

Southern California Society of American Foresters  
Executive Committee Meeting/Conference Call  
February 28, 2005

**Minutes**

**In Attendance:** Fleisher, Hanna, Koepp, Lopez, Nakamura, Piirto (Chair), Todd (7)

Meeting called to order at 0900

**Opening Comments:**

The agenda for the day's call was reviewed. Main focus of the meeting is the Spring Meeting.

Reviewed meeting minutes from the Executive Committee Meeting on January 24, 2005. They were accepted after a quick review. If corrections are found at a later date, please forward them to Secretary John Todd. M/Koepp, S/ Lopez, all in favor – Motion carried.

**Officer Reports:**

Chair Report (Doug Piirto):

There was further discussion of the website being hosted by Cal Poly. Jeff Reimer has some questions about the direction SoCal SAF wants to go with the website. He will contact Communications Chair J. Lopez to follow-up.

Proposed elimination of the Board of Forestry: Latest indications are that the Governor may be backing off on this. Fritz will follow-up prior to the next EC Meeting.

Fellow and Field Forester nomination for John Todd and Craig Cowie was discussed. Fritz will take lead on Fellow Award and we will need to submit the Field Forester nomination to Gary Nakamura. Fritz will follow-up with Craig.

Chair-Elect Report (Fritz Koepp)

Fritz checked National SAF website and he is still listed as Chair. John Todd sent updates to National SAF on 2-8-05 listing all current officers for SoCal SAF. John will check at the end of the month to see if the National SAF Website Leadership Directory has been updated.

Treasurer's Report (Tamara Hanna):

Tamara Hanna reviewed the expenses and revenues from the Fall Meeting at ESRI and the Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Gardens. Preliminary profit was \$500.00; J. and John spent some money on raffle items at the Fall Meeting – discussion was held and a motion was made that J. be reimbursed \$200.00 for the cost of the SAF mugs that were given to presenters. M/Todd, S/ Koepp, all in favor – Motion carried.

Tamara asked Michael Fleisher about one outstanding check that was written to the San Gabriel Chapter. He said he would request that the Chapter Treasurer deposit it.

Balance of the SoCal SAF account as of 2-14-05 is \$5,689.28

Tamara asked if we should post the Treasurer's Report and the Proposed 2005 Budget in the *Sundial*. Decision was made that both the Treasurer's Report and the Proposed Budget for 2005 should appear on the website and in the EC notes, but not in the *Sundial*. The starting balance, ending balance, expenses, and revenues will appear in the Spring 2005 Edition of the *Sundial*.

### **Committee Reports:**

#### Communications Chair Report (J. Lopez):

J. has completed a draft version of the *Sundial* and e-mailed it to the EC. He would like all EC members to review and get back to him ASAP. Gary provided Julie Lydick's summary of the Volunteer Organization Structure (VOS) Task Force Report. J. will include this to introduce members to the VOS Report.

### **Spring and Fall Meetings:**

#### Spring Meeting:

Dates: March 18 - 19, 2005 (Friday/Saturday)

Title: Forest Science Update and a Walk in the Woods

Location: Riverside/San Bernardino/Arcadia

A reservation will be made for Romano's Family Italian Restaurant in Riverside for ten people for a brief EC Meeting prior to the going to the Riverside Fire Lab. (11 am – 12:30 pm)

Fritz has spoken to Mr. Arbaugh at the Riverside Fire Lab and they have completed arrangements for that portion of the meeting. J. needs to know how many speakers and topics will be covered – Fritz will follow-up. (1 pm to 4:30 pm)

Dr. Piirto will speak at the San Bernardino County Museum where the California Forest Products Commission's display, "A Walk in the Woods," will be set up. An icebreaker sponsored by the CFPC will take place and attendees will be able to visit other displays in the Museum. (5 pm to 7 pm)

The Los Angeles County Arboretum has been confirmed for Saturday, March 19<sup>th</sup> by J. Lopez. J. will request Continental Breakfast for members (\$? per attendee) and a no-host lunch (Peacock Café). Entry to the Arboretum is \$7.50 and it includes admission and the tram tour.

