

Southern California Society of American Foresters
Executive Committee Meeting
November 8, 2008
SAF National Convention
Grand Sierra Resort, Reno, Nevada

Minutes

In Attendance: Gubrud (Chair), Conn, Hanna, Koepp, Lopez, Nickles, Todd (7)

Meeting called to order at 0835 hours

Opening Comments:

This meeting took place on Saturday during the SAF National Convention. Many southern California (SoCal) SAF members have held several roles while assisting with the administration of the National Convention. SoCal is well represented at the convention, with a large contingent (25-30) attending. This includes faculty and several students from Cal Poly San Luis Obispo. Over 1,600 are in attendance at the convention, making it an unqualified success.

Officer Reports:

Chair's Report (Martin Gubrud):

Marty shared a sample allocation of host convention funds based on host societies' attendance. The final breakdown will be completed by the State Society Chairs.

Marty took several pages of notes during the House of Society Delegates Meeting that preceded the Convention. He will complete the notes and distribute to the Executive Committee (EC).

The 2009 Leadership Academy is scheduled for April 7-10, 2009 in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho. SoCal will explore sending one of our new leaders.

Due to the fact that former Chair-Elect Scott Eckardt moved to northern California and the Chair-Elect role was left vacant, Marty offered to stay on as Chair for one additional year. The group agreed to search for a Chair-Elect. Later, during the Convention, Los Angeles County Forester David Whitney accepted the nomination as Chair-Elect for 2009. In addition, Los Angeles County Forester Samantha Conn has agreed to take on the role of SoCal SAF Secretary effective January 1, 2009.

Electronic voting for SAF Vice-President closed on November 5th. Five of seven in attendance voted on-line. There is not auditor or teller report for this meeting but J. will double-check the Treasurer's report in his role as auditor.

Secretary (John Todd):

The minutes from the May 12, 2008 Conference Call were reviewed and approved as submitted. Please send any future corrections to John.

John will ask Jeff Reimer to post the EC notes from 2008 on the SoCal SAF website.

Treasurer (Tamara Hanna):

Tamara reviewed the current Treasurer's report. The Treasurer's file will be attached when the notes are sent out.

Tamara notified the EC that she had paid a \$135 invoice for the website and the website is now paid up through 2015.

Dr. Doug Piirto sent out a letter requesting financial assistance for student travel to the National Convention. The request was for \$13,000. SoCal SAF will send its annual allotment of \$200. Donation of additional SoCal SAF funds will require approval of the Executive Committee.

Marty's registration for the National Convention was covered by the National Office because he served as the Hospitality Co-Chair. The EC annually allots \$800 for the Chair and Chair-Elect to travel to convention. As only the Chair represented the SoCal State Society a motion was made to increase the allotment for the Chair to \$500. M/Todd, S/Lopez, all in favor, none opposed, motion passes.

Committee Reports:

Membership Chair (Hanna):

Some members who were on the June 2008 purge list may have dropped their membership. SoCal EC members made phone calls to members on the purge list to encourage them to renew. Carol McKernon of National SAF is retiring. Future membership reports will be available on a 'request-only' basis.

Policy Chair (Fritz Koepp):

Fritz Koepp reported that NorCal SAF may be putting together a critique/response to climate change protocols.

Fritz will complete any necessary by-laws changes to accommodate e-voting. He will also review quorum requirements for meetings of the EC. Fritz may include a short summary of any proposed by-law changes in the next *Sundial*.

Communications Chair (J. Lopez):

The EC emphasized the importance of communicating to SoCal SAF members via the newsletter of the SoCal SAF, *The Sundial*. The EC agreed that putting out a newsletter early in 2009 should be a priority. Listed below are several topics with the person who volunteered to supply the write-up also listed.

- National Convention Summary (Todd)
- House of Society Delegates Summary (Gubrud)
- Forester's Fund (Hanna)
- Awards (Hanna)
- National Convention High School Program (Conn)
- Policy Update (Koepp)

Deadline for submission of your articles is December 15. A reminder will be sent out on December 1. Don't let this preliminary list of subjects limit contributions, please feel free to provide your own perspective on the National Convention or any significant event.

Tellers Report (Lopez):

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Education Chair (Todd):

Almost all Continuing Forestry Education (CFE) and Certified Forester (CF) credits are now being reported and tracked on-line. During the convention CFE credits were counted via bar codes on individual name badges. John Todd will continue to serve as Education Chair in 2009 and he is available to evaluate non-SAF meetings, seminars and other educational events for CFE and CF credit.

Awards Chair (Hanna):

Two SoCal members, Tim O'Keefe and Raymond Shaft, became golden members in 2008. Doug Nickles became an SAF Fellow. Doug was recognized at the National Convention. Congratulations Doug!

Chapter Reports:

San Gabriel Chapter (Doug Nickles):

Doug reported that he will continue to organize dinner meetings at Los Angeles County Fire Camp 2 for the San Gabriel Chapter in 2009. Doug also wants to organize a one-day field tour of the Tejon Ranch area during the fall. San Gabriel Chapter members will be involved in staffing the SAF booth at the Environmental Education Fair in March.

Cal Poly Student Chapter:

Lenny Cridebring will be the Student Chapter Chair for 2008-09. Marty will contact and welcome him. The planning committee needs to consider student chapter involvement if the spring meeting takes place on the central coast.

New Business:

Spring Meeting

Subject/Title: ?

Dates: April 17-18, 2009 (tentative)

Location: Santa Barbara or San Luis Obispo?

The planning committee will need to talk to members Sam Alfano, David Shreiner, Chris Childers, John Bryant, Peggy Hernandez and others to develop a program.

Sponsoring the Forestry Institute for Teachers (FIT) program in southern California was discussed. After discussion, the consensus opinion was that a lack of money, support and members precludes SoCal SAF from participating at this time.

Marty will contact Scott Gardner about SoCal SAF involvement at the Environmental Education Fair (EEF). The EEF will take place on Saturday, March 14, 2009 from 9 am to 4 pm at the Los Angeles County Arboretum in Arcadia.

Old Business:

SAF Insurance during meetings was discussed briefly. Meetings are covered if children are not involved. SoCal SAF should contact National SAF to inform them about events.

The sale of the National Headquarters property fell through. SoCal SAF will continue to monitor this situation.

2009 Calendar:

Next EC Meeting – December 15, 2008

EEF – March 14, 2009

SoCal SAF Spring Meeting – April 17-18, 2009

SAF National Convention – September 30 - October 4, 2009 (Orlando, Florida)

Next Meeting:

The next Executive Committee Meeting/Conference Call is scheduled for December 15, 2008 at 0900 hours. Chair-Elect Marty Gubrud and Communications Chair J. Lopez will provide conference call details.

Meeting adjourned at 1035 hours.

Respectfully submitted by John R. Todd, Secretary
Southern California SAF
(c:\md\SoCal SAF EC 11.08.08)