

Maine Division Society of American Foresters
Executive Committee Meeting
February 10, 2017
204 Nutting Hall UMaine, Orono

Attendance: Bob Cousins, Ken Laustsen, Bill Livingston, Meryl Nelson-Lee, Brian Roth, Alex Ingraham, Kirby Ellis, Tony Filauro, Anna Schwarcz, Kris Hoffmann, Laura Audibert. Katie Manende on speaker phone. Dave Parker and Anna Schwarcz arrived at ~9:25 AM.

Bob called the meeting to order at 9:08 AM with a brief anti-trust statement (with Ken's assistance).

Welcome New Members

Introductions were made around the room.

New Chair-elect

Bob nominated Katie Manende to be the Chair-elect for 2017. Kirby 2nd. Motion approved. (Welcome back Katie!)

Minutes

Bob motioned to approve the minutes of the November 9, 2016 conference call, Alex 2nd. Motion approved.

Treasurer's Report

Bill did not have a formal report, but noted that the checking account had a balance of \$21,683, of which \$17,000 is NESAF registration income. Our expenses since the last meeting are: Fall Mtg--\$1500, Division Mgr stipend--\$500, Cross Center (NESAF)--\$3000. Our PayPal account has \$15,950 in NESAF registration income. Our total for PayPal and checking accounts is \$37,633.78 and of this, \$4872.99 is MESAF funds, the rest is NESAF.

Dave Maass received a \$2500 research grant to study ~1980 larch plantings. Expenses so far are \$1300.

Kirby motioned to accept the Treasurer's Report, Alex 2nd. Motion approved.

Business Items

Riding Through Forest History

<Dave arrived at 9:25 AM> Dave reported that the tour was well-attended and the participants were most interested in the history aspect of the tour.

Fall Meeting Review

Laura reported there were 96 attendees. The meeting went well. **Laura** will summarize the meeting evaluations and send them out ASAP.

Ken suggested a possible Fall and Field Mtg combo on the 1947 Bar Harbor fires, since it is the 70th anniversary this year.

Brian suggested a joint meeting with the Chestnut Foundation in South Portland at the Double Tree on October 5-8. **Brian** will find out the dates and costs for a combined meeting.

NESAF 2017

Ken reported that the program is being finalized today and will go to print on Monday, February 13. Ken will get the CEU assignments. The SAF CF credits will be used for ME, NH, VT and MA. CT has a separate process. Ken will also get TWS credits and Maine Pesticide credit assignments.

The SAF Leadership Training will be on Friday morning, March 10 from 7:30 to 12:00. The minimum attendance is 10 and the max is 20. There are 11 other tours and workshops at the same time.

The Professional Forester Workshop will be Friday, March 10, 8:00 AM—4:00 PM. The change in the Maine licensing law requires passing the Maine part of the exam to be a Maine LPF.

Brian reported that a Google Sheet has been set up to allow online sign-up for all of the Friday field tours and workshops. The sheet has 12 tabs, one for each tour/workshop. Anyone can access the sheet and sign up. The online tour registration will close on Monday, March 6 at 5:00 PM. The tour sheets will be printed off and placed at the Registration Table for last minute sign-ups and changes. An email will be sent to NESAF members asking them to sign up for tours on the Google Sheet. **Laura** will call all current registrants who do not have email addresses and get their tour choices and add them to the sheet manually.

So far we have \$14,200 in sponsorship and exhibitor income. Ken noted that Maine is not obligated to send its share of the raffle/auction income to NESAF.

Ken reported that the 2017 NESAF Awards are:

Austin Cary—Kirby Ellis (congratulations Kirby!)

Distinguished Service—Everett Towle;

Gould Technology Transfer—Jessica Leahy;

Molly Beattie—Tony D'Amato

Integrity in Conservation—Will Stats (sp?)

There were no David Smith or Toumey awards this year.

NESAF Update

Dave called into the December meeting, but hung up early and was not able to attend the January meeting. He noted that the issue of declining national membership was discussed. The next meeting will be on Tuesday, March 7 at the NESAF meeting. **Laura** will get the current membership list ASAP and email it to the EC members. She noted that its use is strictly for MESAF business only.

Summer Field Tours

Laura noted that it will be six years since Kris' Rehabilitation Silviculture tour at the Duck Lake BPL unit with George Ritz. The tour group suggested revisiting the tour sites in five years. Kris offered to give the tour info to the Members-at-Large if someone wanted to follow up.

Brian listed the current NESAF field tours and workshops offered in March.

Ken suggested tours of the new Katahdin Woods and Waters National Monument, the Louisiana-Pacific Mill in New Limerick and the Huber Engineered Woods mill in Easton.

Kirby has spoken with Lance Case of Huber Resources about having a workshop on open-source GIS programs at UMaine. There would be a 24 person limit with little or no cost. Kirby will plan his workshop for some time in August.

Alex would like to organize a tour of Early Commercial Thinning Operations in 30 year old PCT stands in the Rangeley or John's Bridge areas. This tour will be held on **Friday, July 14, 2017** in Rangeley.

<Bill left at 10:45 AM>

Brian will look into the feasibility of the Chestnut tour on October 8 or maybe the Duck Lake tour sometime in September. He will report back to the group via email in a few weeks.

Next EC Meeting Dates

Friday, April 28, 2017—204 Nutting Hall, Orono—9:00 AM

Friday, July 28, 2017—204 Nutting Hall, Orono—9:00 AM

September-- TBD

Committee Reports

Forestry Awareness Committee—Anna reported that there will be a PLT workshop on March 3 at Fields Pond in Holden. Ken will be training on FIG plots.

The China Forestry Field Day will be at the end of May and foresters will be needed.

Women foresters are needed for the New Ventures Maine meeting on March 23 in Westbrook. There will be two sessions and the meeting will end by 12:00 PM.

Communications Committee—Tony reported that he would like to have our field tour dates and topics (if possible) by March 22, his News Quarterly deadline. Tony asked the group for input on the info he submits to the News Q.

Student Chapter—Meryl reported that they are busy recruiting freshmen.

Si Balch has been offering job shadow opportunities and site visits for students.

They are planning a field tour with Barry Burgason of Huber to discuss wildlife. The students will also be touring a harvesting job with Kirby.

A mill tour to the Somerset mill or SAPPI is planned as well. Student chapter membership is trending upwards. They have 10-12 active members, but many are seniors.

Jack H. is recruiting 3-4 volunteers to register and help with the NESAF meeting.

Foresters Licensing Update

Ken reported that the last time the board met was December 5, 2016. They heard one complaint of a landowner against a consulting forester for lack of communication. The board dismissed the complaint, but put a letter of guidance in the forester's file for 5 years. Dave expressed his concern that since the complaint was dismissed, a guidance letter is not necessary and should not be in the forester's file.

The board has lots of applications for interns and foresters. There are currently 790 licensees, down for the 2015 number.

The January and February 23 meeting have been cancelled due to lack of content. The next meeting is April 27.

Discussion

The group discussed the issue of forestry being practiced by others without a license, such as loggers. What can be done about this?

Adjourn

Ken motioned to adjourn the meeting at 11:50 AM, Alex 2nd. Adjourned.

Submitted by
Laura Audibert