

**NORTH CENTRAL FOREST LANDOWNERS ASSOCIATION, Inc.**

**Board of Directors Meeting**

**December 13, 2011**

**9:00 a.m.**

The Board of Directors Meeting was held at the McKean Co. Extension Office, Smethport PA. In attendance were:

**Officers:**

**Tim Pierson, President**  
**Walt Petrick, Vice President**  
**Marie Petrick, Treasurer**  
**Verda Knowlton, Secretary**

**Directors:**

**Dave Lombardo, Cameron Co.**  
**Ken Comstock, Potter Co.**

**Advisor:**

**Tim Pierson, McKean Co. Ext. Office**

**DCNR Bur. of Forestry, Service Foresters:**

**Toby Herzing, Cameron-Elk Co.**  
**Stan Hess, Potter-McKean Co.**

The meeting was called to order by the President, Tim Pierson at 9:10 a.m.

**Approval of Minutes:**

A motion was made by Marie Petrick, seconded by Dave Lombardo to approve the minutes of the September 20, 2011 meeting which were sent to Board members prior to the meeting. Motion carried. Tim Pierson asked for approval of the November 6, 2011 Annual Membership Meeting minutes. Motion made by Marie Petrick, seconded by Dave Lombardo to approve the Annual Membership Meeting minutes. Motion carried.

**Treasurer's Report:**

Marie Petrick distributed a copy of the Treasurer's Report which shows balance as of December 12, 2011 of \$3,001.22 in the checking account (copy attached). Motion made by Walt Petrick, seconded by Dave Lombardo to accept the Treasurer's report. Motion carried.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Program Committee:**

In order to complete the 2012 Calendar of Events, a Program Committee meeting will be held at 11:00 a.m. on December 20, 2011 at Walt & Marie Petrick's and lunch will be provided. The members of the Program Committee are: Tim Pierson, Walt & Marie Petrick, Rick Smith, Ken Comstock, Toby Herzing, Stan Hess and Verda Knowlton.

Tim asked members of the Board to make suggestions for the Program Committee:

- Visiting a Marcellus well site was suggested by Marie Petrick. Ken Comstock said that Pennsylvania General Energy has several well sites on State Game Lands 59 off of Sartwell Creek Road where we could see a lot in a couple of hours--roads, well pads and compressor stations. Tim Pierson asked if we want to do a program on leasing and the things to consider as a private landowner.
- Sagamore Hunt Club Woodswalk--Tim asked Toby Herzing to make arrangements to schedule this woodswalk next year.

- Continuation of the Jim Herzog Woodswalk was suggested by Walt Petrick.
- Lymes Disease—Marie Petrick suggested having Norm Conrad do a program on Lymes Disease.
- Ag Choice Finance Option—Marie Petrick suggested having one of their foresters make a presentation on the availability of financing for purchasing forest land.
- Estate Planning Workshop was suggested by Dave Lombardo. Tim said that we are considering doing an all-day workshop on estate planning, using attorneys Owlett & Lewis from Wellsboro and John Becker, an attorney from Penn State.

Ken Comstock mentioned Allyson Muth's article in this week's Lancaster Farmer about talking to your children about your wishes for your forest or farm land—since most of the owners are over 60 years of age. She suggested taking advantage of Christmas family gatherings, etc., to have this discussion.

Dave Lombardo suggested having Allyson participate in this program and also cover valuation of Marcellus gas on your property. According to Tim, the all day session would include succession, conservation easements, gifting, working with children and grandchildren, understanding your basis and potential leases.

- Paul Buchen's Lumber Yard—Stan Hess suggested visiting Paul's operation to learn about where the timber markets are today, where the logs go, how they sort and grade logs.
- The Carpenter Shop—Stan also suggested in conjunction with the visit to Paul Buchsen's, we also visit Calvin Horning's Carpenter Shop in Ulysses to see how they can make any type of specialty moldings.

#### Peer-to-Peer Discussions:

Tim distributed a copy of an article by Alex Metcalf, Post-Doctoral Researcher, Penn State School of Forest Resources entitled "Private Forests of PA: Tailoring Outreach to Encourage Stewardship." (copy attached) Pennsylvania contains 12 million acres of private forestland held by approximately 600,000 owners. According to the article, one of the best ways to learn about forest management is from each other through "peer to peer" discussions. Our woodswalks are providing peer-to-peer opportunities.

Walt Petrick reported that the Forest Stewardship Committee is compiling a list of landowners with experience in a particular area and who are willing to share it. Their name, contact information and area of expertise will be put into a data base so that a landowner with a problem or questions can contact him/her to get advice based on their experience in the given area. In this way, the person with the concern initiates the contact for the peer-to-peer information sharing.

