

**Maine Division Society of American Foresters  
Executive Committee Meeting  
April 11, 2014  
203 Nutting Hall, University of Maine, Orono**

Attending: Wil Mercier, Jessica Leahy, Kris Hoffmann, Ron Lemin (arrived at 9:22 AM), Bill Livingston (arrived at 10:02 AM).

On Skype: Katie Manende, Laura Audibert, Tony Filauro, Eli Shank.

Absent: Sasha Miller, Ken Laustsen, Colton Burgess

After sorting out communication issues, Wil opened the meeting at 9:15 AM with a brief anti-trust statement.

**Agenda Changes**

No changes were made to the day's agenda.

**Minutes of October 15, 2013 MESAF Business Meeting**

Tabled until Bill arrives.

**Minutes of February 14, 2014 EC Conference Call**

Jessica motioned to approve the minutes as presented, Eli 2<sup>nd</sup>. No discussion. Motion carried with one abstention.

**Treasurer's Report**

Tabled until Bill arrives.

**NESAF Update**

Kris reported that the 2015 NESAF Winter meeting will be held at Lake Morey in VT in late March. The current budget amounts will carry over to the next FY budget. Kris noted that \$1500 was budgeted for another Leadership Academy. Ron will write a Foresters Fund grant to supplement the \$1500 and will organize the next Academy. Jim Harding is the NESAF Chair. Elections for 2015 positions are due to Paul Dolan by August 1, 2014. This is his last year handling the elections.

Maine will need a new NESAF rep. Kris will not run again, but will consider a position within MESAF. She noted that the NESAF EC is a great committee and very worthwhile. If she is not elected to any MESAF positions, she is willing to help out with field tours. The following positions are open within NESAF: Chair-elect, Maine Rep, VT rep, News Quarterly Editor and Web Administrator. The News Q and Web positions have stipends and all positions must be filled by voting members. A Policy Chair is also needed. This position could help formulate positions and responses when situations arise. Jessica noted that SWOAM has an on-call board member to handle issues. Katie is not interested in running for any positions and Kris would consider MESAF Chair-elect.

## **2014 Field Tour Planning Update**

### Foresters for the Birds—May 7, 2014--Arrowsic

Laura has been in contact with Amanda Mahaffey regarding the tour itinerary and flyer. The tour is free, there does not appear to be a registration limit and Maine Audubon is handling the registrations. Kris noted that the MESAF grant to cover the speakers' travel costs specified that SAF members would have the first chance to register, before opening registration to all others. **Kris** will contact Amanda to find out how the SAF registrations will be handled. **Laura** will send out copies of the tour brochure to MESAF members in the upcoming mailing.

### SFMA Tour—June 27, 2014—Millinocket

**Eli** reported that he is working on the flyer and will get the info to Laura on Monday, April 14, 2014. There will be a Cyr bus originating in Old Town and picking up participants at the Park HQ in Millinocket, the Telos Road and Chamberlain Bridge. **Eli** will send the draft flyer around to everyone on April 14. Box lunches will be arranged in Millinocket or Old Town. The tour cost for members will be \$40.

<Bill arrived at 10:02 AM>

### Hemlock Tour—July 31, 2014—Mid-coast

Ron has been working with Alison Kanoti. The location has not been confirmed yet. There will be a pest update on the tour as well. Ron wants to avoid using a bus.

### Augusta Watershed Tour—September 11, 2014—Winthrop/Readfield

Ron reported that Jake Maier and Kirby Ellis are working on the details. There will not be an indoor session. There will not be a bus for this tour either.

**Laura** plans to get the mailing out by April 18, 2014. It will include the Forests for the Birds flyer to members, the SFMA flyer to members and all LPF's and Wil's chair letter to members. It will also include a half-page note listing the dates, places and topics for the remaining tours and telling folks to check the MESAF website and email for further details as they become available. Paper copies of the Hemlock and Augusta Watershed tour flyers will be sent to Maine SAF members who do not have emails.

Northern Forest Forum—**Ron** and **Laura** will plan a Forum in May. Ron will discuss sugar maple release and he will ask Brian Roth to discuss commercial thinning. The available dates are Thursday, May 22 and May 29.

## **MESAF Business Meeting Minutes of October 15, 2013**

Bill received comments from Ken, Laura and Wil. Others can send comments or recommended changes to Bill.

