

PA-TACF Board Meeting Minutes
November 9, 2007
304 Forest Resources Lab, University Park, PA

In Attendance: Chandis Klinger, President; Alex Day, Vice President; Dave Armstrong, Member; Tracey Coulter, DCNR Representative; Tim Eck, Treasurer; Jim Egenrieder, Board Member; Sara Fitzsimmons, Regional Science Coordinator; Ed Fritsch, Member; Bill Montague, Board Member; Sue Oram, Secretary; Alan Tumblin, Board Member; Jim Walizer, Board Member; Not Present: Dylan Jenkins, Board Member; Tim Phelps, Past President. Minutes taken by Sue Oram.

Old Business:

Treasury Report: Tim Eck reviewed current income and expenses. Research indicates that moving the chapter's money market and checking to Fidelity Investments will yield a greater return on investment , at 4.85%. **Bob Summersgill moved that in January 2008 Jim Egenrieder can move a designated amount into the Fidelity cash reserve. Tim Eck seconded motion. Motion carried.**

Budget: Per the Chapter bylaws, an independent audit of QuickBooks was conducted by Dave Armstrong. Recommendations include adding specific accounts for income and expenditures, running reconciliation reports in QuickBooks against bank statements, and incorporating Leffel Center Expenses into QuickBooks. Jim Egenrieder, Sara Fitzsimmons, and Dave Armstrong will meet to coordinate the expenses. The chapter treasury will transfer to Jim Egenrieder in January 08. The Board agreed to keep a line item for comp memberships in the forecasted budget.

Strategic Plan: The revised Strategic Plan for 2008-2013 was distributed to the Board to review. Any additional comments/changes will be voted on through e-mail.

Chestnut Pens: The chestnut pens were delivered. They will be sold at events and /or given as gifts when appropriate.

Hoss's Fundraiser: The Hoss's Fundraiser letter was mailed with the election letter. PA-TACF needs to let Hoss's know restaurant location and number of tickets in advance. The PA Farm show may be a good venue to distribute the tickets. **Chandis Klinger motioned to authorize Jim E. and Sue O. to work on the logistics of the Hoss's fundraiser. Alan Tumblin seconded. Motion carried.**

Grants Status: The following grants were received during this period:

- Dept of Community and Economic Development (DCED)- \$50,000 awarded for salaries
- Dept of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) Wild Resources and Conservation Fund- \$22,500 awarded with budget revision
- Hardwood Forestry Fund-\$1250 awarded for clearing saw
- PA Hardwoods Development Council, \$4000 awarded for a 2008 intern.

- Mobil Exxon matching gifts

Alcoa Corporation and Armstrong Industries grants were submitted. PA-TACF needs to submit application to Cora Brooks Foundation by year end. It was noted that fencing is needed for a New Jersey orchard and that Hardwood Forestry Fund is a good source for funding. It was also noted that the Chapter should remain in contact with Fred Roberts/Sam Smith in preparation for the next DCED cycle

New Business:

Report From National Meeting: Chandis circulated the current pre-release distribution policy and plan for the BC3F3 TACF seeds. A committee was established (Chandis, Sara, Dave Alex, Bill) to discuss the proposed policy and report back in January 2008.

Tracey Coulter suggested that PA-TACF get involved with PASA (PA Association of Sustainable Agriculture) at the conference scheduled at Penn State February 7-9, 2008. Two options were presented: PA-TACF could be a conference sponsor which included a booth, advertisement in the conference brochure, PASA membership for \$500 or PA-TACF could share a booth with the Bureau of Forestry for no cost. Chandis Klinger **motioned for PA-TACF to share a booth with DCNR at the PASA conference in 2008 to learn more about the organization. Bill Montague seconded motion. Motion carried.**

Events: Sue Oram is recruiting volunteers for the PA Farm show on January 5-12. TACF is asking for assistance coordinating the 25th anniversary celebration, linked to the Appalachian Trail. Chandis will ask the membership at the meeting on November 10.

Spring Meeting Plan: The Annual spring meeting will be held on March 29 at the Milton B, Hershey Environmental Center. A snow date is reserved for April 5. The Keynote speaker will be Dr. Bob Paris. The Board discussed having concurrent workshops on Bio-Control, planting, and fertilize/herbicide; 20 minutes each, moving speakers not people. Ed Fritsch will speak on his forest assessment program.

Elections: The Board discussed the cost of distributing election ballots when there are no opposing candidates. The ballot could potentially be placed in the newsletter, or have members vote at meetings, when the situation arises. The Nomination Committee could make a proposal to the Board with their recommendations prior to the next election cycle.

Bonuses/Salaries: **The Board motioned to increase the Regional Science Coordinator and Admin. Assistant's semi-annual bonus amount by \$50 for each. The Board also motioned to increase the hourly wage of the Admin. Assistant. by 6%, effective January 1, 2008. Meeting Adjourned.**