

Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

March 13, 2007

Members Present

Officers -	President	Bruce Martinson
	Secretary	Kevin Farrar
	Treasurer	John Lloyd
Directors	Androscoggin	Bill Saucier
	Penobscot-Hancock	Jon Stewart
	Pejepscot	Bruce Martinson (proxy)
	Somerset	John Lloyd (proxy)
	At Large	Bob Libby (proxy)
	At Large	Don Dostie
Immediate Past President -		John Lloyd
Legislative Committee -		Dan Bernier
MidCoast Chapter -		David Tony
MidCoast Chapter -		John Mathieson

Meeting was held at Governor's in Waterville and was called to order by President Martinson at 6:05 PM.

President Martinson asked for agenda changes. Hearing none, he proceeded to the Legislative Committee and Dan Bernier.

Legislative Committee (Dan Bernier) – Dan handed out a list of bills he will be monitoring for us as the Legislative season proceeds forward. Dan spoke about the Governor's budget proposals and how some of his savings proposals are in serious trouble politically. Dan moved onto LD 174, a bill to increase the county's share of the Real Estate Transfer Tax. He feels that the overall transfer tax may be in jeopardy of being raised with a government looking for new revenue. LD You can look up the bills below by going to the following website <http://janus.state.me.us/legis/bills> and putting in the LD number.

LD 21 – “Resolve to provide access for persons with disabilities to great ponds” has been assigned to the Agriculture, Conservation and Forest Committee. This bill has a Workshop scheduled for March 14th.

LD 25 – “An act to change the Maine Land Use Commission's lot size, coverage and setback requirements for some affordable housing lots on coastal islands” has been assigned to the Natural Resource Committee.

LD 145 – “An act to allocate a portion of the Land for Maine's Future Fund for the purchase of Archeological sites” has been assigned to the Agriculture, Conservation, and Forestry Committee. This bill has a Workshop scheduled for March 14th.

LD 169 – “An act to place land in Township 21 in trust” has been assigned to the Judiciary Committee.

LD 174 – “An act to increase the county share of the real estate transfer tax” has been assigned to the Taxation Committee. This bill has a public hearing scheduled for March 15th.

LD 199 – “An act to improve the lien process” has been assigned to the Judiciary Committee. This bill had a public hearing on February 1st.

LD 237 – “An act to amend the Maine tree growth law” has been assigned to the Taxation Committee. This bill had a Workshop on February 15th and is dead.

LD 254 – “An act to restrict takings under eminent domain” has been assigned to the Judiciary Committee. This bill has a Public Hearing scheduled for March 21st.

LD 277 – “An act to require mapping of conservation easements, purchases and gifts” has been assigned to the State and Local Government Committee. This bill had a Public Hearing on March 7th.

LD 307 – “An act to enhance land use opportunities for landowners” has been assigned to the Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Committee. This bill had a workshop on March 8th and it is anticipated that it will receive a divided report.

LD 340 – “An act to require the replacement of trees cut in shoreland areas” has been assigned to the Natural resources Committee. This bill has workshop scheduled for March 13th.

LD 345 – “An act to clarify recent changes to the laws regulating land use ordinances” has been assigned to the Natural Resources Committee and has a public hearing scheduled for February 20th at 9AM. This bill had a workshop on February 22nd and received an “Ought to Pass as Amended” recommendation.

LD 471 – “An act to clarify the status of lots greater than 40 acres on plans recorded for unorganized territory land before September 21, 2001” has been assigned to the Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry Committee. This bill had a public hearing on February 26th and has been tabled.

LD 472 – “An act to clarify land planning in the unorganized and deorganized townships of the State” has been assigned to the Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry Committee. This bill had a Public Hearing on February 26th and has been tabled.

LD 473 – “An act to clarify land use regulations in unorganized and deorganized townships” has been assigned to the “Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry Committee. This bill had a Public Hearing on February 26th and has been tabled.

LD 530 – “An act to encourage open space through current use taxation of open space land set aside for long term protection from development” has been assigned to the Taxation Committee. This bill had a Public Hearing on March 1st.

LD 544 – “An act to provide Maine land conservation tax incentives” has been assigned to the Taxation Committee. This bill had a Public Hearing on March 1st.

LD 559 – “An act regarding the valuation of land within buffer areas established under the natural resources protection laws” has been assigned to the Taxation Committee. This bill had a Public Hearing on March 1st.

LD 567 – “An act to expand tax incentives for conservation easements” has been assigned to the Taxation Committee. This bill had a Public Hearing on March 1st.

LD 668 – “An act to reallocate revenues from the real estate transfer tax” has been assigned to the Taxation Committee.

LD 678 – An act to limit the eminent domain authority of a transmission and distribution utility has been assigned to the Utilities and Energy Committee. This bill has a Workshop on March 15th.

LD 695 – An act concerning applications processed by the Maine Land Use Regulations Commission has been assigned to the Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry Committee. This bill had a Public Hearing on February 26th.

