

NORTH CENTRAL FOREST LANDOWNERS ASSOCIATION, Inc.

Board of Directors Meeting

March 8, 2011

9:00 a.m.

The Board of Directors Meeting was held at the DCNR Office in Emporium, PA. In attendance were:

Officers:

Tim Pierson, President

Walt Petrick, Vice President

Marie Petrick, Treasurer

Verda Knowlton, Secretary

Directors:

Rick Smith, McKean Co.

Dave Lombardo, Cameron Co.

Lynda Pontzer, Elk Co.

DCNR Bur. of Forestry, Service Foresters:

Toby Herzing, Cameron-Elk Co.

Stan Hess, Potter-McKean Co.

Advisor:

Tim Pierson, McKean Co. Ext. Office

The meeting was called to order by the President, Tim Pierson at 9:07 a.m.

Approval of Minutes:

A motion was made by Dave Lombardo, seconded by Walt Petrick to approve the minutes of the December 14, 2010 meeting which were sent to Board members prior to the meeting.

Treasurer's Report:

Marie Petrick reported that the balance in the checkbook as of March 8 is \$2,081.73 (copy attached). She sent in the online tax form for 2010 and it was accepted. Motion made by Dave Lombardo to accept the treasurer's report; seconded by Walt Petrick. Motion carried.

Marie said it is time to order both large and small envelopes; Verda Knowlton will check her supply and will let Marie know how many she needs. Tim asked about letterhead and Marie said we could have a template and just print it as needed.

Marie raised the issue of renewing our \$25.00 membership in the Allegheny Forest Alliance. After some discussion, a motion was made by Walt Petrick, seconded by Rick Smith to not renew this membership as the Alliance is geared more toward public policy rather than private forest landowners. Tim suggested that we may want to join the National Woodland Owners Association instead.

The cost of postage was questioned by Lynda Pontzer. Marie reported that we consolidate our mailings and that our last mailing included the newsletter, the program questionnaire, the flyer for "Understanding Your Forest Land Deed" as well as a calendar of events.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Program Committee:

"Understanding the Deed to Your Forest Land Property"

Walt Petrick reported that Ken Comstock had an accident last week while in the field feeding his livestock, so the workshop scheduled for March 10th had to be re-scheduled for April 14th, and the date change has to be re-approved by the Coudersport Elementary School. Tim Pierson distributed the new flyer for the

workshop and said that Shirley Birch called the people who had registered regarding the change. Lynda Pontzer will drop of a copy at the Emporium and St. Mary's radio stations and newspapers. Dave Lombardo will give a copy to the Tri County Express.

Pa. Elk—Viewing & Land Management – August 27:

John Dzemyan suggested switching the date from September to August 27 to avoid the crowds that will be present in September. The time will be 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. We will spend 1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. at the Elk Viewing facility and then go on a field tour and look at food plots, a mine reclamation site, forest management for Elk and view some Elk in private areas. The meeting will be limited to the first 35 people who register. Tim said there will be a bus available to move people around the field sites.

Woodswalk at Jim Herzog's Property:

We will switch the woodswalk to September 18 or 25. Tim prefers September 25th.

Marcellus Shale & the Private Landowner:

Rick Smith suggested a tour of actual well sites to see what is really happening. Tim said we may be able to do a tour using the property of one of our member's and look at pipelines, roads, well pads and compressor stations. Tim also mentioned that Penn State has programs on most of the Marcellus Shale issues. Dave Lombardo raised two issues: what are the rights of a landowner who does not own the mineral rights; and would any of our members want to work together to put together a leasing package?

Tim reported that we have a new law, Act 88, passed December 21, 2010, allowing county assessors to charge rollback taxes on acreages that will not be reclaimed such as access roads, pads, and compressor stations--but not pipelines.

Tim directed the Program Committee to come up with a series of programs or articles for the newsletter and to put links to the Penn State Marcellus Shale information on the website.

Fruit Tree Pruning Workshop:

Toby Herzing mentioned the 10:00 a.m., March 19, 2011, fruit tree pruning workshop beginning with a classroom session and followed by the participants' actually pruning trees in the orchard at the Elk Co. Visitors Center in Bennezette. The registration fee is \$15.00.

Wildlife Habitat Tour—May 1:

Stan Hess reported that every year DCNR has a Wildlife Habitat Tour and he is in the process of getting a location on Card Creek and a PGE representative to be present. There will be a stop at Al McCullough's property on the tour. Walt Petrick will make an announcement on our website.

