Maine Division Society of American Foresters
Executive Committee Meeting
February 15, 2013
10th Mountain Ski Center, Fort Kent

Attending: Bill Livingston, Ken Laustsen, Katie Cousins, Kris Hoffmann, Bob Cousins, Ron Lemin, Eli Shank and Laura Audibert. Wil Mercier joined on Skype at 9:15 PM.

Ken opened the meeting at 9:07 AM with a brief anti-trust statement.

Agenda Addition
Katie wanted to discuss the Student Chapter Mentoring Program later in the agenda.

Minutes of September 21, 2012
Laura had neglected to send the amended copy around to the group so she read the changes. Kris motioned to accept the minutes as revised, Katie 2nd, and unanimous approval.

Minutes of November 16, 2012
Laura had emailed them to the group earlier. Katie motioned to accept the minutes as presented, Ron 2nd, and unanimous approval.

Discussion—The group discussed how to handle notifications for the May meeting and when a chair letter may be appropriate. Ken will help organize an Oak Mgt field trip for the MFS. Laura Kenefic is working with some Canadian scientists on offering a Cedar Mgt field trip. Wil mentioned that Roger Monthey is trying to revive the SAF Working Groups and may want to organize something in 2014. Bill Jarvis has offered to host a tour of the island logging on Moosehead Lake. This will likely be the last summer of the operation. Tom Fox wants to do something on the Emerald Ash Borer.

It was decided that the Chair Letter will go out with the field tour flyers in late May or June. For the May meeting, an email will be sent to the Maine membership and a paper mailing will go out to all the non-SAF LPF’s and to the non-email SAF members. The Maine Division website will point viewers to the NESAF website for May meeting details and registration. Ken will handle the Quiz Bowl announcement with Deb Boyer.

Treasurer’s Report
Bill passed emailed copies of the Treasurer’s Report earlier and also had handouts available. Bill has received the $1500 NESAF grant for the Legacy Planning small woodlot owner workshop Jessica Leahy is organizing. This is not a MESAF event.

The Web Registration service subscription of $168 was paid for a year. With a few extra dollars we are allowed use it for up to five meeting registrations during the year.

The balance of the Forestry Awareness equipment grant was returned to NESAF and Bill prepared a final report for the grant. Laura will make a copy to keep in her MESAF binder.
Ron will work with Eli to plan the purchase of a memorial stone commemorating the loss of the 14 migrant workers who died on the Allagash Bridge ten years ago. They will work with John McNulty of Seven Islands to determine a location for the memorial.

Ron motioned to accept the Treasurer’s Report as presented, Wil 2nd, and unanimous approval.

NESAF Update
Wil reported that NESAF has a temporary solution for the lack of a Chair-elect. Sean Ross was appointed to serve a one-year term as an interim Chair-elect. He will be on the ballot in 2013 for a one-year Chair-elect term, and if elected will then serve the normal rotation of 2 years a Chair and 2 more as Immediate Past Chair. There was some discussion about whether the term lengths were a deterrent.

Kris reported that the joint NY/NE meeting was successful. Kurt Zschau is now Chair of NESAF. There were ~500 registered for the meeting. There were ~300 regular registrants (half NY and half NE), 150 students and 40-50 presenters. The silent auction raised $2000+ for NESAF. The Awards Luncheon was a buffet that served 500 people very quickly.

At the meeting Michael Goergen discussed SAF’s new “Brand”. Some questions were distributed in association with the branding. We need to figure out the best way to disseminate the questions to the membership.

Other topics discussed were the changing courses of study in colleges, such as “Terrestrial Ecosystem Mgt”, which is replacing Forest Mgt at many schools. Do we accept this as science for SAF membership and accreditation? Who can be a CF? SAF will soon offer a certified Urban Forester credential. NRCS has also signed a MOU with SAF giving the CF credential an easier route to becoming a TSP (Technical Service Provider).

The next NESAF EC meeting will be in March then at the May meeting.

Board of Licensure of Foresters Update
Ken reported that the board and MFS submitted their report to the legislative committee two weeks ago. This report is on the MFS website. The recommendations are the same as listed in our September 21, 2012 meeting minutes. The committee (Labor, Commerce, Research and Economic Development) must act on the report, but the time line is not known. Ken disagrees with some of the report recommendations.

Computer/Printer/Scanner Resource Upgrade for Division Manager
Ken noted that in a conversation with Laura that she needs to upgrade her computer system. Ken suggested that MESAF ought to help out. Laura declined the offer and committed to upgrading her system on her own, as soon as time permits.

NESAF/MESAF May Meeting
Ken noted that we need to know the registration limits for the field tours and workshops. Wil will get this info to Bill by February 16. The Sunday River buses are limited to 35-40 people.
Carol Redelsheimer from national was invited and we agreed that we would waive her registration fee. The Wildlife Society is very happy to be a part of this meeting and they will have their business meeting on Wednesday morning. The Forest Guild has been very active with the meeting.

Ron is handling the exhibitors and sponsors. Bob Cousins is the contact for student volunteers. We need to have a student volunteer or tour coordinator as the primary contact for each tour and this person must have a cell phone.

So far there have not been any registrations for the Lightning Round of Presentations or the Dirty Boots Quiz Bowl.

Ken and Laura will discuss the credit assignment solicitation for Pesticide credits as well as CF, ME, NH, VT, CT and MA credits.

The field tours will be uniquely numbered and Laura will prepare tickets for each tour to put in the registration packets.

Ron and Kris will visit Sunday River again to check the set-up and arrangements.

Field Meetings
It was decided to send “save the date” emails to the membership and to LPFs via the MFS list-serve in April/May. Fridays work well as tour days. As mentioned earlier, Ron and Eli will work with the Lavall University folks on the Cedar Mgt tour. Bob (Kris can help) will work with Bill Jarvis on the Island Logging tour. We will be publishing the 2013 Field Tour Dates, Titles and Locations in the April News Quarterly. The deadline for this info is March 22, 2013.

Fall Meeting
An idea for the Fall Meeting is “local wood”, something similar to the Kennebec Woodlands Partnership, where markets and ecosystem services are dealt with on a community basis. The group discussed a possible ethics segment for the meeting. Also discussed was how to appeal to industrial foresters—trying to tie in topics.

Bill will check the availability of the Wells Conference Center and parking for Friday, October 18, 2013. This is the latter part of a moose hunting week and may be a better day for members.

Committee Reports
Forestry Awareness—Katie read the report Sasha had prepared (included in the minutes).

Communications – Laura relayed that Tony will be submitting materials to the News Quarterly for the March 22 deadline. He will include a short paragraph on the May meeting.

Student Chapter—Ken reported that Bill had been asked to send out an email, to MESAF members, for the students’ Mentoring Program. They are also working on their calendar project.
Katie asked the students for their goals for their Mentoring Program. A questionnaire will be sent to interested mentors. We will have info available at the May meeting registration table. Jeff Benjamin will have the database. The group feels a facilitator may be needed to be sure the mentors and students make connections. Wil suggested having students do a survey too. Katie will mention this to them. Mentoring may qualify for Category 3 licensing credits. Bill suggested having a university administrative person make the mentoring arrangements.

Other
Laura proposed offering a free registration to the SAF national convention in an annual drawing open to the membership. Others suggested offering the drawing to EC nominees. We may develop a proposal for the Fall Business Meeting in October.

Adjourn
Ron motioned to adjourn (and/or eat) at 12:23 PM, Kris 2nd. Meeting adjourned.

Submitted by

Laura Audibert