

**Approved Minutes Michigan Society of American Foresters, Executive Committee
8 January 2010, St. Ignace, Michigan**

In attendance, Jason Stephens, Glenn Moll, Maria Janowiak, Jack Pilon, Terry Manty, Brenda Owen, Jack Penegor, Amy Douglass, Joyce Angel-Ling, John Hamel, Craig Kasmer, Martha Sjogren, Les Homan

Dispensed with the introductions.

Jack Penegor asked Jack Pilon if he is willing to continue serving as Treasurer. He said he was.

Jack Penegor asked Martha Sjogren if she is willing to continue serving as Secretary. She said that she was willing to step aside and let someone else take over. No one offered. She said she would be willing to continue to serve in 2010 but will not be looking to continue serving beyond 2010.

Motion to appoint Jack Pilon as MSAF treasurer and Martha Sjogren as secretary made by Craig Kasmer.

Second: Glenn Moll

Passed with a chorus of ayes.

Jack Penegor reviewed the Anti-trust statement with the group, making it clear that the group is not to discuss prices.

Jack Penegor asked group to review agenda. A lot of agenda items will be dispensed with because people aren't here. Discussed moving MI Forester discussion to beginning of agenda to accommodate Brenda Owen's schedule.

Motion to approve the agenda – Glenn Moll.

Second – Maria Janowiak.

Passed with a chorus of ayes.

Michigan Forester – Brenda Owen

- Assumes from the minutes from last meeting that three editions are OK for 2010
- Has been getting submissions
- Will take last minute submission through Sunday afternoon
- Retaining 8-page format
- Estimate \$1200/yr for costs

Secretary's Report - Martha Sjogren (handout Minutes of Exec Committee minutes from October 2009)

- Election results – announced the election of Joyce Angel-Ling as MSAF vice chair for 2010 (to serve as chair for 2011&12); Terry Manty was elected UP Chapter vice chair; the proposed change in bylaws passed.
- Group reviewed minutes from previous meeting.

- *Motion to approve the minutes made by Glenn Moll.*
 - *Second: Jack Pilon*
 - *Passed with a chorus of ayes.*
- *Motion to have Audit team perform audit every two years made by Joyce Angel-Ling.*
 - *Second: Brenda Owen*
 - *Passed with a chorus of ayes.*
- Archival team – Craig Kasmer
Jack Pilon and Craig plan to buy bins to store archives at Hartwick Pines State Park.

Immediate Past President Comments – Larry Leefers (by phone)

- Newly passed bylaws define the executive committee.
- Bill Cook will need to update the MSAF website to reflect new bylaws and executive committee and officers.
- It sounds like the UP & LP chapters will begin to revise their bylaws
- Bob and Ann Gregory Award – concerns by the family have been resolved with National SAF
- MSU – Larry drafted a letter for MSAF executive committee review; dean is proposing reorganizing college and would spread forestry faculty into different buildings. Larry is concerned that the forestry program would be reduced to email communication and collaboration, rather than full participation. He is concerned that Natural Resources College would emphasize ecology, not the variety of disciplines represented by forestry. He is suggesting that the professional society might appropriately recommend to MSU that they maintain an interdisciplinary, accredited, undergraduate forestry program. Provost and president will likely be deciding by the end of Spring 2010 semester. John asked if Larry had discussed with Michael Goergen who asked to be kept in the loop.
 - Jack Penegor will put letter on SAF stationery and will circulate it around the executive committee by email and will try to have it out by the end of January 2010.
 - Larry will send note to Brenda Owen to include in Michigan Forester to encourage any member who wants to make their voice heard to send individual letters.
 - John Hamel recommended the letter go to membership also to encourage them to send individual letters.

Treasurer's Report – Jack Pilon (Handout Year-end 2009 Budget Report, MSAF Education Fund Account – 2009, and Budget worksheet for 2010)

- Reviewed handouts.
- Michigan education fund (Tom Seablom is the new manager of the fund, replacing Mike Elenz):
 - Tom Seablom requested from Jack Pilon the MSAF Education Fund so he could manage it. Jack Pilon sent him a letter suggesting that he not open the account in his own name and a check for \$4711.62. He also gave him the spreadsheet that he had been using for the account.
 - Jack explained the following to the executive committee:
 - 2/3 of ticket sales from raffle go to National education fund.

