

PA-TACF Board Meeting Minutes
March 8, 2007 at Penn Nursery
Final Approved on April 5, 2007

Attending: Chandis Klinger, President; Alex Day, Vice President; Tim Phelps, Past President, by phone; Sara Fitzsimmons, Northern Appalachian Regional Science Coordinator, Dylan Jenkins, Board Member; Jim Egenrieder, Board Member; Jim Walizer, Board Member; Bob Summersgill, Board Member; Alan, Tumblin, Board Member; Tracey Coulter, DCNR Representative; Tim Eck, Treasurer; Sue Oram, Secretary.

Past Meeting Minutes: Chandis will call TACF regarding our insurance coverages. Bob will supply Chandis with the details of the First Niagra policy he set up a few years ago.

Meeting Coordination: Chandis announced that the task of meeting coordinator is officially added to Sue Oram's job description.

Old Business:

Treasury Report/Budget: Dylan moved to investigate similar but alternative investment products with higher interest rates, and if appropriate, transfer the balance to a new account with a higher yield. Motion carried. The Board moved to approve the transfer via e-mail once the recommendation is made. Motion carried.

Flickinger and company will complete the 2006 tax forms for the chapter. The chapter can save money if a full audit is not conducted this year. **The Board moved to hold off on a full audit until the Treasury transfers to a new person. Motion carried.**

The Board reviewed the chapter's financial status, noting that PA-TACF is operating on the "worst case" profit and loss statement, which reflects no funds from DCED and DCNR for 2007.

Bylaws: The updated and signed Chapter bylaws and Articles of Organization were distributed to the Board.

Grants Status: The Board reviewed current grant status, and agreed to pursue new sources of funding. PA-TACF expects to apply to the Hardwoods Development Council and DCNR WRCP. New prospects include: Armstrong Foundation, Roy A. Hunt Foundation, American Forests, and the Cora L. Brooks Foundation. The board discussed need for personal contacts with funding and public relations sources. Suggestions included contacting rod and gun clubs.

Public Relations: The board discussed which media to contact for PR including: the *PA Game News*, *PA Outdoors*, TV program in Wilkes/Scranton area.

Breeding Coordinator Report: Sara distributed the plans for 2007 planting, selections, inoculations, and pollinations in a separate report.

Membership Update: PA-TACF membership base is now 1,000 people.

Science Committee Report: Refer to minutes. **The Board moved that Tim Eck work with Lancaster County Conservancy on plantings for advanced lines. Motion carried.**

Pre-Release Distribution: The policy for pre-release distribution will be revisited and discussed at the 2007 national meeting in April.

Truck: Sara went to the Manheim Auto Auction with Lee Saufley. They gave specs to the dealer contact, Bob Wolfe. They are now waiting to see what Mr. Wolfe finds. Sue will ask Barb Irwin about the total amount in the vehicle fund, and information regarding the \$10,000 deposit 8/06, and will report to the Board through e-mail.

New Business

DCNR Representative: Alex Day officially resigned as DCNR Rep. **The Board moved to appoint Tracey Coulter as the new DCNR Representative for the chapter. Motion carried.**

DCNR MOU: The document is important because of the distribution of germplasm to the public. The Board agreed to revisit the document at the national meeting in April.

Election Committee: Dylan, Alan and Bob's terms expire this year, and should notify the election committee if they are interested in serving another term on the Board,

Northeast Outdoor Show: Jim Egenrieder attended the show and reported that exhibits are grouped by product category, cost of exhibiting is high, and volunteers must pay for parking, recommending that PA-TACF not attend. The Board agreed that it is not worth the cost and effort to display there. Sara asked if PA-TACF can give presentation to groups there without paying for a booth. Jim Egenrieder will report back to the Board.

Bucket Truck: Jim Egenrieder announced that tree care companies, who are members of the Tree Care Industry Association [TCIA], may be able to provide bucket trucks and operators for state chapters. TCIA could be a coordinating agency, could do some public relations work, could provide a link to the PA-

TACF website, or publish an article in its newsletter, etc. TCIA also has a foundation, TCIAF, which may have some funding available. Jim Egenrieder will report findings back to the Board.

Issac's Fundraiser: Jim Egenrieder presented the details about holding a community fundraiser at six of Isaac's Restaurant locations. We would provide members with a brochure/coupon and they would be asked to eat at the location on a specific day. Isaac's then donates 20% of the evening's proceeds. The Board asked if we could hand out flyers at the door on the fundraising night to increase the amount donated. Jim E. will check with their corporate offices and report back. The Board also noted that other organizations may have similar donation programs for 501(3) (c)s that could be listed in the next newsletter.

Spring meeting: The board discussed duties at spring meeting on March 17. Jim E. Parking and Signage; Alan Tumblin, Merchandise; Liv Eck, Registration.

Events: Jim Walizer noted that the School of Forestry's 100-year celebration is in April and that PA-TACF should participate.

Refrigerator: Sara purchased a pre-owned 71 cubic foot refrigerator for \$900 plus \$150 delivery. It has three doors and is on casters. She will work with forestry folks to get it installed next week.

RTI; Chandis presented a new product/fertilizer that claims to make plants taste bad to deer. It costs \$25 for 5 pounds. Chandis will test the product and report back.

Chestnut Biomass: Jim Walizer provided an overview on EPA interest in sustainable biomass, noting that chestnut should be tested for biomass. **Jim motioned to request that the Board to support test plots of using Chinese chestnut for biomass. Motion carried.**

PFA update: Jim Walizer reported that PFA is working with state representatives to create legislation which would eliminate the sales tax on wood stoves, thereby increasing the demand for wood stoves and promoting the need for more wood for fuel in PA. **Jim Walizer moved that PA-TACF support the use of wood for fuel in PA. Motion carried.** Board members are free to send letters to legislators individually regarding the sales tax legislation.

Strategic Plan Update: **The Board moved that Sara distribute baseline data to the Board by April 1; The Board will send feedback for discussion by May 1, and devote the next Board meeting to the topic. Motion carried.** The Board noted that July would be a good time for the next meeting.

Miscellaneous Items:

Jim Walizer reported that you can burn /girdle a tree during winter months of snow cover or a soaking rain to kill it without the use of pesticides.

Website Suggestion: Bob Summersgill would like information on the CMS program available on the website as well as fact sheets.

Dylan offered to give an update on Ecological Land Use analysis at the next meeting.

Tracey asked Board if they would be interested in Chestnut pens for any fundraiser or gift, she will check into price.

Alex Day and Tim Phelps confirmed that the picnic tables created for the Arboretum will be delivered this spring.

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