

Michigan Society of American Foresters
Executive Team Meeting
Traverse City, Michigan – Great Wolf Lodge
Wednesday, October 02, 2013

Attendance:

Attendance: Joyce Angel, Tara Bal, Bill Cook, Chris Hohnholt, Ernie Houghton, Don Howlett, Bernie Hubbard, Glenn Moll, Lee Mueller, Chuck Olson, Jack Penegor, Lisa Parker, Bill Rockwell, Terry Sharik, Andy VanDyke
MSAF Student Chapter (MSU Forestry Club) Hilary Bartzen, Kaytlyn Brinkman, Daniel Brown, Shaun Gerber, Alex Grieve

Call To Order: 6:20 PM - Bernie Hubbard brought the meeting to order.

1. Anti-Trust Statement

Bernie reminded the committee that there will be no discussion of timber prices.

Terry Sharik – Terry explained the purpose of combining the Michigan Society of American Foresters (MSAF) fall conference with the statewide Biomaterials Initiative (and including all of the diverse stakeholders) organized by Michigan Technical University (MTU). He mentioned that there were some participation concerns, what with the Federal Government shutdown...Guest delegations from 'biomaterials programs' in North Carolina, Virginia, Maine, and Oregon would be presenting. Interest by industry representatives from the pulp & paper (P&P) companies gave a clear indication of interactions between state, industry, & university around biomaterials. Currently, P & P are diversifying product lines – those two areas are of the biggest concern for representatives from all parties.

Participants on Thursday and Friday (3 & 4 Oct 2013) would include MSAF, State of Michigan administrators, MDNR & MDARD, MDEQ, and other Natural Resource agencies, MFA, industry, 5 legislative representatives etc. Terry stressed that all must be a part of the equation if we are really going move forward with this agenda. Strategy and follow up are necessary if these futures are to be successful. He gave a quick overview of conference agenda. He then mentioned that he hopes to learn a lot from other state delegates – to further the aims of economic development, community involvement, etc. He insisted that all of us should participate fully – SAF should be strongly engaged

2. Secretary's Report, Approval of last meeting minutes – Lisa Parker

Lisa distributed the minutes from the last executive committee meeting (29 April 2013). Edits were taken.

Motion to approve the minutes as edited was made by Don Howlett
Second: Glenn Moll
Passed with a chorus of ayes.

3. Treasurer Report – Lee Mueller

Lee told us revenues were on track – dues and spring proceeds look good, fall conference numbers were good. The expenses on report do not reflect this meeting in total. Regarding the budget this year – it seemed as if we plan to spend more than we are taking in. There was some discussion about credit card registrations and what it costs the Society. Lee wants someone else to perform an end of year audit as this is his first year and he wants to ensure correctness

A motion to accept the Treasurer's Report was made by Don Howlett.
Second: Jack Penegor
Passed with a chorus of ayes.

4. Education Fund Report – Chad Fate

Chad is not here now, we expect him tomorrow...

5. Council Report – Ernie Houghton – District V Rep.

Ernie stated that this is his last report and informed us regarding the SAF elections; we should've all gotten an e-ballot, and urged us all to vote. District V has a new ballot proposal regarding Articles of Incorporation...please see the ballot for a full explanation. He asked us please vote to approve...

He then informed us that Michael Goergen is done; 15 October 2013 is his last day. Louise Murgia is the Interim Executive Vice-President. John Barnwell from the policy dept has taken on responsibility and there is a search committee to replace Goergen. Dziengeleski is the new exec VP – They will hire recruiter or headhunter – process should be budget neutral...

Leadership Academy – next summer 2014 maybe August... no date yet but an Iowa site has been chosen, it will be a state park in SE Iowa, Iowa State chair is the contact...

Ernie also informed us that The Certification Review Board (CRB) is considering a pathway for forest technicians to become certified foresters...may need to take additional credits and pass CF exam like everyone else.

There was an interesting discussion regarding the Certification Review Board's relationship to Council...the position taken is that it should be separate & independent.

CRB did good job with staying within strategic path – council split vote on proposal – 2 yr tech, 56 credits w/in specific areas...allows more inclusion by Technicians

Ernie reported on the sale of property in Maryland...35 acres in Bethesda MD, acreage around building sold...2 down payments received - sold for several million \$'s

There is a stand of bamboo on property

The funds will go to fill budget holes but majority will go to long-term investments.

