

MESAF Executive Committee Meeting
January 11, 2008
Buchanan Alumni House, UMaine Campus, Orono

Attendance: Jack Lutz, Dave Field, Ken Laustsen, Bill Livingston, Spencer Meyer, Jake Metzler, Dave Maass, Sue Aygarn, Henry Whittemore, Laura Audibert and Tony Filauro (arrived at 11:23).
Absent were: Gary Bahlkow and Ron Lemin.

Henry opened the meeting at 11:02 AM. Introductions were made, followed by Henry's anti-trust statement.

A few changes were made to the agenda.

* **Minutes from August 27, 2007 Meeting:**

Spencer motioned to accept the August 27, 2007 minutes as presented, Dave M. 2nd. No discussion. Unanimous approval.

2007 Annual Business Meeting Minutes

Bill passed around his draft of the minutes. A few typos were fixed. Once **Bill** makes the edits, **Laura** will post the on the website.

The following individuals volunteered for committee membership: *(If we listed you by mistake, or forgot to list you entirely, please let us know—LEA)*

Nominating Committee – Todd Caldwell, Gary Bahlkow;

Tellers Committee – Lee Stover;

Audit Committee – Jim Runyan;

Forest Practices – Mike Dann, Rene Noel, Jeremy Boron, Jonathan Scott.

Treasurer's Report

The 2007 Fall Meeting generated \$6935 in revenue. \$562 in dues has been received to date, more will be coming in. Twelve new students signed up with SAF.

<Tony arrived at 11:23 AM>

The group decided to keep the \$50 registration fee differential for the fall meeting and kept \$25 for the spring meeting.

The Northern Forest Forum revenues and expenses continue to balance out. The SAF bumper stickers were purchased, 500 for \$300.

Bill passed out the Statement of Net Worth and the Statement of Revenue and Expense for NESAF, National and the IRS. NESAF must send in an IRS Form 1099, Maine figures are a part of that, we do not need to do our own. **Bill** will send Jim Runyan on the Audit Committee the Statement of Revenue and Expense to review. **Jim** will report to Henry. **Bill** will send the statements to NESAF and National.

Dave M. motioned to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented, Dave F. 2nd, unanimous approval.

* NESAF Update

NESAF History Report

Ken is working on a project to update NESAF history since 1968. Ken is also overseeing a project to produce a ~30 page NESAF document on the changes in forestry in New England since 1970. The group is recommending Max McCormack to write the history for Maine. There may be a stipend for the overall editor. NESAF is willing to help cover the expenses for the principal Maine author, although Spencer indicated that NESAF likely has the money to pay.

Fellows

The NESAF Fellows will have a student breakfast at the Winter Meeting in NY. In general, the Fellows are trying to be more active in serving SAF. Maine Fellows have also been trying to contact delinquent Maine SAF members.

Easels

NESAF will purchase new easels for the winter meeting posters sessions.

Elections

Spencer reported that NESAF has gone to national's on-line election system. All the candidate bios, pictures, etc. are due at national by September 1, 2008—this is a hard and fast deadline. If we miss this date, we will need to do a paper ballot. NESAF is bearing the cost of using this system. **Spencer** will tell Gary and Todd about the election procedure and the deadline. He will serve as a liaison between our Nominating Committee and the NESAF process. **Henry** will also be involved. The group agreed that the list of candidates must be finalized by our June ExecComm meeting. Spencer reported that NESAF had a 8.7% voter response to its recent election, largely due to a lack of candidates. They are currently reviewing the list of write-ins for the open positions. There is currently no Secretary or Treasurer for NESAF.

News Quarterly Theme

Ideas for NewsQ themes should be sent to Spencer or Brad Wyman. They currently have a list of topics but are always looking for more. The theme articles are put out by Jim Harding, the Forest Science Coordinator. Brad has still not found an editor to replace him.

NESAF Website

The website is almost finished. It will have a good list-serve capability. Even though Maine still wishes to have its own website, we can still use their list-serve service. The group still feels that we want to keep our own website, rather than join NESAF at this time.

Leadership Academy

The Academy has been budgeted, but a location has not been set. It doesn't appear that the Academy will happen this year. Ron and Ken have volunteered within NESAF to offer a New England Leadership Academy within 18 months. Though it would be help in NE, it would be open to everyone. Ken asked **us** to be thinking of speakers, leaders, attendees, locations, etc.

