

**Maine Association of Professional Soil Scientists
2021 Annual Business Meeting Summary
3:00pm to 4:30 pm
Via Zoom**

The meeting was called to order at 3:00pm by Maine Association of Professional Soil Scientists (MAPSS) President Chris Dorion.

Election of Officers

A motion was made and passed for the following slate of officers for 2021:

- President: Chris Dorion
- Vice President: Roger St. Amand
- Secretary: Sean Donohue
- Treasurer: Gary Fullerton
- Past President: Dave Marceau
- Director: Natalie Marceau

Treasurer's Report

Gary Fullerton reported on MAPSS' finances. \$1,005 in fees collected for the 2020 annual meeting that was cancelled due to the pandemic have been earmarked as a credit for those who paid for the next in-person annual meeting, which is anticipated to be in 2022. MAPSS did provide support for a \$1,000 scholarship in 2020 and made a \$100 donation to Ducks Unlimited. MAPSS did not fund the Envirothon in 2020. A motion was made and passed to approve the Treasurer's report with verbal amendments that would be incorporated into an updated and final written Treasurer's Report and posted to the MAPSS website by Chris Dorion. Later in the meeting Gary Fullerton reported that MAWS was apportioned 25% of the Reid State Park field conference revenue, which was \$805.

Envirothon

Chris Dorion spoke with the Envirothon management, and confirmed the Envirothon is being held virtually this year. Envirothon is still seeking financial support to offset the costs of holding the event virtually. A motion was made and passed to donate \$1,000 to the 2021 Envirothon.

Janet Cormier Scholarship

Mike Jakubowski reported on the Janet Cormier Scholarship. No complete applications have been accepted as of yet this year. Mike is anticipating that one to two complete applications may be received. The deadline for submitting an application has gone by, but MAPSS will be flexible on the deadline due to the pandemic. Gary Fullerton mentioned that this year the scholarship amount is \$1,080. The membership discussed having a report made to MAPSS by scholarship recipients in future years in the form a verbal update or poster presentation. The membership generally agreed this would be a good idea. A motion was made and passed for a \$1,080 scholarship in 2021 and a \$1,000 scholarship in \$2022.

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Newsletter Editor

Chris Dorion reported that it has been difficult to find a new newsletter editor since Don Phillips stepped down from the position after many years. After brief discussion on alternatives to a traditional newsletter and the need for a volunteer, no MAPSS members expressed an interest. Chris Dorion ultimately volunteered to put together a spring newsletter and will be asking the membership for articles soon.

Land Use Planning Commission Rezoning and Soil Suitability

Chris Dorion and Dave Rocque discussed the recent Land Use Planning Commission rule change for rezoning applications that requires the applicant to demonstrate that the soils at the site are suitable for the proposed rezoning. The membership briefly discussed that there are no clear standards for how soils would be deemed suitable or not.

Natural Resource Field Workshop

Tony Jenkins reported that September 8 has been selected as the date for a MAPSS sponsored workshop. The location is to be determined, but will probably be located in southern Maine. It is anticipated the workshop will include review and discussion of soil pits dug by an excavator and include hydric soil profiles, moderately well drained soil profiles for discussion of hydrologic soil group classifications, and a discussion of the use of LIDAR to disaggregate USDA Soil Survey map units without completing a full on-site high intensity soil survey.

MAPSS 2009 Guidelines for High Intensity Soil Surveys

Tony Jenkins reported that technical committee members are needed to update the MAPSS 2009 Guidelines. Tony also mentioned that he has made efforts with USDA – NRCS to return certain moderately deep or deeper moderately well drained series to their former hydrologic soil group C classification from group D, but has not made much headway. The possibility of a MAPSS letter of support was discussed to help advance this effort. A motion was made for MAPSS to support returning moderately deep and deeper moderately well drained soils to a hydrologic soil group C designation from group D until the National Engineering Handbook can be updated. After discussion, the motion was not voted on, but Chris Dorion proposed revisiting this at a later time when the development of a formal letter to USDA-NRCS could be discussed in more detail. Tony suggested that if written, the letter be accompanied by a list of applicable series in Maine.

The meeting adjourned at 4:30 pm.