Maine Division Society of American Foresters  
Executive Committee Meeting  
February 8, 2019  
106 Nutting Hall, UMaine, Orono

On phone: Laura Audibert, Katie Manende Hall, Kyle Burdick, Carol Redelsheimer.

Kirby called the meeting to order at 9:09 AM with an anti-trust statement.

Approve Minutes
Bob motioned to approve the minutes from the January 4, 2019 conference call as presented. Ron 2nd. Motion approved.

Treasurer's Report
Bill emailed out the report this morning. Bill reported that we received $620 in membership dues and he expects another larger check in June. Expected invoices include Laura's quarterly stipend and the parking fee from our Fall Meeting of $287. Our Fall Meeting brought in $5000, $1500 over budget, so we are in good shape.

Kirby motioned to accept the Treasurer’s Report as presented, Karl 2nd. Motion carried.

Communications Committee Report
Tony had nothing to report, but asked for field tour info by March 22 for the News Quarterly.

Student Chapter
Bill reported that the Marc Johnson fund has enough interest to send 6 students to the NESAF Meeting in Burlington. They will participate in the Quiz Bowl. They also plan to send students to the 2020 National Meeting in Providence. The last student chapter meeting had 20 students attending. Bill also reported that the UM forestry program has 100 students this year.

2019 Field Tours
Ron—After the Fall Meeting topic was determined, it was decided that Ron’s tour will be on the EAB and managing ash in Southern Maine in September. Carol suggested contacting Harold Burnett for possible woodlots to visit. Ron will contact Alison Kanoti and USFS people too. On the topic of brown ash, John Daigle at the SFR would be a good contact. Ron will get Tony his tour info.

Nicole—Nicole’s tour will be to Big Reed Pond in Northern Maine in mid- to late August. She is coordinating the agenda with Andy Cutko. They will discuss old growth and other relevant topics she and Andy will determine. The tour will have a max attendance of 40 people and some bushwhacking is necessary to get to the site. Registration will be around $55 per person, to include a coach bus, lunch/snacks and $10/person fixed costs (mailing, paper, folders, etc.). Ron can help Nicole with arrangements. Jake will get Nicole the contact info for the bus company in Lewiston. There will be stops along the way north to pick up participants. Laura suggested giving MESAF
members ~2 weeks lead time to register before opening up to non-members. Nicole will get Tony a couple of paragraphs on the tour for by March 22. She will also arrange for the lunches. Carol noted that there can be a speaker on the bus giving a talk during the ride, to earn more CEU’s. Carol also noted that there is a formula for meeting credits that does not require specific speaking times to be determined. She will get the scoop.

Bob—Bob will host a tour Downeast in late June on Baskahegan land with Kyle. It will include PCT sites, early commercial thinning sites and a possible tour of the Woodland mill. Other possible topics to be included are salmon habitat and alewives. The tour cost will be based on 30 paying people on a coach bus. The registration form will note that if there are not 30 people, we will switch to carpooling. Bob will get the tour info to Tony by March 22.

Fall Meeting
The topic will be Certification on Friday, October 18, 2019 in the Wells Conference Center. We will get an opening speaker on the history of certification—Pat Sirois, Charlie Levesque or Mike Thompson.

Forestry Awareness and Outreach Committee
Kirby appointed Kyle to be the Chair of this committee, Bob 2nd. Unanimous approval. Kyle will be the coordinator and will ask others to join the committee. Laura thanked Kyle for taking on this important role.

The PLT Teacher Tours this year are in Ashland and Rangeley.

MESAF Officer Nominations
In 2019 we will need nominations for Chair-elect, and 3 Members-at-Large. Ron will run as MAL again. Katie offered to run for MAL if needed. Mallory Bussell may be interested, but it’s not clear if she can be on MESAF and NESAF at the same time.

<Karl left the meeting at 10:55 AM>
Eben Sypitkowski was suggested as a possible MAL. As Chair-elect, Carol is responsible for finding nominees. She can appoint a committee of people to help her. Ron offered to assist. It was suggested to contact employers to see if they have employees they would recommend to be nominees. Recent grads with a few years of experience are good candidates as well. Face-to-face discussions are good ways to recruit. The NESAF meeting is a good opportunity to speak with people. Kirby will put this topic on the April 1 meeting agenda.

NESAF Update
Jake mentioned that Terry Baker, SAF’s new leader will be at the NESAF meeting, as will John McNulty, our president.

Jake asked if Bill tracked the dues income we actually receive vs. what we should be getting. He does not. Donn Downey, NESAF Treasurer, is investigating discrepancies at the NESAF level.
Ken Laustsen is the new Award Chair and also one of the Tri-Chairs for the 2020 National Meeting. MESAF should be prepared to find volunteers to help with this meeting. Jake asked if we could get him a list of the volunteers from the 1995 Portland meeting.

Other Business

Future Conference Call Opportunities—Bill noted that UM is now subscribed to Zoom. Zoom allows both audio and video conferencing. Bill will send out the URL for this service before the next meeting and Kirby will include it on the April agenda for us to use.

Adjourn

Ron motioned to adjourn the call at 11:19 AM, Bill 2nd. Motion passed.

Submitted by
Laura Audibert