

Approved Minutes Michigan Society of American Foresters, Executive Committee  
October 20, 2008  
Kellogg Center, MSU, Lansing, Michigan

Ernie Houghton, Bill Cook, Maria Janowiak, Amy Douglass, Doug Heym, Martha Sjogren, Doug Lee, Bernie Hubbard, Larry Leefers, Michael Moore, Scott Jones, Brenda Owens, Brian Crouch, Don Dickmann, Derek Cross, Jason Hartman.

Meeting called to order by Ernie, at 7:30pm.

**Ernie presented the agenda for consideration**

Discussed adding legislative event to agenda and agreed to discuss at January 2009 meeting instead.

Agreed to add support to students as a topic.

*Request to approve agenda: Ernie*

*Motion to approve: Maria*

*Second: Doug Lee*

*Passed with a chorus of ayes*

**Secretary's report**

Martha presented minutes from the 4/22/08 executive committee meeting for consideration.

*Motion to approve: Larry*

*Second: Bill Cook*

*Passed with a chorus of ayes*

Approved minutes will be mailed to Ernie, Bill Cook, Brenda Owen and SAF Executive Vice President.

Martha also mentioned that she has been contacted by National SAF and reminded that we need to send ballots out for local (state and LP/UP) chapters. She'll get those out by the end of the week with a slightly later due date.

**Treasurer's Report**

Jack Pilon was unable to attend. Derek Cross presented Jack's Report.

As chair elect, Larry wanted to raise a concern about the expenses incurred by future chair's participation in Leadership Academy and National meetings attendance. Topic should be addressed at the January 2009 executive meeting when the 2009 budget is addressed.

**Discussion of support for students**

Michael Moore opened the topic of providing additional support to students to allow their participation in the Fall 2008 meeting. He said Doug Lee's done a great job taking care of things (80-90 attendees, about 19 students, charge them \$25). MTU is sending two students. Maria is covering mileage. Weyerhaeuser is covering their rooms. Check's in the mail for MSU students.

LP bank account has been growing.

*Larry Leefers made a motion: Repay students any funds they've incurred for registration, not to exceed a total of \$400.*

*Scott: Second*

*Motion carried with a chorus of ayes*

Some discussion about how to handle all this ensued and the group agreed to discuss ideas to support students at the January meeting.

### **Vice-President Hubbard's Report**

Sale of Wild Acres fell through. Economic times caused difficulty.

SAF will be offering another Leadership Academy in 2009.

Bernie was at another SAF meeting where each student had a mentor who introduced them around the room.

National elections are underway.

Task Force Report on Climate Change is out.

### **MSAF Education Fund Raffle**

Mike Elenz can't make it. Group was uncertain about how raffle items were to arrive at meeting.

### **General Student Scholarship**

Ernie has solicited input from the executive committee and drafted a form. Suggestions made by group:

- Drop freshmen/sophomores check boxes if it is only junior/senior/grad
- Open season from September 15 - November 15
- Require students to attach resume to form
- We should set evaluation criteria

Criteria to apply for the scholarship:

- GPA
- Working towards BSF
- Extra curricular activities
- SAF student membership
- SAF involvement beyond membership
- At least a junior

Ernie will get the committee together (faculty advisors, himself, Tom Seablom, and Derek Cross). He is still trying to get them awarded this year.

### **Joint meeting with WI/MN in 2010**

Ernie has been contacted by Wisconsin and Minnesota SAF to consider the idea of holding a joint meeting, maybe in Rhinelander with a theme of Recreation and Forest Management. The group discussed our MSAF plans:

- MSAF 2009 Spring Meeting – CIF in SSM on markets and uses
- MSAF 2009 Fall Meeting – no discussion yet

Some concern about travel being too far. Question was raised about whether there is much new info on ORVs coming out.

*A motion was made by Doug Heym to support pursuing a joint meeting with WI/MN SAF in 2010.*

*Second: Jason*

*Passed with a chorus of ayes*

### **Revision of Green Book**

Bill Cook and Doug Heym have been working hard.

Doug has 35-page draft, sans pictures and graphs.

50% longer than the original

Additional information:

- Bibliography of websites/books
- Biomass
- Intergenerational land transfer
- Forest certification
- Forest types and silviculture

First draft of text should be available by end of the week

Maria/Linda/Bill C/Doug H – will review, edit and add artwork

Craig K has shared some outstanding artwork

Within the next month, will start editing

Hoping to finish in 2008 and find funding to publish in 2009

### **Archiving**

Craig still has space at Hartwick Pines

What should we start saving for the future?