NE/NYSAF Meeting

The winter meeting is scheduled for February 27 – 29, 2008 in Saratoga Springs, NY. Registration can be done on-line. Jake checked into hiring a bus from Old Town to leave on Feb. 26 and return on Feb. 29. The cost is \$3600 for a 54 seat bus. The group decided to charge \$75 per person, regardless of where they get on. If we make money on the bus registration, we may provide some food. **Jake** and **Laura** will work on the details.

NESAF 2009 Winter Meeting

The 2009 meeting will be held in Maine. Ken is the General Chair, Ron is the Arrangements Committee Chair and Jake is the Program Committee Chair. They are looking at venues in Bangor also. **Laura** indicated that she would serve as Registration Chair.

<The group broke for lunch at 12:45 PM>

* 2008 Meeting Dates

Henry's idea is to have 3-4 field meeting venues on the same day. The group preferred to have 3 separate meetings on separate dates.

The Fall Meeting date was set for Tuesday, October 14 at the Corbett Business building. **Bill** cannot confirm the date until the spring, but will do so at that time. The Wells Conference Center is also an option.

For Exec Comm meetings, the group preferred not to do video conferencing, although conference calls can be set up at the meeting site for those who cannot make it in person. The following Exec Comm meeting dates were set at the Buchanan Alumni House:

Friday, March 28, 2008, 9:00-12:00 (Set up all field meetings);

Tuesday, June 10, 2008, 9:00-12:00 (Fall Mtg, election details, remaining field meetings);

Friday, September 5, 2008, 9:00-12:00 (Fall Mtg details).

* 2008 Themes

Conservation Easements – Katahdin Timberlands Telos-Debsconeag, Baxter, Millinocket. **Spencer** and **Jake** will work on putting this field meeting together.

Biomass-Silviculture – biofuel market, changing practices, pellet tour, Matt Polstein. **Jack** will work on this theme with **Sue**'s help.

Nature-based Tourism – Bigelow, Western Maine. **Dave M.** and **Dave F.** will put together this field meeting.

Everyone should get ideas for dates and details for the field meetings and how they will dictate the Fall Meeting Topic. Info will be needed for the March 28 Exec Comm meeting.

* Forester Licensing Task Force

Henry read Gary's email. Max had "nothing to report." The next board meeting is March 5, 2008. Alec Giffen gave permission for Don Mansius to join our TF. Laura listed the letters she received from the board clerk for meeting credit approvals dating back to the 2007 Spring meeting. **We** should keep the pressure on this issue.

* Forestry Awareness Committee

Sue reported that the governor attended PLT's 30th Anniversary meeting. He may set up a conference in Feb. or Mar. on his "Take it Outdoors" initiative.

On December 13, the group met with the partners on the DOE grant. The RFP will be out soon and the grant awarded in May. The DOE would support outdoor forest-related education.

Envirothon

Preparations are starting ASAP. Envirothon is sending out requests for teams and registration. Last year statewide there were 30 schools and 50 teams. Their goal is to expand, but they need coordinators. Tish Carr is coordinating the effort. ForEd wants to be listed as a resource in the registration packets.

The Forestry Day is scheduled for March 21 at Unity College—foresters should attend. It is ForEd's goals to get foresters to the Mock Envirothons. There may be a broad mailing to potential advisors.

Spencer motioned to donate \$500 from our general budget to the Maine Envirothon, Dave F. 2nd. Discussion—there is \$1700 extra from the Fall meeting vs. our budgeted amount and we won't be spending any budgeted funds on the Leadership Academy, so we have the funds. Unanimous approval.

* **Communications Committee**

Tony reported a good press turnout at our Fall Meeting. Andy Kekacs was recommended to Tony as a good contact. Tony may meet with Richardson from the PPH again this summer.

* **Student Chapter**

Katie was not present. Nothing to report.

* **Other**

Dave F. passed around a brochure from Pennsylvania on forestry. He will email it to Spencer and Tony. Maybe we should do something like this?

Ken passed around a brochure from Oregon in the different jobs in forestry. The group felt this would be ideal for SAF to sponsor. A poster would be nice too.

The group felt the Communications Committee would be the folks to look into this stuff.

Student Travel to NESAF

We budgeted \$500 for this. The cost is \$250/student. There will be \$307 available from the Marc Johnson scholarship.

* **Adjourn**

Jake motioned to adjourn at ~3:50 PM.

Submitted by
Laura Audibert