

Minutes: Michigan Society of American Foresters, State Business Meeting Minutes.

31 March 2011, St. Ignace Michigan

Attendance: Approximately 65 people.

Call to order: 4:40 PM

Meeting brought to order by Joyce Angel.

Joyce passed out the agenda, it was approved.

Treasurer's Report – Jack Pilon

Jack reported that we made approximately \$3,400 at the fall conference and that the budget is doing well.

Motion to approve the treasurer's report was made by Shawn Hagan.

Second: Les Homan.

Passed with a chorus of ayes.

Secretary's Report – Jason Darling

Jason presented the draft minutes from 1/28/2011. A few minor corrections were made.

Motion to approve the secretary's report was made by Ernie Houghton.

Second: Terry Manty.

Passed with a chorus of ayes.

Trees for Tomorrow – Bill Cook

Looking for the state to sponsor a teacher for \$750 to get the necessary training. LP sponsored a teacher, challenging the UP to do the same.

Council Report – Ernie Houghton

Ernie covered a number of items that were brought up in the March meeting. **The report is attached at the end of this document.**

A new idea was brought forth to help highlight important policy issues each month that are most important to MSAF and its members. The idea is to narrow down the issues from the list that National sends out.

Heartland Leadership Academy – Ernie Houghton

We need a list of people to send to the academy. If you are interested contact Ernie or Joyce by April. The academy will take place July 15-17. There will be no cost and travel expenses will be covered.

Position Vacancies – Joyce Angel

There are a number of vacant positions throughout MSAF: State vice-chair, Continuing education chair and Foresters Fund. Nominations are welcome.

Green Book – Joyce Angel

We found new software which will decrease costs and is more printer-friendly. Green Book is available on MSAF's website.

Buy-A-Brick – Joyce Angel

The State Society bought a brick for the National Headquarters.

Billboards – Bill Cook and Joyce Angel

Bill handed out some ideas for the message that will be on the billboard and is seeking input. The billboard will target southbound traffic on I-75. Bill is seeking out sponsors to fund the project and was successful. MSAF will contribute \$1000 for this. Approval of the money is contingent upon successful funding from other sources. The money will come from the education fund and if that fund starts to fall short we can transfer general funds into the education fund. The project and its funding were decided by the executive team on 3/30/2011.

Ties to the Land – Bill Cook

Presented this training opportunity for individuals/families to participate in and help identify and solve some estate planning issues that occur with transferring properties between generations. It is succession planning for the family. Looking to SAF to send a letter which will endorse and possibly sponsor a training program. Bill would like help finding a legal estate planner to present at the program. There are also opportunities to get trained to deliver the Ties to the Land session. Talk to Bill if you are interested in participating or know of an individual fit to lead the training.

The program would like to address the needs of landowners throughout Michigan. SAF might decide to offer a workshop to foresters possibly in the summer.

National SAF News – Bill Rockwell

National SAF structure being influenced by Jim Collin's book "Good to Great". The focus of this new leadership is to create a common vision. This will be achieved by taking these 3 steps:

- 1) Get the right people included and in charge; identify great committee members.
- 2) Create a culture that encourages us to identify the Brutal Facts.
- 3) Do one thing and do it well.

What do we want to do?

- Gain membership
- Teach and learn from each other to promote science/sound decision making in Forestry.
- Forester Certification/Accreditation
- Get a smooth running engine to stay on track.
- Disciplined thinking; actually get answers and solutions.

Motion to adjourn was made by Les Homan.

Second: John Hamel

Meeting was adjourned at 5:34 PM