#### Fall Meeting:

Proposed dates: September 30 – October 1, 2005 (Friday/Saturday)

Back-up dates: October 7 - 8, 2005

Topic: Volunteer Organization Structure Task Force Report/Tour of Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL) in La Canada-Flintridge

Location: LA County Fire Camp 2, La Canada-Flintridge

Program Committee: Koeppe (Chair), Lopez and Todd (Co-Chairs)

**Council Report (Gary Nakamura):**

The group discussed the VOS Report and Gary asked for input he could carry back to Council. The EC agreed that they were concerned both with the establishment of a Regional House of Society Delegates (HSD) Meetings and the suggestion that the National Convention be held only once every two years. Gary stated that he is concerned about the Regional HSD; as there is no money or organization set up to support the Regional HSDs, and that it would create another level of bureaucracy where volunteer participants would be asked to complete the additional work. The VOS Report recommends a decentralization of National SAF activities. Tamara asked if the Convener Call system is still in place and if it is still a viable method for HSD to receive input from various regions.

The EC agreed that the Regional HSD Meeting concept was something we would ask Gary not to support during the next Council Meeting. In addition, SoCal SAF strongly advocated the need for the National Convention to remain an annual event.

Gary stated that the VOS Report contains some thoughts regarding the Working Groups that may be appropriate. J. asked if a report that reached similar conclusions was completed in 1994-95 and Gary confirmed that fact. J. thought we should review the 1994-95 report to see if the conclusions of that report were implemented and what the outcome of those directives was.

Gary said he would send a short summary of his thoughts regarding the VOS Report to the NorCal, SoCal, and Hawaii ECs to ensure that he has captured our thoughts prior to attending the next Council Meeting.

**Future Executive Committee Meeting Dates:**

Scheduled dates for the remaining Executive Committee Meetings or Conference Calls for 2005 are as follows. All meetings are scheduled for 0900 – 1200 hours.

Monday, June 13, 2005

Monday, August 22, 2005

**Announcements:**

Northern California SAF's Forest Conservation Days (FCD) are scheduled to take place March 14-20, 2005 at Sanborn Park in Saratoga, CA. If you would like to assist, please contact Thomas Catchpole, High Sierra Chapter SAF Education Chair and FCD Coordinator, at (559) 855-2194 or at [treecookies@psnw.com](mailto:treecookies@psnw.com)

More information can be found on the NorCal SAF website at <http://www.norcalsaf.org/>

April 14 (tentative) Cal Poly, Xi Sigma Pi, and Cal Poly SAF will sponsor a showing of the 100<sup>th</sup> Centennial Film at Cal Poly. Contact at Cal Poly is Katie Brong.

J. has new photos for SoCal SAF Display. Doug P. will follow-up

**Action Items:**

All Executive Committee Members: If you have photos from previous SAF meetings or events, send them to Jeff Reimer for posting on the SoCal SAF website.

All Executive Committee Members: Review and prepare to comment on the Report to the SAF Council titled "Volunteer Organizational Structure Task Force."

Koepp: Initiate Field Forester nomination for Craig Cowie and Fellow Nominations for John Todd.

Lopez: Publish the spring meeting announcement and/or the *Sundial*.

Reimer: Migrate the SoCal SAF website from the UFEI server to the Cal Poly server.

**Next Meeting:**

The next Executive Committee Conference Call is scheduled for Friday, March 18, 2005 at Romano's Family Restaurant at 11 am. It is located at 5225 Canyon Crest Drive in Riverside. Phone number is (951) 781-7662. The focus of this meeting will be the Fall Meeting and any final details for the Spring Meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 1105 hours.

Respectfully submitted by John R. Todd  
Secretary, Southern California SAF

(c:\md\SoCal SAF EC 02.28.05)