- Executive meeting minutes
- Agendas from meetings
- Business meeting minute
- Membership list
- Financial records
- Michigan Forester
- Position Statements
- List of leadership and awardees

Ernie will look for volunteer at the Business Meeting tomorrow to gather all the boxes different members have.

### **Policy and Communications Coordinator – Bill Cook**

Bill said everybody has seen what he's been sending out

Bill presented deer survey at MUCC meeting and it has been cited in Forest Service publication.

### **Policy Chair - Doug Heym**

No new information from National or State.

**Continuing Forestry Education and Certification** – Deb Huff was not present but Doug Heym shared her report.

Briefly, Deb evaluated 9 different sessions for CFE credits. Jason recommended planning well in advance to make sure Deb gets enough time.

**Canadian Institute of Forestry** – Les Homan wasn't present.

Maria gave a brief update and is hoping ideas for the Spring 2009 joint meeting develop over the next few days. Especially looking for ideas for speakers.

**MSU** – Pascal Nzokou was not present.

Larry mentioned that they do have students planning to attend this Fall session.

**MTU** – Linda Nagel was not present.

Conclave took place. Maria thinks eight students are going to National convention.

### **Michigan Bird Conservation Initiative – Scott Jones**

Scott attended their last Congress. Group is struggling a bit, trying to find a way to gain a foothold. They are considering going for non-profit status. The group was looking at early successional forest question. Scott is looking to include an article in the winter MI Forester. Discussed maybe having a joint meeting at some point. MI Breeding Bird survey will be released electronically. 4/3/09 is the date of their next meeting.

### **Eastside UP State Forest Advisory Group – Brenda Owen is our representative.**

Two meetings, Rich Preshcinki (sp?) is the chair. They listen to reports from MDNR. Group is supposed to review some initiatives in plans and programs. As an example, they have reviewed fisheries information. This is kind of a test. They want to keep the group going 12-18 months to see how it goes. They have a website up and running and the MDNR is taking it very seriously.

### **Westside UP State Forest Advisory Group – Jim Schmierer is the MSAF representative.**

#### **UP Habitat Work Group - Gerry Rose is our representative.**

JR Richardson is the chair. Apparently focuses on deer habitat but they are looking to expand to other wildlife.

**MUCC NIPF workgroup** – Bill Cook has been going to those meetings. Group is working on how to meet three goals they have established:

- How to construct assistance program to support NIPF
- How to market assistance funding to legislative groups
- plus one other topic

#### **Editorial Board Chair Michigan Forester - Brenda Owen**

Next deadline is October 31 for submissions for the December edition.

Praise for the quality of content and successful publication with *The Forestry Source*

Cost is about \$400/edition. Budget for 2008 included \$1200 so that works out as three editions.

Could pursue advertisements. There is general support for quarterly publication if Brenda can make it work.

#### **UP Chair – Tom Seablom was not present.**

Maria gave an update – starting to look at Spring meeting, Tom's started looking at bylaws but waiting for State bylaws, maybe looking at having chairs serve two year terms.

#### **LP Chair – Jason Hartman**

Have taken a look at bylaws. Looking to change structure a bit.

For Fall 2008 meeting: 72 registrants, probably about 10 more walk ins.

### **Membership Coordinator – Amy Douglass**

Awards Chair– Craig Kasmer was not present but reported that we had a 50 year member (Richard Brewster) who passed away earlier this year. Doug Heym shared a letter Craig drafted to send to Mr. Brewster's family. We agreed to support the letter.

### **Student memberships –**

Students can apply from their schools to National and national can bill us.

Larry thought the following was the process:

- Get sponsors
- Link with students
- Then student and sponsor work out how to make payment

MSU actually ended up with more sponsors than students.

Larry and Maria will work with Linda and Pascal to figure out how to handle it this year.

Students can contact Ernie if they are interested in having their membership be sponsored.

### **UP Auto Tour –** Glenn Moll was not present.

Glenn sent a report with Amy Douglass.

New brochure is coming soon.

Sign replacement is next big step.

### **Update on Bylaws –** Ernie is working on it with Jim Hamel.

There are lots of committees. He might look to reduce.

Need to figure out what is meant by “national minimum standards”

Ernie committed to finishing the revision of MSAF bylaws, even if he is unable to do so before his term as chair ends.

*Request for a motion to adjourn: Ernie*

*Motion to adjourn: Bill Cook*

*Second: all the women in the room seconded simultaneously*

*Passed with a chorus of ayes*

*Adjourned at 10:39pm*