

**Maine Division Society of American Foresters
Executive Committee Meeting
March 9, 2012
204 Nutting Hall, UMaine, Orono**

Attending: Katie Cousins, Bob Cousins, Tony Filauro, Sasha Miller, Bill Livingston, Ken Laustsen, Ron Lemin, Wil Mercier, Kris Hoffman. Jessica Leahy phoned in.

Katie opened the meeting at 8:10 AM with a brief anti-trust statement.

Agenda Review

Wil reminded the group that we need to decide the meeting locations and times for the year's ExComm meetings.

Minutes of January 20, 2012

Wil motioned to accept the minutes as distributed, Katie 2nd. Unanimous approval.

Treasurer's Report

Bill recently paid the \$300 for the web page service. The Forestry Awareness Committee account reimbursed \$120 to a school for a forestry equipment purchase. Currently \$500 of the \$1200 grant has been used.

In 2011 we donated \$3000 to the Maine TREE Foundation--\$2000 for Teacher Tours and \$1000 as unrestricted. Our donation this year is \$1500 total. Ken motioned that MESAF donate the \$1500 toward the 2012 Teacher Tours. Wil 2nd. Unanimous approval. **Bill** will send the donation with a note indicating that this will be our only donation this year.

Two more student members joined SAF and Bill sent in the check.

Kris motioned to accept the Treasurer's Report as amended, Ken 2nd. Unanimous approval.

NESAF Update

Wil reported that there has not been a NESAF ExecComm meeting since our last meeting. He reminded the group that the annual Winter Meeting is April 3-6, 2012 in Amherst, MA. The conference hotel is full at this time.

Board of Licensure of Foresters Update

Ken reported that there has not been a board meeting since our last ExecComm meeting. The Resolve to change the requirements for forester licensing was voted out of legislative committee as "ought to pass." Ken feels it will likely pass in the legislature.

The Licensing Board and the MFS have a meeting on April 26 to discuss potential changes to the licensing law. This meeting is open to the public.

In January 2013 the legislature will review the resolve. It is not clear how the board can be forced to change the licensing rules. The earliest possible implementation of any new rules would be mid-2013.

Ken will summarize the key points of the resolve for the MESAF membership and mention that comments can be made in person or writing at the April 26, 2012 board meeting. **Ken** will consult with other involved parties to prepare his summary. **Ken** will send the summary to Bill, Katie and Laura by March 16. **Bill** will send it out to the membership and **Laura** will post it on the website.

May 2013 MESAF Meeting

Ken reported that the current plan is to have Day 1 as a half day of plenary sessions, Day 2 a full day of workshops and field trips and Day 3 a half day field tour. Possible locations are the new Oxford Casino (opening in May 2012), Saddleback in Rangeley and Sunday River in Bethel. All sites have good regional access.

Ken and Ron are concerned that NY has not signed a contract with a hotel for the 2013 NY/NESAF meeting in January 2013 and they have not developed a theme. Ron suggested that we have a Plan B for our May 2013 meeting to ramp it up to a full three day—winter meeting format.

Ken suggested the theme of “What’s in Your Woods”. Ron mentioned that Clean Water Act permit issues may be relevant. The theme can go with both indoor and outdoor formats.

Ron will email Ed O’Leary and MaryAnn to get a fire going on a NY decision. **Kris** offered to start looking at hotels. Ron and Ken will help. Trying to find a banquet space that can serve 350 is difficult. If the NY/NESAF meeting is held, the banquet would be at that meeting.

The dates we would like to have are: 1st choice—May 15, 16, 17, 2013; 2nd choice—May 8, 9, 10, 2013; 3rd choice—May 1, 2, 3, 2013.

Bill motioned that our 2013 ME/NESAF meeting be titled, “What’s In Your Woods” to be held in May 2013. Jessica 2nd. Unanimous approval.

Sunday River is the group’s first choice for a venue. Jessica suggested pricing out the Oxford Casino too, since they will likely have good rates. We need to book the hotel at least a year in advance. **Ron, Kris** and **Ken** will get working on this and inform the group via email. Before the April 3 NESAF meeting, we will decide whether we will host the full winter meeting or our originally planned meeting. It is important to advertise at the winter meeting.

Ron will request the \$1000 seed money from NESAF to be sent to Bill. Ken feels that the \$1000 is not enough for a deposit anymore.

Bill will look into getting a debit card for our bank account. Currently Bill and Laura are listed on the account.

2012 Field Meeting Planning

Kris is planning a trip to the Great Pond Mountain Conservation Trust with Roger Greene on either August 17 or 24, 2012. She will develop a catchy title soon. The sites will highlight young stands and PCT areas, crop tree release, firewood thinning, recreation, habitat mgt and income generation. Ron can also do a talk on invasive species. We will meet at the Fish Hatchery in Orland. Kris will get some vans and may have one begin in Orono to carpool down to Orland. We will “caravan” to the different sites. The attendee limit will be 35 people, including the speakers. We will meet in Orland at 9:00 AM and be back to the fish hatchery at 3:00 PM.