Bernie: MSU Forestry Club MISAF Student Chapter Report – Kaytlyn Brinkman

Kaytlyn reported that MSU hosted the Midwestern Foresters Conclave in April 2013. Next weekend (12 & 13 October 2013) the Forestry Club would attend the OZARK Timber Sports Fest in Missouri. The Forestry Department has instituted a curriculum change – there are no more concentrations. Instead there will be 1 Forestry program with a total of 88 credits, and more hours in the lab than classroom! The curriculum also contains a separate GIS course, as well as calculus and stats.

6. LP Chapter Report – (Lee Mueller/Jason Darling is Chair)

Jason couldn't attend tonight but plans to be present tomorrow. The LP still needs a vice chair.

7. UP Chapter Report – Andy Van Dyke

Andy informed us that there appears to be issue with the E-ballot. The Vice Chair position didn't show up, so those early-bird voters will be notified by mail. If National is missing UP member coding – they will mail corrected ballots to early voters.

He said regarding the MSAF Spring Meeting – there is consensus that it should be held in the central UP, Marquette area location. "Why Regeneration Fails" was suggested as a topic by Bill Cook (and others) as it may bring more field-based foresters, and the State would support their employee attendance.

There followed discussion of locations for the meeting and field sites as well as specific regen situations that might be addressed.

7. Other Committee Reports – Communications, Membership, Awards

Amy is not coming. Jim Ferris is not coming.

Lee Mueller mentioned that dues are up – but notes that reports from Nat'l SAF do not separate funds received from the UP & LP chapters, at the root level, he needs dues info by chapter...Ernie said he would relay the message & help resolve the issue.

8. Old Business

Bernie decided that we would skip the Michigan Forester TimeLine, as Tori Irving was not able to attend.

9. New Business:

a. FIRE Management Position Statement –

Bernie = we need to vote on this tonight, so let's not wordsmith this...
Some group discussion that Fire Suppression & Management are 2 different things...

A motion is made by Ernie Houghton to accept the statement.

Second: Glenn Moll

Passed with a chorus of ayes

b. Spring Conference

See discussion above - UP Chapter Report

c. Leadership Academy – Bernie Hubbard

d. Auto Tour Update – Glenn Moll

Glenn reported that the app will be finalized soon, when it is done, will add link to brochure that we are reprinting. The signs are being picked-up soon...

Glenn stated that there is a need for a transfer of funds to UP Auto Chair. The reimbursement should be \$600.00.

e. Auto Tour App Update – Don Howlett

Don & Bernie = NMU – computer/math guy – did the work gratis! We need to send a Thank You! to him for creating the android app. Discussion was held as we were shown how the new app should work regarding the Vanderbilt billboard and the defunct Lower Peninsula auto tour. Live exhibition of APP!

f. Forester Registration: Lee Mueller/Jason Darling

Jason Darling is working on Registration – do we think it is still an issue?

Discussion:

Bernie = we do not have consensus...as to whether we as SAF - believe the Registered Forester designation has any value...Forest Stewardship Plan Writer, SAF Certified Forester, Registered Forester, ...we are still debating issue.

State of Michigan Registered Forester does not necessitate continuing forest education credits (CFE's)

Rockwell = ...by our SAF standards, MI Registered Forester is a joke.

Our Nat'l SAF is considering including Natural Resource Mgt accreditation...

It doesn't make sense to keep a program which is by our SAF standards is inadequate...I move that we let thing die a quiet death

A motion is made by Lee Mueller to “let the thing die a quiet death”.

Second: Don Howlett

Ernie H = want to amend the language...“Take no Action”

Lee accepts amendment

Vote: ayes carry, Jack NO – dissent lone voice

g. Leadership Succession: Lee Mueller

Lee has no new information at this time. However, the situation in which he & Chad (Fate) were placed in their new positions without support is untenable.

The idea is to provide Leadership documents – road map – for a worst-case scenario; however, the best is to have the past chair as a mentor...

The road map would contain such items as: by laws, positions descriptions, contact info, conference checklist, and its purpose would be to provide new leaders with guidance.

Bill Cook – let’s recognize Terry Sharik’s Role in creating the conference!! Thank You!

A motion is made by Bill Cook to adjourn.

Second: Don Howlett

Passes with a chorus of ayes.

Meeting adjourns at 9pm.

ATTACHMENT: Treasurer’s 2013 Budget Status Report – as of September 30, 2013.