bill** will buy stamps for the next FAP mailing with the grant money too.

**Laura** will email Ken the original FAP request letter and the "orange card" info ASAP. **She** will also ask Rusty for the forester database names and email the list to the exec. comm..

- **Student Chapter Report**  
 Wil reported the results of their recent elections. Only one person ran for each position.  
 Chair – Katie Manende  
 Vice Chair – Kyle Burdick  
 Secretary – Brian Milakovsky  
 Treasurer – Spencer Perry

No new members joined in 2005-06. The chapter visited freshman and sophomore classes to recruit. They will try a BBQ in the fall with other natural resource groups to boost involvement.

The finances are good. They will report their status to National since they have so much money. Calendar sales were okay, but not great. They have started a recycling box in Nutting Hall and are collecting bottles.

- **Communications Committee**  
 Tony reported that Kevin Miller of the BDN attended the spring meeting, but no articles related to it have appeared yet.

- **Other**  
 Jake brought up the comment on the spring meeting evaluation about members being turned away from meeting due to limit reached, while many non-members were allowed to attend. The group considered sending out the meeting mailings to members one week ahead of the mailing to non-members, but this may be impractical for the members-at-large

organizing the meeting. In the end it was concluded that not much could be done to change the outcome. Members just need to get their registrations in earlier for meetings that have attendance limits.

Bob S. also suggested that for field meetings, attendees should list their cell number on their registrations, so they can be reached at the bus pick-up locations.

Bob S. motioned to adjourn the meeting at 1:53 PM, Jake 2<sup>nd</sup>. All approved.

Submitted by

*Laura Audibert*