

Granite State Division - Society of American Foresters
Executive Committee Meeting Minutes
Conservation Center, Concord, NH
Friday February 10, 2017

Committee Members: Chair – Steve Eisenhaure (present), Vice Chair – Mike Powers (present), Treasurer – Steve Junkin (present), Secretary – Sam Taylor (present), Past Chair – Andy Fast (present), NESAF Rep – Jon Nute (present), Education Chair – Tim Fleury (present), NHTF Rep – Tom Hahn (present), Policy Director – Hunter Carbee (present), Science and Technology Chair – Andrew Howard (present), Awards Chair – Janice Mulherin (present), Incoming Vice Chair – Maggie Machinist (present)

Meeting called to order at 11:03 am.

A) Memorials

- 5 • Moment of silence observed for those foresters who have passed away since our last meeting:
 Roger Leighton, Mike Dannehy, Terry Caskins, Mike Cline, and Ed Merski

B) Review Minutes

- 10 • 2016 Winter Meeting minutes were reviewed and no corrections made. MOTION by B. McCandlish to approve; F. Borman seconded. VOTE – unanimously APPROVED.

C) Treasurer’s Report and 2017 Budget (Junkin)

- 15 • S. Junkin’s final year – to be replaced by G. Roxby
- Budget net positive of \$32.17 vs. expected \$4,300.00 deficit expenditure
- o Last year’s meeting brought about \$1,600 more revenue
- o Extra \$1,200 from annual appeal
- o Representative to National Meeting (A. Howard) declined available travel funds
- Ending Balance \$21,149.02
- Student incentives fund – student attendance to 2017 GSD Winter Meeting fully funded
- 20 • Expecting to spend down account by \$4,000.00 in 2017
- o Comment from the floor (S. Francher):
- 2017 budget should have both an income and an expense line of \$1000.00 for 2018 NESAF meeting expenses
- a. \$1000.00 provided by NESAF (income) and spent by GSD (expense)
- 25 • MOTION by C. Levesque to increase internships expense line to \$3000.00 (from \$2000.00); J. Evans seconded.
- o Discussion (A. Howard): GSD is already looking into accessing additional revenue sources, such as the SAF Foresters’ Fund – suggestion against the amendment in favor of leaving the allotment of these potential funds to the executive committee
- o VOTE on MOTION to amend – APPROVED.
- 30 • MOTION by M. Chagnon to approve treasurer’s report & budget as amended; J. B. Cullen seconded. VOTE – APPROVED.

D) SAF Council Report (Balch)

- 35 • Email survey about housing/buildings, specifically regarding where to house SAF, will be forthcoming
- o Question from the floor: Where did the money go when SAF sold a large piece of land, and will that affect the building question?
- Answer: To the bank

- Comment from the floor (J. Difley):
 - SAF is currently housed in Grosvenor Mansion, which has historic value
- Membership – thanks to employers for supporting members; more should consider it
- Leadership – not just those who hold SAF office, but all independent decision-makers
- Diversity – SWIFT – Supporting Women in Forestry Today (UMaine campus group)
- Connecting students with practicing foresters:
 - Recommendation to take more than one at a time, pick up at the university, etc.
 - M. Chagnon volunteered to take sign-up sheets of foresters and students from Winter Meeting lobby to transcribe
- Question from the floor (A. Howard): Given the property sale revenue of around \$16 million, will there be an endowment that will be used sustainably, or will SAF continue to spend this down?
 - Answer: Goal is a balanced budget that has a substantial financial reserve from which the organization would operate off the interest generated
- Question from the floor (B. Berti): Has the number dropped?
 - Answer: Yes, some.
- Question from the floor (H. Cook): Do you have influence at National?
 - Answer: Yes – I am on the Board of Directors
- Question from the floor (H. Cook): How many are on the board?
 - Answer: 11
- Question from the floor (H. Cook): Is there an investment advisory group?
 - Answer: Yes

E) NESAF Report (Borman)

- J. Nute – NH representative to NESAF; W. Weisiger - web administrator; S. Francher – membership chair
- Annual meeting – Bangor, ME – Co-hosted by Northeastern Forest Pest Council and Maine chapter of The Wildlife Society
 - Leadership academy on morning schedule
 - Theme: *Adapt, Adopt, Advance: Resiliency in Natural Resource Management*
- 860 current members
 - Dropping any delinquent members 2/28; renewal date is now one year from dues receipt
- 100-year anniversary of NESAF is 2020 – seeking record of NESAF officer names from 1966-1971
- House of Society Delegates Communications Award received at National Meeting for Silvicultural Working Group field tours

F) NESAF Report Continued (Ward)

- Field tours & Silvicultural working group
- Possibility of New England hosting National Meeting in 2020