#### Woodswalks:

Tim said that while the woodswalks at Jim Herzog's and the Stratton's were well attended, it was almost always the same people. If one of our missions is to promote good forest stewardship to all landowners, then we aren't advertising well enough to non-members. The newspaper article announcing the event should state that all landowners are welcome and provide contact information. Immediately after the woodswalk, there should be second newspaper article, along with a tip for the landowner based on what

was learned that day. We need more members willing to write articles about the woodswalks. Prior to the event, the Program Committee will identify the person who will write the article which will be sent to the Newsletter Editor for editing and then, along with a picture, will be sent to the local newspapers, radio stations, and Solomon's Word.

Tim said we need to encourage members to invite a non-member to our woodswalks and programs. In fact, he will put this message in the next Terminal Buds article in the Newsletter.

There was some discussion about changing the woodswalks to Saturday which could result in better attendance by out-of-area landowners. Tim said Sundays were only picked for events scheduled during hunting seasons.

#### Educational Survey:

Walt Petrick distributed a copy of the Program Committee's Educational Survey. Tim pointed out that we did cover Taxation Issues and Wildlife Habitat Enhancement which were in the top 10 choices.

#### Publicity:

Tim also distributed copies of the article that Amanda Jones, from the Bradford Era wrote about the NCFLA Banquet and the program on Impact of Wind Farms on the Forest (copy attached). Tim said that we should invite a reporter from the local news media to each of our events. It would be good to have a direct contact at the newspapers to whom we could send the article we prepare. Stan Hess suggested inviting some of the outdoor writers so that they could gain an understanding of the forest landowner's issues. We could tell them that if they can't attend, we send them an article afterwards.

#### Newsletter Committee:

Walt reported that they will be putting together a Newsletter next month and that the information Jim Herzog provided at the Annual Banquet about all the benefits of forests on society would make a good Newsletter article.

#### Tax Committee:

Dave Lombardo said that after 12 years of dealing with Clean & Green, there has been progress with Jim Herzog's appeal on uniformity with McKean County. His assessment has been set back to \$94.00 per acre, which was the lowest figure used by the county for other properties.

Tim reported that for OGM activities, there are two types of 1099 forms—the regular 1099 and the 1099-S. If it is a permanent usage like a pipeline, the property owner should receive a 1099-S and would not pay taxes on it until they sold the property. For all other types of payments on areas that are reclaimed, the landowner should receive a regular 1099 form and income taxes would be paid on that.

#### Clean & Green Law Change:

Tim Pierson reported that there is a change in the law that allows the county to charge rollback taxes for land permanently taken out of production for gas well pads or compressor stations. The rollback taxes are triggered by the Reclamation Plan sent to DEP. Pipelines don't count as they are returned to production.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**Annual Membership Meeting & Banquet:**

Marie reported that total banquet proceeds were \$1,298 less expenses of \$1068.99 for a net income of \$229.01. Larry Schultz donated the string trimmer which was the large door prize. The speaker did a real good job and did not charge us anything. It was suggested that we shorten the time used for door prizes or do the drawings at different times—prior to and after the business meeting and after the speaker.

**Woodswalk at John & Judy Stratton's:**

John Stratton did a great job at the woodswalk explaining his experiences with wildlife food plots.

**2012 Calendar of Events:**

Verda Knowlton distributed a form with the Board and Annual Meetings dates for 2012. Tim reported that the Pa. Forest Stewards meeting will be held on July 28, 2012 in Carlisle, PA so we can hold the Annual Picnic & Demonstration Day on July 14, 2012. Next year if we cannot hold it at the Cogan's, we may begin to move this event around to different locations. The March Board meeting date was moved to March 6, 2012.

Tim said he liked the pocket sized calendar Marie printed with the Newsletter—it is small enough to put in your pocket or hang on the refrigerator.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Woodswalk at Jim Herzog's:**

Tim gave Marie the \$85.00 bill for the Porta Potty used at the woodswalk; since it has already been paid by the Extension Office, the check will be made out to the Extension Special Account.

**New Secretary:**

Tim Pierson made a motion to appoint Pam Goodrich as Secretary for a two-year term beginning January 1, 2012. She was nominated on the Election Ballot and has agreed to serve. Seconded by Marie Petrick. Motion carried.

**NCFLA, Inc. Powerpoint Presentation:**

Tim handed out a printout of the slides on the NCFLA, Inc. powerpoint presentation that provides a snapshot of the Association, who the officers and board members are, and photos of some of our events (copy attached). This presentation is available for use and Tim suggested we may want to have a booth at each the county fairs and use the powerpoint presentation as part of the NCFLA display.

**Membership Brochure:**

The Board reviewed and made changes to the membership brochure to include the 2012 new Board members; Tim will have it printed for the next Board meeting.

**Thank You:**

Marie Petrick thanked Verda Knowlton for her years of service as Secretary.

Motion made by Walt Petrick to adjourn the meeting at 11:55 a.m.; seconded by Ken Comstock. Motion carried.

Prepared by,

Verda Weder Knowlton  
Secretary

Attachments (4 )