

MESAF Executive Committee Meeting
June 7, 2007
Video Conference

Attendance: Rene Noel in Gray, Jake Metzler, Bill Livingston and Spencer Meyer (arrived at 10:12 AM) in Orono, Jim Runyan in Machias, Laura Audibert in Fort Kent and Gary Bahlkow and Henry Whittemore on phone lines.

Gary started the meeting at 9:12 AM with a brief anti-trust statement.

No changes were made to the agenda.

Minutes from April 10, 2007 Meeting:

Henry motioned to accept the minutes as presented, Rene 2nd. Unanimous approval.

Treasurer's Report

Bill showed an overhead to the group. Our dues income thru February is \$2300, very close to our budget amount of \$2500. Bill feels we will reach our target.

Our Spring meeting took in \$4380 and our expenses were \$4298.15, so we essentially broke even, which is typical for a spring meeting. The rough cost per attendee was \$43.44, so we subsidized our members' registration.

Our checking account balance is \$5723.95 and our savings balance is \$4731.99, for a total of \$10,455.94.

The group talked about asking for a refund from Cyr Bus for the Bangor bus trouble. Jake will also suggest to Cyr that we get a bus at no charge for our next field meeting, instead of a refund now. **Jake** will take care of handling this.

The Forestry Awareness Committee balance is 2110.91. There were expenses of \$207.53 for the Lake Auburn meeting. Gary feels this was money well spent.

The total in all accounts is \$12,566.85.

Henry motioned to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented, Jake 2nd. Unanimous approval.

2007 Spring Meeting

The comments that stood out were that the groups were too large, there was too much bus time and the speakers needed microphones. We will keep these in mind for the future.

The group agreed to have **Laura** post the evaluation results on the website for anyone interested in the responses. The volunteer names at the bottom will not be posted.

Future Field Meetings

Jake and Laura feel that based on the evaluations and the logistics of field meetings, it would be helpful to the membership to have more, smaller field meetings to address more topics. Henry suggested that perhaps we could talk to CFRU and request that 10 seats on their annual tour be reserved for interested SAF members. It was also suggested that landowners could be asked to host/sponsor a tour on their land. The registrations would run through MESAF (Laura).

Laura was asked to research the possibility of on-line registrations on our website for our next meeting.

The group discussed limiting the smaller tours to SAF members only.

Laura suggested forming a program committee from among the membership to organize the meetings. Gary suggested that the potential hosts be called and asked to help coordinate the tours. Jake thinks the Members-at-large can work with the landowners to manage the tour content.

It was decided that next year MESAF would send out a letter to the membership in mid-winter listing 3–4 field tours available from May through November. This would be the only meeting notice mailed out. Other information would be available on our website and via email.

2007 Fall Meeting Topic

Gary suggested the topic of how to sell the ideas of membership and participation in industry organizations to new large landowners working on short time frames. Henry suggested the topic of adding value to the resource and improving markets.

Election Progress

Henry reported that he had talked to the following people about running for a MESAF office: Dave Maass, Mandy Farrar, Don MacKay, Rory Eckardt, Jack Lutz. He will also talk with the current excomm members to see if they are interested in running again. **Laura** will send Henry an email with past ballots so he knows who has run for office lately.

< Spencer arrived at this point 10:12 AM)

<Henry left at 10:13 AM>

2007 Fall Meeting Topic (continued)

The topic of forester credentialing was suggested for perhaps the Fall of 2008, after the Task Force has a chance to do some work.

Gary suggested professional ethics as a topic. Rene offered the ACF idea of presenting an ethics case and its resolution. Spencer noted that having diverse topics will attract a broader audience, but the topics must be tied together. Spencer suggested have a panel of different landowner types and their view on forestry investments.

The final meeting outline is as follows:

- ☼ SAF Business Meeting
- ☼ Repeat NESAF Session on different landowners' investment opinions—Panel—Forestry Future
Suggested panel participants:
 - Tom Doak—small landowners
 - Ken Super—Wagner—TIMO/REIT
 - Irving—long-term manager
 - Plum Creek—GMO—**Spencer** will find speaker
 - John McNulty—Orion??
- ☼ Ethics Case (**Rene** will check w/ACF to find speaker)
- ☼ Box LUNCH with break-out sessions to discuss case
- ☼ Licensing Task Force presentation (brief)

Gary will make some contacts.

Jake will need the names of potential speakers.

Licensing Task Force

The TF consists of Max McCormack, Steve Coleman, new licensee, Greg Foster (ACF), Alec Giffen will provide someone. The TF is officially off and running. The chair will be chosen by the group itself. Rene noted that the large landowner rep is missing. **Gary** will find someone.

Transportation to 2008 NESAF meeting in NY

Laura suggested hiring a bus to transport MESAF members to NY to save on cost and energy. Spencer suggested that MESAF subsidize the bus as a benefit to members. This topic will be added to the Business meeting in the fall to see how much interest there is among members.

Student Chapter

Katie was unable to attend.

NESAF Update

Spencer will send an email to our group on the on-line balloting progress, once info is available. Their next meeting is in a few weeks and Spencer currently has no new info to report.

Next Meeting: Monday, August 27, 2007 at the Buchanan House on the UMaine campus. 8:30 AM–1:00 PM. **Spencer** will set it up.

<Jim left at 10:50 AM>

Forestry Awareness Committee

Bill reported that the proposal to the Maine Dept of Ed. has been submitted. They should get an answer by June 15. Bill will email the group with the verdict.

Sue set up a contact network. Spencer got a call and referred it through the network and the request was filled.

Donation to UMaine Forestry School

Bill mentioned that the school received a \$12 million donation from an individual to buy land for the University Forest and for scholarships.

Student Social

Bill suggested hosting a social to get foresters and students together. **Bill** will organize the event and set the date. MESAF will pay for the food, maybe a BBQ.

Communications Committee

Laura said that Tony had nothing new to report. Rene mentioned that he is meeting with John Richardson of the PPH soon to discuss sprawl.

Jake motioned to adjourn the meeting at 10:57 AM.

Submitted by
Laura Audibert