

Draft Minutes Michigan Society of American Foresters, Executive Committee
October 19, 2009
Grayling, Michigan

In attendance: Bill Cook, Doug Heym, Glenn Moll, Joyce Angel-Ling, Amy Douglass, Georgia Peterson, Bill Hasse, Doug Lee, Mike Elenz, Ernie Houghton, Maria Janowiak, Jason Stephens, Jason Hartman, Jack Penegor, John Hamel, Don Howlett, Bernie Hubbard, Larry Leefers and Martha Sjogren and Jack Pilon.

Meeting called to order by Larry Leefers, at 7:34pm. Reviewed agenda and made two additions.

Motion to approve agenda: Jack Penegor

Second: Don Howlett

Passed with a chorus of ayes

Secretary's Report – Martha Sjogren

- Team reviewed and approved with changes executive team meeting notes from 1/9/09 and 3/31/09 meetings.
- Team reviewed and suggested changes for MSAF business meeting notes from 10/21/08 and 3/31/09 meetings.
- Secretary informed team that electronic ballot information had been submitted to national SAF and elections were under way. National had sent back addresses to MSAF secretary for use to disseminate paper ballots to those members without a valid email address on record with national (approx. 60 members). Bill Cook noted that about one quarter of the emails in MSAF might be wrong. National perspective on electronic voting is that there might be slightly lower voter participation than with paper ballots. Most members of the executive committee thought it was easy to vote.
- Secretary informed executive committee that on January 22, 2009, Martha Sjogren and Glenn Moll audited the ledger and account statements of the MSAF for 2008 that were provided by Treasurer John Pilon and found no issues.
- Maria Janowiak volunteered to take notes at the MSAF business meeting on 10/21/09 in the absence of Martha Sjogren.

Chair's Report – Larry Leefers

Bylaws update from Ernie Houghton.

- Summary is that they are available for the election referendum this year.
- Both Joyce and Georgia have agreed that they would be willing to serve for two years if bylaws pass.
- Bylaws include electronic balloting.
- Motion to accept electronic result was not needed.

National Convention –Larry Leefers

- Larry represented MSAF. Jack Penegor was not able to attend due to work commitments.
- A few recommendations from HSD (2009):
 - Selection process for young forester criteria not clear. Moved forward to clear it up.
 - Young profession dues rate – loyalty student members to professional members get reduced dues. HSD moved forward the idea of giving ALL young professionals the same discount.
- Success story: Maria submitted CIF partnership in the Spring 2009 meeting through Larry and it was accepted. Much applause was generated in support of Maria's effort.

- Expense of this meeting – Larry asked for more money Cost \$1800, Larry will request about \$1000.

Michigan Forester Update – Brenda Owen not able to attend.

[Larry Leefers handed out a one-page Michigan Forester Update.]

Deadlines for submissions for the 2010 Michigan Forester:

January 6, 2010

May 5, 2010

August 4, 2010

Executive team planning meeting: January 8, 2010, At Forest Service office in St. Ignace.

Spring Meeting Planning – Maria Janowiak

Joint meeting with WI Northeast Chapter SAF

Topic: Forest Management and Recreation

Dates: March 10-11

Probable location: Marinette, WI/Menominee, MI

General structure: One and a half days of classroom and then half-day field trip

Interest in ATVs/integrated trails/certification

Ernie and Bill Hasse and Maria and Bill Cook are working as meeting planning committee

Maria is working on agenda and speakers

MN SAF was going to participate but has dropped out

UP Auto Tour – Glenn Moll

Glenn got numbers from Utah corrections. Prices have gone up about \$1 per sign.

Doug Heym asked that SAF be put on the new signs.

Some discussion about re-using some of the cedar posts:

- They are a little low.
- Some mechanical issues with the old posts.
- \$8 for the new posts.
- Should we replace the posts?
- Several people said they liked the taller posts better.
- SAF on signs is missing due to clerical errors.

\$4000 is Glenn's current estimate.

Motion made by Doug Heym to have "SAF" printed on new signs.

Second by John Hamel.

Motion carried unanimously.