- Industry donations all stay in the MSAF education fund.
 - Tom needs another signatory on the account. John Hamel or Jim Ferris might work out since they live in the same general area. Tom should provide an education fund report for each executive committee meeting. Jack Penegor will contact Tom.
- Jim Ferris and Jerry Grossman need to discuss consulting forester ad in Michigan Forester. There may (or may not) be additional opportunities for advertisers.
- Group worked through worksheet to develop 2010 budget. Jack updated his spreadsheet to document the discussion.
 - Some discussion/confusion about whether the Education Fund also supporting student meeting attendance. Jack Penegor will discuss it with Tom Seablom.
 - Reminder from Jack Pilon that spring and fall meetings need to not lose money.
 - Summary of 2010 budget worksheet, as revised through discussion:
 - Projected Revenue: \$5320
 - Projected Expenses: \$6464
 - The difference in revenue and expenses will be accounted from the fund balance.
 - Projected account balance at end of year \$4300

Motion to approve the treasurer's report, as discussed, made by Jason Stephens.

*Second: Glenn Moll
Passed with a chorus of ayes.*

Motion to approve the 2010 budget proposal, as discussed, made by Brenda Owen.

*Second: Amy Douglass
Passed with a chorus of ayes.*

- Fiduciary for Project Learning Tree
 - Brief reminder of early conversations that PLT has requested MSAF take over the bookkeeping responsibilities.
 - Jack Pilon has an MOU that he sent to national. Verbally, Louise Murgia told him that it looked ok. Jack Penegor signed the MOU and it will be sent to PLT for their signature.
 - Basic tenets of the MOU: MSAF Treasurer will deposit all PLT into federally insured, will disperse funds at the request, quarterly report to PLT coordinator and MSAF chair.

Motion that Chair should sign the MOU to allow the MSAF treasurer to assume the bookkeeping duties for PLT for 2010 and 2010 Proposed Budget be amended to show the revenue of \$200 from PLT and the PLT honorarium be paid to the MSAF treasurer was made by John Hamel.

Second: Maria Janowiak

Passed to a chorus of ayes.

Auto Tour Update – Glenn Moll (handout provided)

- Western UP sign replacement will be major emphasis and will need to be discussed, probably at the UP chapter meeting in March to develop a plan.
- ***The Lansing Distribution Center has ordered 11,350 brochures which are being shipped from our printer's warehouse.*** (46,000 were printed in '08, and we ship them from the printer's warehouse when Lansing orders them)
- Bottomline on the funding for the sign replacement will be:
 - ***National Foresters' Fund grant - \$1,500***
 - ***UP Chapter - \$1,500***
 - ***MSAF Education Fund - \$1,500 (Moll will contact Tom Seablom, requesting a check from the MSAF Education Fund for \$1,800 be sent to John Hamel, for sign replacement materials. After this project is completed, National will reimburse us for the \$300 withheld from the original \$1,500 grant. The \$300 is to be returned to the MSAF-EF).***

Green Book – Doug Heym was absent

Maria had received a recent request for a map related to the green book so the assumption is that perhaps Mr. Heym has a New Year's Resolution to get that project finished.

Policy and Communications Coordinator – Bill Cook was absent

Joint Meeting with WISAF – Update by Maria Janowiak

- Topic is Forest Recreation
- 10 & 11 March
- Agenda is coming together
- Registration forms should be coming out at the end of January
- WISAF does some of their raffle over break times – group thought that would be good and would allow for the two award ceremonies

Science and Technology Coordinator – Joyce Angel-Ling

- Joyce said this has not been a very active committee. Originally designed to come up with topics for Spring and Fall meetings but chapters have been doing that pretty successfully during recent years.
- Canadian Institute of Forestry – Les Homan, liaison
 - Forests without Borders program is gaining momentum
 - Les's term with them ends in May 2010 but he plans to stay active with the group
 - Clean Air Tree Kits awareness educational, includes spruce seed and opportunity to register on-line for a sister-tree to be planted in a foreign country
- MSU – no update
- MTU – Maria said they sent quite a few students to National convention

- Mi Bird Conservation Initiative – no update

LP Chair – Pete Squibb not present

- Jason Stephens reminded group that Fall 2009 meeting generated over \$1000.
- Group supported the idea of entertaining evening sessions
- Topics suggestions for Fall 2010: something to entice industry foresters, bio-energy, new field technology, forest type sessions seem to do well (aspen?), private land stewardship.

Membership Coordinator – Amy Douglass

- Some fluctuation in membership. Hadn't received recent reports from national yet.
- Jason Stephens asked if the membership dues expectations in the proposed 2010 budget were realistic since membership has been declining. Amy said it was difficult to predict.
- Ended 2009 at 418 members.

Awards Team – Craig Kasmer

- At our next meeting, this will be called “awards committee”, per the new bylaws.
- Sent three articles to Brenda for the next Michigan Forester, including information from national's awards to encourage submissions.
- Craig reviewed the list of people who would be getting their “years of membership” pins this year and asked for any corrections.

Motion to adjourn made by Jack Pilon.

Second: Amy Douglass

Passed with a near-chorus of ayes.

Craig thought about opposing but then changed his mind.

Meeting adjourned at 1337 hours.