LD 784 – An act to enhance the natural resources protection laws has been assigned to the Marine Resources Committee.

Secretary Report (Kevin Farrar) – The minutes of the February 13th meeting were amended to reflect that Jon Stewart was not in attendance. Moved by Saucier, seconded by Tonry and passed.

Executive Directors Report (Bruce Bourgoine) – Bruce’s written report is in the packet. He is not in attendance tonight. The MSLS phone number is now on a cell phone and with him when he is available.

Executive Director’s Report – March 8, 2007

I am completing my initial few weeks serving you as Executive Director. The major initial challenges have revolved around first time activities to organize things so that I can best assist the organization. My eye is on refinement of tasks through systematizing procedures or building templates to use time as efficiently as possible. With that in mind and in the interest of space, I will include membership reporting in this document. Please bear with me, the challenges will continue for a while.

Here are a few items focused upon in February.

- *Continued orientation and materials transfer with Karl Olson*
- *Attended and assisted at MSLS Annual Meeting*
- *Procedures or templates built for ExCom meeting preparation, deposits and large emailing*

- *Cell phone placed in service and setup*
- *Initial Excel mail file set up and printing arrangements for FieldNotes*
- *Completed a raw database transfer to Excel with backup filing*
- *Began handling external and member inquiries*
- *Gathered brief bios on ExCom members*

Looking ahead, I believe the following items below would be appropriate as immediate and mid-term priorities:

- *Undertake Spring meeting report*
- *With bios in hand, build a media distribution list and start press releases*
- *Consult with Society on database management, concerns, and expectations. Implement data reorganization or clean up based on that feedback. This is an item that I consider needing great focus.*
- *Storage and condensing MSLS materials*

This report and the membership report below indicate some competing priorities in terms of how I invest time and energy on your behalf. I look forward to any direction or priority setting the Executive Committee may impart to me.

Ethics Committee (Joe LaBranche) – No report.

Membership Committee (Bruce Bourgoine) – Bruce’s written report is below.

<i>Charter</i>	<i>- 3</i>	<i>Student</i>	<i>- 17</i>	<i>Bench Mark</i>	<i>- 4</i>
<i>Sustaining</i>	<i>- 6</i>	<i>Member</i>	<i>- 216</i>	<i>Life</i>	<i>- 15</i>
<i>Associate</i>	<i>- 53</i>	<i>Retired</i>	<i>- 17</i>	<i>Out of State</i>	<i>- 31</i>
<i>Honorary</i>	<i>- 2</i>				

One new applicant for membership paid and reflected in the above totals:

John Patrick Pinkham Associate Brewer

It was moved by Farrar and seconded by Saucier to approve the applicant as a member. Passed.

Budget & Finance (Bruce Martinson) – The proposed budget passed at the Annual Meeting. Nothing to report. This committee will be moved to inactive until September.

Liaison Committee –

Board of Licensure (Bob Libby) – Bob attended the February 27th meeting of the Board of Licensure. Bob's written report is below. He mentioned that most complaints are the result of surveyors working without a contract. He said that the Board would love to have MSLS host a seminar on contracts. President Martinson mentioned that he'd like to see a seminar on what various actions that the Board can take really means (like a "Letter of Reprimand" or a "Letter of Guidance"). The ability to renew your license "on-line" is in the works. The Board is still seeking a "Public Member" as it is not fully staffed. The next meeting is April 24th.

Governor to NSPS (Steve Gould) – No written report. John Lloyd said that Steve was in St. Louis actively representing us at the ACSM Annual Meeting and will probably have a report out shortly.

SVT Program (Steve Gould) – No written report. UMO finished 5th out of about 10 teams in the student competition. John Lloyd mentioned that the Student Chapter is trying to come up with fundraising ideas such as hosting seminars.

Survey Education Foundation of New England (Steve Gould) – No report

GIS Liaison (Gregory Copeland) – No report

Publications Committee:

Bearings (Ann Bills) – No report

FieldNotes (Jocelyn Lloyd) – John Lloyd reports that Jocelyn is slowly trying to improve upon FieldNotes.

Education Committee (Stephen Gould) – No report

Scholarship Committee (John Lloyd) – John handed out a financial report on the Scholarship fund. It's value as of February 28th
Sea Dogs

Historical Committee (Bill Saucier) – No report

MSLS Website (Jon Stewart) – Jon's written report is below

MSLS Website Report - March 13, 2007

Website continues to show improvements. Bearings and FieldNotes areas are working but need content to add. A minor glitch in login has kept me out of the site for couple weeks but Sunderland/Weston making changes to menus and contact lists. Members now have email and website field in their personal info. Working on email blast for group i.e. chapter sends and statewide sends by officers.

Jon is also willing to explore the possibility to include a "storefront" and use credit cards for purchases and renewals.