## **Treasurer's Report**

Bill noted an error on the previous report. He initially reported income from NESAF as membership dues, but it was really NESAF grant funds. Bill corrected the entry and the dues income is now listed correctly at \$1125.00. The next dues installment is expected to be large. The hospitality funds were used up at the NESAF Maine Alumni Social. The group agreed that the event went well. There is no longer a Forestry Awareness account. FA is now a line item in the

MESAF budget. Jessica reported that she will have expenses for her grant in the fall. Bill noted that Ken reviewed our IRS tax report and it was sent to the NESAF Treasurer. It was considered our annual audit. Kris motioned to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented, Ron 2<sup>nd</sup>. Unanimous approval.

### **Fall Meeting Theme**

The theme was determined to be, "What to do with...?" Suggested topics to fill in the blank are Fir, Hemlock, Ash, Aging Foresters, Aging Infrastructure, Mixedwood Regeneration in Partially Harvest Conifer Stands, Forester Licensing, Land Area in Harvest Trails. There was discussion on possibly getting info on harvest area size and regeneration composition and size classes.

Jessica would like to organize a session at the VT NESAF Winter Meeting on Legacy and Succession Planning among foresters, landowners and woodlots.

Kris noted that she has Albert Childs' 50 year membership award and pin. **Laura** will find out from Al if he plans to attend the Fall Meeting in October or any of the field tours where an appropriate presentation can be made. He will be invited to attend a meeting and registration will be waived.

### **Election Nominations**

The Chair-elect (Jessica) is charged with spearheading nominations for MESAF positions. Ron and Katie will consider running for Member-at-Large only if there are no other members interested. Bill agreed to run again for Treasurer. Kirby Ellis and Brian Roth will be approached for MAL. Kris will run for Chair-elect. Katie will help out even if she is off the EC. Bart Plourde and Bob Chandler will be asked to run for MAL. **Jessica** will have a slate prepared for our July 18 meeting.

### **NESAF Award Nominations**

The deadline for nominations is December 1.

### **Board of the Licensure of Foresters Update**

Tabled in Ken's absence.

### **Committee Reports**

Forestry Awareness—Sasha emailed her report, below.

#### Maine Project Learning Tree Newsletter

The small article I wrote is in the newsletter. If anyone would like a copy or view the newsletter let me know. I left my name and email as possible contact to MESAF.

#### Upcoming Forestry Awareness events

- Tuesday May 6<sup>th</sup>: A natural resource professional development opportunity for middle school & high school teachers with the Loon Echo Land Trust, the Maine Forest Service and Project Learning Tree.
- May 28, 29, 30 Children's Day's at Leonard's Mills, Looking for foresters. I plan on going one day. Please let me know if anyone is interested.
- July 15-18 and July 29<sup>th</sup>: 2014 Teachers Tours

- May Sometime: Portland Forestry Days, Pat will need a few foresters but I have not received a date yet. Please contact Pat for more Information if anyone is interested.  
If there is anything else please feel free to mention it so that it is in the meeting notes!

Communications—Tony sent in materials for the April edition of the News Quarterly. He has not made any headway on connecting with media reps. Tony wondered if we should invite the media reps to our field tours and offer them free registration. Bill suggested submitting a free-lance article to newspapers. Kris suggested contacting Aislinn Sarnacki who writes an outdoor blog for the BDN. **Tony** will follow up with her and other bloggers to find out their interests. He has had no luck with John Holyoke. It was suggested that we not get overly involved with bloggers without doing some research first, since there may be some difficult issues. Eli would like to have a writer at the SFMA tour since many people in Maine are interested in the park and it's important to get the timber harvesting aspect of the SFMA out to the public.

Student Chapter—In Colton's absence Jessica reported that there is a new Student Chapter President—Mike Pouch. Jessica has high hopes for an active chapter this fall. There are 12 new freshman, it is a great first year class. **Jessica** will invite Mike to our July 18 meeting in Millinocket. Kris will not be able to attend this meeting.

#### **Other**

**Ron** noted that he and **Eli** are planning to complete the Allagash Bridge Memorial project this year. They would like a piece of local granite if possible. The memorial will be placed on Seven Islands land.

#### **Adjourn**

Ron motioned to adjourn the meeting at 11:53 AM, Jessica 2<sup>nd</sup>. Unanimous approval.

Submitted by  
*Laura Audibert*