

*Maine Association of Professional Soil Scientists
Executive Committee Meeting
April 3rd, 2005, N.R.C.S. offices in Skowhegan, Maine*

The meeting was brought to order at 9:40 am by President Laura Suomi-Lecker.

Roll Call: Laura Suomi-Lecker, Chris Dorion, Don Phillips, Andrew Carpenter, and Dave Rocque

Membership Chair Report: Dave Moyse was absent. Laura Suomi-Lecker will contact Dave Moyse to verify if he will accept this position. The new Membership Chair should actively recruit new members and associate members.

The E.C. then reviewed a list of Certified Soil Scientists (C.S.S.s) who are not associate or full MAPSS members.

The E.C. then reviewed a list of non-C.S.S.s who were associate members in the past but who have not renewed their memberships.

In the summer edition of *The Lay of the Land*, we will request current e-mail addresses.

Don Phillips brought up the idea of giving honorary associate memberships to the three applicants for the Janet Cormier Scholarship Fund. This would need to be brought up at the 2006 Annual Meeting. For this year, the E.C. decided to give out these honorary associate memberships. Laura Suomi-Lecker will send out the official letters.

Dave Rocque will forward to Andrew Carpenter the names of the four new applicants scheduled to take the CSSE and State of Maine certification exam.

MAPSS may want to ask Site Evaluators to join as associate members.

Item: Role of Committee Chairs Relative to Executive Committee (E.C.): Committee Chairs are not part of the E.C., but should attend E.C. meetings if they are on the agenda. They are welcome to attend all E.C. meetings. They have valuable input for discussions.

Item: Downeast Hydric Soil Tour: MAPSS will mail out a hard copy of the First Announcement to non-computer members. The First Announcement has already been Emailed to all MAPSS members who have active Email. MASE, MAWS, LPs, and CEOs will also be invited.

The Bluebird Motel will be the headquarters. The idea was discussed of using some of the proceeds from the registration fees for this workshop to aid the Smithsonian Fund. This idea will have to be put to the General Membership at the 2006 Annual Meeting.

Treasurer's Report: Andrew Carpenter reported there are 38 full members of MAPSS and 14 associate members

Education Chair: Don Phillips reported on the Smithsonian Fund. \$2,335 had been received to date, with \$1,000 pledged but not received:

Amount Received	Name
\$785	MAPSS individuals
\$500	MAWS
\$1,000	MASE
\$1,000	MAPSS

\$3,335	

The next step will be letters to businesses and non-profit entities. The committee will send out, by the end of April, another round of letters to this second group.

Jessica Jespersen is this year's winner of the Janet Cormier Scholarship Fund out of the three applicants for 2005. She is a Master of Science student in Ecology and Environmental Sciences, graduating in December, 2005. Her thesis topic is quantifying terrestrial carbon in subaqueous soils in Taunton Bay. Laura Suomi-Lecker and Don Phillips will send out official letters to her and the other applicants and the Department Chair.

Hydric Sandy Soils Workshop: This will be a repeat of last year. Dave Rocque and Dave Wilkinson would re-open last year's soil pits. This is an ideal site for professionals, not those in training. Laura Suomi-Lecker will contact Kathleen Miller at MAWS and Al Burnell at MASE to invite their members. Fees will be \$25 members and \$35 non-members.

Dave Rocque will contact Wayne Hoar for permission to use NRCS staff and see if they interested in helping. Dave Rocque will also contact the landowner. If these conditions are met, then the E.C. will set a date for the workshop. This workshop is seen as a service that MAPSS provides to other professionals.

MAPSS Sponsored MDEP and LURC Training Workshop: It was discussed that MDEP has no review process for soil mapping; therefore there is no quality control. LURC forwards all soil maps to Dave Rocque for review. It seems that MDEP may not be valuing soil maps, or that no one on their staff has the expertise. It was also noted that there is no peer review for soil mapping. We need a check and balance system.

Don Phillips and Chris Dorion volunteered to locate a site in the Bangor area.

Joint MASE/MAPSS Workshop: This annual workshop will again take place near the end of August. There has been interest in expanding the workshop to include a soil map unit boundaries component.

Cooperative Agreement Between NRCS and MAPSS: Wayne Hoar will have the Cooperative Agreement ready by the next E.C. meeting.

Class C versus Class B Soil Mapping for MDEP Permitting: MAPSS will contact Jeff Madore at MDEP to inquire as why some projects are required to complete a Class C when it appears a Class B soil survey would be more appropriate.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:10 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Chris Dorion, Vice President MAPSS (in place of Dave Turcotte, Secretary MAPSS)

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