

**Maine Division Society of American Foresters  
Executive Committee Meeting  
September 13, 2013  
203 Nutting Hall, UMaine Campus, Orono**

Attending: Ken Laustsen, Katie Cousins, Sasha Miller, Wil Mercier, Bill Livingston, Bob Cousins, Eli Shank on the phone and Laura Audibert on Skype.

Ken opened the conversation at 9:05 AM with a brief anti-trust statement.

**Agenda Changes**

Ken added the review of the August 9 conference call minutes.

**Minutes of July 19, 2013 Meeting**

Ken noted that the minutes of July 19 needed a correction on page 2, paragraph 2, lines 5 and 6 should read, “the new Chair. There is talk of changing the terms of service for the Vice Chair/Chair/Past Chair position from” .... **Laura** will make the changes and email the group the revised minutes. Wil motioned to accept the minutes as revised, Bob 2<sup>nd</sup>. Unanimous approval.

**Minutes of August 9, 2013 Conference Call**

Bob motioned to approve the minutes as presented, Wil 2<sup>nd</sup>. Unanimous approval.

**Treasurer’s Report**

Bill handed out the report. The meeting revenues have been higher than expected. The \$1500 NESAF grant check arrived for Jessica Leahy.

Our income is about \$7400 above budget. Laura has ~\$400 in expenses for the upcoming Fall Meeting. The students did not submit requests for reimbursement. Membership income is down from previous years. Student numbers are up this year. The Student Chapter will be trying the mentor program this year. Four foresters attended the Tanglewood student orientation and good connections were made.

Our ending balance is \$11,500 over budget. \$9000 of this is unobligated.

Not all of the Envirothon funds in the Forestry Awareness (FA) account have been spent. **Bill** will make a \$500 transfer to the FA for Maine TREE. Bill suggested discussing the issue of a non-profit carrying a large balance. Perhaps we should bring it up to the membership. Ken suggested dedicating \$500 to PLT specifically. Katie motioned to dedicate \$500 to the PLT program, Eli 2<sup>nd</sup>. Sasha and Ken explained PLT to Eli. Wil suggested giving them \$1000 instead. Ken suggested bringing it up at the Fall Business Meeting. The motion was approved unanimously.

The Envirothon program will be having four Forestry Field Days this fall. One is in September and the rest in October. Wil motioned to donate \$800 to cover the lunches for the four events this fall. Katie 2<sup>nd</sup>. Unanimous approval.

Our PayPal account is still open. Bill is keeping funds in it to handle any needed refunds. He considers it part of our accounts and records.

The final net earnings from the NESAF meeting in May are \$3059. Bill wrote the check to NESAF. Bill received the check from NYSAF. **Bill** will close the NESAF bank account and transfer any funds to the regular MESAF account.

Wil motioned to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented, Bob 2<sup>nd</sup>. Bill was impressed with the meeting revenues this year. Unanimous approval.

### **NESAF Update**

Ken reported in Kris' absence. Jim Harding has been appointed as Vice Chair of NESAF through the end of 2013. He is standing for election as Chair in 2014. The national ballot may include the NESAF referendum to change the terms from 2-2-2 to 1-1-1.

There has been concern with the interest rates being earned by the NESAF Endowment Account. The Excomm decides where to put the funds, the membership decides where to spend them. The funds will remain in a CD since there is no traction for a withdrawal to fund a NESAF-wide project.

The 2014 Winter Meeting will be held in Nashua, NH on March 25 – 27. The theme will be something like "adapting to upcoming changes in the forest." The program committee is very active.

### **Committee Reports**

Forestry Awareness—Sasha reported that there are many upcoming PLT workshops. Ken and Katie are already attending one. Sasha is trying to contact people in southern Maine. She will contact the ACF chair. Three suggestions were made to reach the southern Maine population:

1. Will suggested including a volunteer survey card in the NESAF Winter Meeting registration packet;
2. Bill suggested hosting a joint alumni meeting at the Winter Meeting for all Maine SAF members and UMaine grads;  
<Colton joined the meeting at 9:44 AM>
3. Laura suggested that the Fall Meeting name badges for southern Maine attendees could be a different color so Sasha would know who to approach.