G) GSD-SAF Report (Eisenhaure)

- We have compared lists of licensed foresters and current/lapsed members of GSD-SAF
 - Urged attendees to be members
- Farm & Forest booth
- GSD-SAF needs a volunteer to serve as NESAF News Quarterly correspondent
- SAF Roundtable attended
 - Topics included “improving lives” and “science you can use”

- Student incentives fund – successful internships
- Thank you to Tim Fleury for his education work, and to Fleury and Steve Junkin for their work organizing the Winter Meeting
- Informal poll conducted of individual members and non-members – some common themes:
 - Concern about public opinion of forestry – should be trying to reach people beyond our regular sphere
 - More communication necessary regarding what SAF does
 - Continue to offer CFE opportunities
 - Address financial situation
 - GSD is dependent on cyclical hosting of the NESAF meeting – members have suggested this model is not responsible for the long-term
 - Suggestions to bolster revenue in other ways: grants, sponsorships, dues increase
 - a. Money would be used for extra outside projects and as a cushion against reliance on NESAF meeting revenue
 - Discussion:
 - a. B. McCandlish – against raising dues – dues may already be keeping potential members away & GSD is in good financial shape for now
 - b. B. Berti – for raising dues – extra \$10 shouldn't break anyone financially; obligation to support your professional organization
 - c. K. Bennett – against raising dues – no compelling reason – GSD has managed well for 20+ years with the current funding system – when GSD is putting on NESAF, it is for the benefit of the NH division
 - d. J. Difley – suggestion to more actively recruit non-members
 - e. J. Evans – should be a heavier difference for non-members to attend meetings – charge double
 - f. R. Cutter – non-member – came solely for the program and considers it worth the \$85
 - g. J. Mulherin – All it takes is one bad weather weekend or something else to negatively impact the meeting revenue – we've been lucky so far
 - h. Non-member – only came because of the cheap difference, and wouldn't attend if there was a significant increase to attendance cost

H) Meeting opened to resolutions from the floor:

- MOTION by C. Niebling:
 - “Resolved that Granite State SAF actively oppose repeal of the NH Renewable Portfolio Standard as proposed by Representative Bart Fromuth in House Bill 225, and communicate said opposition to the leadership of the House and Senate, the chairs and members of the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee and the House Science, Technology and Energy Committee, and Governor Chris Sununu, and such communication of this position take place as soon as possible after the February 10, 2017 GSD/SAF winter meeting.”
 - C. Niebling recommended amendment to include mention of favorable RPS bill and urge support for it. Amended resolution reads:
 - “Resolved that Granite State SAF actively oppose repeal of the NH Renewable Portfolio Standard as proposed by Representative Bart Fromuth in House Bill 225, and actively support SB129 as proposed by Senator Jeb Bradley, and communicate said opposition and support to the leadership of the House and

140 Senate, the chairs and members of the Senate Energy and Natural Resources
Committee and the House Science, Technology and Energy Committee, and
Governor Chris Sununu, and such communication of these positions take place as
soon as possible after the February 10, 2017 GSD/SAF winter meeting.”

- 145 ○ MOTION by M. Chagnon to accept resolution as amended. J. Difley seconded.
- Discussion: should amend SAF to say Society of American Foresters & explain what a forester is, etc.
 - When this position is sent to the listed committees and individuals, a letter of transmittal will explain what we are and what we do
- 150 ○ VOTE – unanimously APPROVED.

I) S. Eisenhaure presented executive committee recommendations for 2017 officers:

- Chair – Mike Powers
 - Vice Chair – Maggie Machinist
 - 155 ▪ Treasurer – Gabe Roxby
 - Secretary – Sam Taylor
- MOTION by M. Chagnon to approve full slate as presented; B. Wyman seconded. VOTE – unanimously APPROVED.
 - S. Eisenhaure recognized appointed members of the executive committee
- 160
- Education – Tim Fleury
 - Director of Policy – Hunter Carbee
 - NESAF Representative – Jon Nute
 - Tree Farm Representative – Tom Hahn
 - Science and Technology – Andrew Howard
 - 165 ▪ CFE Contact – Andy Fast

J) Gavel passed from S. Eisenhaure to M. Powers

- Powers recognized departing members of executive committee – S. Eisenhaure as outgoing chair and S. Junkin as outgoing treasurer
- 170 • NH 2018 NESAF meeting leadership announced – S. Francher, General Chair; J. Evans, Program Chair; J. Horton, Facilities Chair.
 - Looking for more volunteers

175 MOTION by J. Difley to close business meeting; M. Chagnon seconded. VOTE – unanimously APPROVED. Meeting closed at 12:15 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Sam Taylor, GSD Secretary