

PA-TACF Board Meeting Minutes
July 19, 2007
304 Forest Resources Lab
University Park, PA

In Attendance: Chandis Klinger, President; Tim Phelps, Past President (via phone); Bob Summersgill, Board Member; Jim Egenrieder, Board Member; Alan Tumblin, Board Member; Jim Walizer, Board Member; Dylan Jenkins, Board Member; Tim Eck, Treasurer; Bill Montague, Board Member; Sara Fitzsimmons, Regional Tree Breeding Coordinator; Sue Oram, Chapter Administrator; Tracey Coulter, DCNR Representative; Tom Pugel, member. Meeting minutes recorded by Sue Oram.

Old Business:

Treasury Report and Budget: The Board reviewed the current budget to date. PA-TACF expects \$9,000 to be deposited into the Leffel Center account from Exxon Mobil matching and individual giving. \$4,500 was due to PSU in April, but has not reached the Leffel Center account. S. Fitzsimmons and S. Oram will investigate and report back to the Board.

High Yield Savings: The Board discussed moving the chapter's money market to an on-line, high yield, business savings account, at a higher interest rate of 4-5%. D. Jenkins and B. Summersgill will identify the best rate and make a motion, via e-mail to the Board, to transfer the account.

Tractor Maintenance: S. Fitzsimmons reported that the chapter tractor was damaged and cost \$900 to repair. T. Phelps, via phone, noted that he had made a deal with the group involved in the tractor purchase that they would be responsible for general upkeep and maintenance; and purchase of additional equipment would be shared. The Board noted that any repair costs should be taken on a case-by-case basis, and not necessarily added as a budget line item.

Strategic Planning Update: The following members volunteered to participate in the strategic planning session: D. Jenkins, T. Eck, T. Coulter, J. Egenrieder, S. Fitzsimmons, and C. Klinger. The meeting is scheduled for August 27 at 10:00 a.m.

Pre-Release Distribution: C. Klinger is on the national pre-release deployment committee, and asked the Board members to submit their comments to him as soon as possible. S. Fitzsimmons noted that she would like the first seed from the Arboretum to be tested in the greenhouse, simply because there won't be many, and they shouldn't just be thrown out.

Burn/Girdle tree report: J. Walizer reported that his burn/girdle test did not work, however Garlon 4 killed all of the trees in the 2nd year. Walizer will report on the Chestnut for Biomass project at the next Science Committee meeting.

Chestnut Pens: The Board voted to purchase 11 24K Gold Chrome Cigar Chestnut Pens to use as gifts for speakers, retirements, etc. S. Oram will order the pens.

Issacs Fundraiser: on hold.

Job Description: C. Klinger distributed an updated job description for the Administrative Assistant position; the Board approved the update.

New Business:

Events: The chapter will have a booth at Ag Progress Days August 14-16 this year. There are some volunteer openings available. A presenter is needed for the Sept. 8, PA Association of Sportsman's clubs conference in Harrisburg.

Fall Meeting: The Board voted to have the Fall Meeting on Nov 10, in State College. The keynote speaker will be Lee Stover on Wood id, featuring hands-on microscopies. Other agenda items include: silvicultural release, a breeding report, member sharing on several topics (biomass and hypovirulence), and a tour of the Arboretum. D. Jenkins mentioned that TNC is available to do a prescribed fire presentation, which can be part of the spring meeting. Dr. Paris is the scheduled keynote for the spring meeting.

Grants Status: The chapter was awarded \$50,000 from DCED which will be used for salaries. Other grants submitted include: DCNR WRCP, Alcoa Foundation, and the Hardwoods Development Council. A discussion was held on the need to keep grants that match the organization's mission in the pipeline, how to include overhead, and allowing grants to pass through another organization if needed, including TACF.

Pittsburgh Area Projects: The Board agreed that Pittsburgh area projects are important to funding both TACF and PA-TACF. D. Jenkins volunteered to contact M. Case about the relationship The Nature Conservancy (TNC) has with the Western PA Conservancy (WPC), and how that partnership would strengthen a proposal/project.

Business Cards: The Board agreed that PA-TACF business cards are nice to have and to distribute. Cards can be done professionally by a local printer or printed on the office deskjet. S. Oram will print cards as requested.

Election Committee: The election committee consists of T. Phelps, R. Summersgill, and J. Egenrieder. D. Jenkins and A. Tumblin have agreed to run again. R. Summersgill is not running for re-election. T. Eck is resigning as Treasurer, leaving two openings on the Board. **J. Walizer moved to appoint Jim Egenrieder Treasurer. A. Tumblin Seconded the motion. Motion carried.** The Treasury transition will take place by January 2008, after a financial review takes place.

TACF Award Nominations: TACF is requesting award nomination for the national fall meeting. **R. Summersgill moved to nominate D. Armstrong for his leadership and vision, growing the state chapter, and creating the Leffel Center. B. Montague seconded motion. Motion carried.**