General consensus was to buy new posts.

Need to order some signs with no numbers so missing signs can be replaced.

Glenn will share final numbers with executive committee when they are available.

Larry Leefers noted that Glenn Moll and Bill Cook will both join the ranks as Society of American Forester Fellows, which will be recognized tomorrow.

Green Book Update – Doug Heym

In process. Some people have reviewed the draft document. Doug is hashing out some edits. May have it done by Christmas 2009.

UP Chapter Report - Maria Janowiak

- Once state bylaws go through, UP Chapter would revise their bylaws. That will be a goal for 2010.
- Two nominees for UP vice chair.
- No update on western UP DNR citizen advisory council.
- Eastern UP DNR citizen advisory council: Chad Radka, LP, has volunteered to replace Brenda Owen. Brenda sent letter stating she is really pleased that Chad will be able to participate since it is important that SAF be represented. Brenda did express some concern about how that individual should obtain information about how SAF policy should be interpreted when the member is requested to vote on an issue that our membership might have a variety of opinions. Going to the Policy chair might be an appropriate first step to look at existing position statements. The only real alternative way of soliciting MSAF policy is through executive committee discussions (via email).
- August 21 summer field tour (silviculture) was held in the rain in Alberta and got a lot of people out there. John Hamel was thanked for his excellent organizational efforts.
- Come to Spring meeting!

LP Chapter Report – Jason Stephens

- Same comment as UP on updating the bylaws.
- Held two events since March:
 - At the end of May, chapter dinner organized by Jack Pilon in Gaylord. Speaker was an historian from Presque Isle County and the topic was the Metz Fire. Dozen or so LP-MSAF members and family attended.
 - Later in July, a field day was held at Lost Lake Woods. Pete Squibb and Terry Manty showed some of the management that has been done in the past. Data on cords and deer coming off the property was shared. Couple of deer exclosures in place since 1950s showing differences.
- Update on Fall meeting:
 - 124 people are registered for Fall Session. Doug Lee (LL aside--do we thank him enough?)
 - 15 are students (non-paying).
 - More than half from MTU. Jim Rivard did some serious recruiting up there. Quite a few non-members also attending.
 - Discussed recognizing non-member participants in addition to students at the session.
 - Bill Cook suggested maybe we can be even more intentional in looking for other ways to connect with non-members.
 - **SAF President Bernie Hubbard** noted that students could be welcomed at SAF events in different ways. In one state, a student was assigned a mentor who stayed with the student during the meeting to build networks, explain aspects of the meeting, and so on. Another example was to mix students at tables during meals so that they had a chance to meet others.
 - LP chapter hopes to hold their heads held high in January 2010 for having made money on the Fall 2009 meeting.
- Jason Stephens/Pete Squibb/Rick Myrick are in line as Chair/Vice Chair/Second Vice Chair. No candidates on the ballots.

Treasurer's Report--John Pilon

Handout provided: Year 2009 Budget Status Report

- For John Pilon's benefit (upon arrival), Martha Sjogren noted that the audit was successful with no issues found. The audit results were submitted to John Pilon for his records.
- Craig Kasmer requested funds for plastic tubs for storage of MSAF archives. A motion was passed (Glen Moll, Second-Bill cook) to provide up to \$200 for tubs from the "General Fund." John Pilon will add \$200 to the Miscellaneous category in the Treasurer's Report. A cursory inventory of the archives was requested--John Pilon indicated he could assist Craig Kasmer.
- Ada Takacs requested that MSAF consider acting as the fiduciary organization for Project Learning Tree. As a 501c(3) organization, MSAF would handle money flowing in and out of the PLT account. The Treasurer would be paid for the service. After discussion, John Pilon agreed to discuss this further with Ada and the National SAF office. Potentially, an honorarium would be paid to the Treasurer for managing the account.

*Motion made by Jack Penegor to accept the Treasurer's Report
Second-Bill Cook
Motion passed.*

*Motion to **adjourn meeting** made by Maria Janowiak
Second-Don Howlett
Motion carried*

Meeting adjourned at 10:22 pm.