Program Committee (Steve Gould) – No report

Chapter Reports

Androscoggin Chapter (Bill Saucier) – Bill's written report is below. The Chapter has begun work on hosting the MSLS Fall Meeting.

MSLS Androscoggin Chapter Report – February 21st 2007

The Chapter held a regular monthly meeting at the Lewiston House of Pizza with five members present. The director's report for the February ExCom meeting was presented and accepted. The secretary's and treasurer's reports were also accepted. We discussed the fall meeting, dividing up the different duties to put the meeting on (speaker, location, caterer, etc.). We have tentatively set the date for October 12th at CMCC and the topic being "subdivision site review". This is all subject to change at this point.

The next meeting will be held on Monday March 19th at Espo's in Lewiston. This will be a joint meeting with the Narragansett Chapter and the speaker will be a representative from Plum Creek to talk about their plans for the Greenville-Moosehead Lake area.

Narragansett Chapter (Bob Farthing) – Bob Libby states that there is nothing to report other than the joint meetings with Androscoggin County.

Crown of Maine – No report.

MidCoast (David Tonry) – David reports that the Chapter is going to have a Director on a rotating basis. He said this may not be all that good for continuity but it will be good for exposing Chapter members to what goes on at ExCom.

Pejepscot Chapter (Bill Coombs) – The Chapter is trying to organize a meeting to go over the new Carlson software. There was some discussion on how AutoCadd is not user friendly at all. Jon Stewart said that his firm is very happy using Carlson software for surveying applications

Penobscot/Hancock Chapter (Jon Stewart) – The chapter is hosting the Spring 2007 Meeting. The February 28 organizational meeting laid the ground work for sessions, location, speakers. The Black Bear Inn in Orono on April 13 is the target. Attendance fee discussed. There will be more to come. The program outline is below.

Somerset Chapter (Steve Gould) – No report

It was decided to jump ahead in the agenda to discuss setting the next meeting date. With the MSLS Spring meeting being on April 13th, it was decided to skip the monthly Executive Committee meeting and incorporate it into the business meeting at the Spring meeting. Secretary Farrar and President Martinson both said that they will be unable to attend that meeting. Vice President Bob Libby and Treasurer John Lloyd will be in attendance and can run the business meeting that day.

New Business

- A) NSPS Joint Membership Proposed Contract – The proposed contract was in everyone's packet. John Lloyd asked why we need to have a one year notice on terminating the dues agreement MSLS has with NSPS. He also speculated that NSPS could make a fuss about the clause that says 100% of MSLS members will be NSPS members.

That isn't the case, because MSLS does not fund a NSPS membership to some membership categories (students, life, out of state). He proposed to modify the wording to read "100% of the full and associate members". Bob Libby and President Martinson wanted to see the time frame on the termination clause reduced to 6 months. There were several other suggestions, as it appears the proposed contract was not very well thought out and parts seem contradictory to other parts. President Martinson said that he would mark up the proposed contract and send it back with his suggestions. It was moved to have Bruce Martinson sign the contract once the proposed changes are made.

- B) Fee structure for MSLS Spring meeting. Jon Stewart said that the proposed fee structure that is set for the Spring meeting breaks the MSLS policy of structuring the pricing for non members at 1.75% of the rate charged MSLS members. Jon asked to have the policy suspended for this meeting because of the types of programs being offered at the meeting. Jon Stewart made a motion that the Penobscot Hancock chapter requests a waiver of the MSLS policy on pricing this meeting for non-members at 1.75% of the rate charged for members because of the types of courses offered at this seminar (PLS/LSIT review courses aimed at students and potential new members).
- C) Correspondence –
 C-1, Bruce Bourgoine received several thank you notes from students.
 C-2, MSLS received a request to send a letter to NGS requesting coordinate data be given in BOTH meters and feet. President Martinson will send the letter.
 C-3, We received notice that MSLS needs to file an annual report with the State. We will get Bruce Bourgoine to take care of this.

Treasurer's Report (John Lloyd) – As of the end of February, we have almost \$84,000 in the checking account. John is acclimating himself to the job of being secretary.

Consent Agenda:

Dated March 13th 2007

From Whom	MSLS Committee	Amount
Bruce Bourgoine	Executive Director Services	\$1,187.50
Bruce Bourgoine	Executive Director Expenses	\$62.89
Copy Shop	Publications – FieldNotes	\$623.24
Copy Shop	Spring Mtg. Flyer Printing/Postage	\$256.40
Sutherland Weston	Web Site: February hosting	\$166.20
Sutherland Weston	Web Site: March hosting	\$203.70
Samoset Resort	Annual Meeting	\$19,593.51
Verizon	Land line – final bill	\$131.26
Jocelyn Lloyd	Editor: FieldNotes, V14, #1	\$350.00
Total Before Meeting		\$22,627.88

No additions made at meeting

Meeting Adjourned
 Respectfully Submitted

DRAFT

Kevin R. Farrar – Secretary