**Katie** will talk with Paul Larrivee. The mentor visits at the 4H camp were very helpful.

There are many upcoming events in the Biddeford and Portland areas. Laura suggested hosting an informal gathering in Orono after the Fall Meeting. There will be a check-off box on the Fall Meeting flyer for those who plan to attend the social. **Sasha** will call Pat's Pizza and ask for the minimum number of people needed to reserve a room. The social will start at 4:30 PM. **Colton** will talk to the students about the social.

Student Chapter—Colton reported that the students held their first meeting earlier in the week. The conclave will be held in CT this fall on October 3-4. Jessica Leahy is the advisor. She gave the

students a list of activities to consider and will work out a schedule. Bill will request student funding of \$500 for the new MESAF fiscal year.

### Board of Licensure

Ken missed the last meeting and has no update. The status of the proposed licensing law changes is: the Administrative Assistant will prepare the LD with all the recommended changes and submit it in October for acceptance. If the changes pass, they will not be in effect soon. The earliest possible acceptance time would be a year from now. Ken offered to meet with the Student Chapter to discuss the licensing changes. Bob Seymour could be invited too.

### Proposed 2013-2014 MESAF Budget

Next year we expect to have normal income since there are no special meetings scheduled. Bill noted that we need to be sure what the maximum operating expenses are for a non-profit to carry. We currently have \$9000 liquid. Wil wants to be sure that our NESAF income lasts for a few years. Bill noted that our Fall Meeting and Field Meetings generated good income vs. past years. Bill suggested spending a quarter of the NESAF income each year. This would allow \$2500 of it to be spent in FY14.

Bill recommended another \$800 to cover the lunches for the Forestry Field Days in the future. We previously helped schools with travel expenses by directly sending them a check. Maybe we should allocate \$500? Bill suggested adding a "hospitality" expense at the NESAF meeting of \$250. \$500 for Envirothon and a \$500 increase to Maine TREE. Under Meeting Expenses, Bill will add a line item for hospitality for \$500, to include socials at MESAF and NESAF meetings. Bill will transfer \$1000 to Forestry Awareness for the Maine TREE donation.

The Forestry Awareness FY14 allocation will be \$1000 for Envirothon and PLT; Maine TREE will be increased to \$2000 (Teacher Tours = \$1000 and PLT = \$1000 (*did I make a mistake on this??—LEA*); for a total of \$3000. Other FY13 allocations will stay the same ion FY14. Bill will bring copies of the budget to the Fall Meeting.

### Fall Meeting

Ken fixed the schedule on the flyer and will email it to Laura. The registration fees will be \$40 for members and \$60 for non-members.

Ken will advertise the social in his chair letter. It is important to have a core group of members at the social. Sasha will order pizzas for 5:00 PM.

Ken asked about the membership awards. Laura has the 30 and 40-year pins all ready. Laura will email the pin list to Ken. Laura will send the awards in the mail after the meeting to those recipients who did not attend. The group discussed possible book purchases for members with 60 or more years of membership. Ken will order the same book for all recipients. Bill will add \$200 in funds to the FY14 budget to cover the cost.

Ken will discuss membership at the Business Meeting. Bill will ask Steve Shaler, as the new Director of the School of Forest Resources, for a brief report from this accredited school. Ken will

invite Dave Hobbins or Jeff Dubis of UMFK to report on their accredited program. **Colton** will discuss the mentoring program.

The speakers for the Fall Meeting need to be notified of the change in time slots. **Ken** will contact Jan, Collin and Doug; **Ron** will contact Rich, Lloyd and Bob Rice; **Eli** will contact John McNulty.

**Other**

NESAF award nominations and grant applications are due by December 1. **Laura** will circulate the MESAF membership list so the group can consider possible award nominees.

**Adjourn**

Katie motioned to adjourn the meeting at 11:26 AM, Wil 2<sup>nd</sup>. Unanimous approval.

Submitted by  
*Laura Audibert*