Bob has been speaking with Keith Kanoti at MFS and plans to focus on fisheries and water quality. We will look at an arched culvert and some others. Scott Craig from IF&W will host as well. We may go to the Downeast Lakes Land Trust as well to look at a trout stream bridge. Kris suggested contacting the NRCS water quality person to discuss cost-share programs available for small landowners. **Kris** will contact this person and copy Bob on the email. The tour will likely be on Friday, June 22 or 29, 2012. The limit will also be 35 participants. Indoor time is not needed. We will likely get the lunches in the Bangor area before heading out to Twp. 26 and Princeton. The group suggested a focus on riparian zone management as well.

Laura needs all the meeting details by April 20, 2012 to get the mailing out in time. The goal is to advertise all three field meetings in the same mailing.

Jessica hasn't done much on her tour since the last meeting. She still plans to go to Dover-Foxcroft to visit Pleasant River Lumber and also tour the Conservation District's Demonstration Forest. The title will be something like, “The Forestry Gems of Piscataquis County.” Jessica wants to use private vans for which we will need insurance. This is usually provided by the rental entity.

If we use Cyr Bus for any of the tour, Kris recommends asking for Libby to be our bus driver.

Ken and Ron mentioned that NH no longer requires a credit assignment for meetings. It will rely on the licensed foresters to assign their own and will also accept the SAF credit assignments. Andy Fast will now be one contact for SAF, NH and ME licensing credit assignments.

2012 Fall Meeting

The Fall Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, October 9, 2012. Bill has reserved the Wells Conference Center. Jessica suggested the topic of what new landowners expect from their foresters. Wil suggested focusing on innovations in the woods, such as with harvesting practices, wood processing, silviculture, wildlife management, etc. Bill is interested in infrastructure—road systems and labor. Kris mentioned highlighting training opportunities for harvester operators. The spring CFRU meeting is on Commercial Thinning, so we shouldn't touch that topic.

Jessica would like to have John Malone speak. John Cashwell is his spokesperson. **She** will contact Cashwell to see if Malone would come and get an answer by April 1, 2012. The theme will be New Visions and New Innovations. **Kris** will look into having someone from Plum Creek come to discuss their new management system within their easement. We will solicit potential innovation case studies from our members. **Wil** will draft an email to the membership asking if they have a case study of an innovation that they would like to share at our meeting. **Bill** will

send the email to the membership and the solicitation will be made at the NESAF meeting in April. The email replies will come to Kris. The **MALs** will follow up with each contact. **Laura** will post the request for studies on the MESAF website. The date for submissions will be April 30. The MALs will review all the submissions and prioritize them for our July 20 ExecComm meeting. The most appropriate submissions will be targeted for an oral presentation at the Fall Meeting. The remaining entries will be compiled on paper and distributed at the meeting. Inappropriate submissions will be respectfully rejected.

Executive Committee Meeting Locations

The meeting dates and locations are as follows:

Friday, April 20, 2012, Buchanan Alumni House, Orono, 8:00 AM to 12:00 PM;

Friday, July 20, 2012, Ken's camp on North Twin Lake in Millinocket area, time TBD;

Friday, September 21, 2012, Buchanan Alumni House (Bill will check availability), Orono, 8:00 AM to 12:00 PM;

Friday, November 16, 2012, phone conference.

Committee Reports

Forestry Awareness Committee— Sasha reported the following upcoming events:

- ♦ PLT Training on May 21, 2012 in Hinckley. This event may get combined with something else.
- ♦ Envirothon Training Workshop on March 16, 2012 in Unity. Attending will be Bill, Kris, Katie, Sasha and Bob.
- ♦ 4H Camp on May 19, 2012 at UMaine, Orono. Bill will handle this. It was not well attended last year.

Sasha is trying to get the FAP contact list together. It is currently on a LandVest database which she cannot access. **Wil** will be helping her with this.

Laura mentioned that the ForEd@mesaf.org email link on the mesaf website needs to be changed to Sasha's email address, instead of Sue's. **Sasha** will send Laura her the correct email address and **Laura** will make the changes with the server company Prexar.

The ForEd email list will not include email addresses from our meeting registration spreadsheets.

Communications—Tony reported that items for the April 2012 News Quarterly are due to the Machinists by March 22. Tony will pursue contacts with media groups and send an email to the ExecComm with the meeting dates.

Tony will use the minutes from this ExecComm meeting to draft a notice on our Fall Meeting case studies for publication in the News Quarterly.

Student Chapter—Mallory was unable to attend, but sent Katie her notes. The students had an ice fishing trip to Brewer Lake which was lots of fun. They are working with Rick Morrill to finalize a date for the Student Conclave. The students have begun organizing their information to

prepare for the 2013 calendar project. Many students will be attending the NESAF meeting and Leadership Academy in Amherst. Mallory, Emma Schultz, Kacey Elmer, Jeremiah Birch, Colton Burgess and Nate Vir will be attending. Sasha is unable to attend.

Bill reported that there is \$500 in our budget for student travel, of which \$300 is from the Marc Johnson scholarship. **Bill** will have the students submit for reimbursements.

Jessica talked with Barry Burgason at Huber about fixing up their Demo Forest as a Maine Day project. **Kris** will send Jessica the email address for Dave Thompson and **Jessica** will contact him to find out details.

Ken motioned to adjourn the meeting at 11:27 AM, Wil 2nd. Unanimous approval.

Submitted by

Laura Audibert