Newsletter Committee:

Walt Petrick has the following issues: (1) Distribution of the newsletter—how to get the most people to receive it by e-mail. Only 6 people responded that they did not want paper copies. Tim reported that Penn State has dealt with this issue and the result was that most people want a hard copy. It was decided that in

the covering letter for the next e-newsletter, in the first sentence and in bold red, we ask “in order to save the Association money, would you like to get an e-newsletter?”

(2) Future items for the newsletter—Marcellus Shale articles; an advertisement regarding hat sales; and the educational survey results. Lynda Pontzer suggested including a reference to “The Marcellus Boom: Exploring the Impact” article in the March 6th Pittsburgh Post Gazette. The next Newsletter will be April/May.

Stan Hess will get information to Walt on the Forest Tent Caterpillar count. They are finding Eastern Tent Caterpillars on fence rows, but not in the forest in McKean and Potter Counties. Dave Lombardo reported that they do expect pockets of defoliation in Cameron County.

Tax Committee:

Dave Lombardo said there is not much to report at this time as Penn State is not going to change their formula for calculating forest values.

OLD BUSINESS:**Removal of Unpaid Members from Membership List:**

Verda Knowlton requested approval to remove those members who have not paid their 2010 dues; however, she will personally contact each of them by telephone to be sure their lack of renewal is not an oversight. Motion made by Marie Petrick, seconded by Lynda Pontzer to remove the unpaid members from the membership list. Motion carried.

Responsibility for Original Membership List:

Tim said that he felt that the action taken at the last board meeting was rushed and that we made a mistake taking the responsibility for the Original Membership List from the Secretary and moving it to the Treasurer which would require changing the bylaws. As President, he feels what was in the December minutes needs to be amended and asked if there was any disagreement for doing that. After some discussion, it was agreed that the list will be maintained by the Secretary and a copy sent to the Treasurer on the 1st and 15th of each month.

NEW BUSINESS:**Barkpeeler/Woodsman Show Joint Publication Advertisement:**

After a brief discussion, it was decided not to subscribe to an advertisement in this publication.

Effective & Efficient Operations Within the Association:

Tim Pierson suggested changing the address for the Association to that of the Secretary, rather than the Post Office Box. Verda Knowlton reported that since the Department of State would not accept a Post Office Box for the incorporation documents, the Secretary’s address was already used for the Association. We will make this change on the brochures, flyers and envelopes. Since the Post Office Box is paid for the remainder of the year, we will not cancel it at this time. We will use this method for the remainder of the year and revisit it next year. Motion made by Dave Lombardo to change the Association’s address to that of the Secretary, seconded by Lynda Pontzer; motion carried.

Marie Petrick will contact the bank for a change of address to have the statement sent directly to her.

NCFLA Hats:

Marie reported that we have sold about 30 of the 200 hats purchased at the current price of \$12.00 each or two for \$20.00. It was agreed the purpose of the hats is a benefit to the members and an advertisement of the Association and what we stand for, rather than a fund raiser. Stan Hess said that originally we sold the hats at our cost of \$7.00 each. Tim said there are other ways to raise money such as the PFA auctions of a chain saw or a Game Commission print and we will discuss fund raising ideas at the next Board meeting.

Dave Lombardo suggested putting a large ad in the newsletter about a hat sale--\$8.00 each or two for \$15.00. Marie will check to see how much it will cost to mail a hat. Marie will draft a flyer with a photo of the hat, which could be enclosed in another mailing, and e-mail it to the Board for comment. Dave Lombardo made a motion that Walt and Marie look into hat costs, make up a flyer selling the hats at \$8.00 each plus shipping and handling or two for \$15.00 plus S&H. Seconded by Rick Smith, motion carried.

Nominating Committee:

Tim reported that Larry Schultz will again chair the Nominating Committee. Roy Knowlton has agreed to serve and Larry will contact Jane Cogan to see if she is willing to serve. Verda Knowlton has already e-mailed the Election Procedures to him so that he is aware of all the dates.

Conference Call Attendance at Board Meetings:

Dave Lombardo made a motion to allow the use of a conference call as way for a member to attend a board meeting, due to inclement weather, and that this telephone participation would count as part of the quorum. It was agreed that both the DCNR and McKean Co. Extension offices have conference call capability. The motion was seconded by Marie Petrick and the motion was carried.

PFA Complimentary Ticket:

Tim Pierson reported that the Pa. Forestry Association offered a \$100.00 complimentary ticket to the NCFLA for their Conservation Diner held on March 5, 2011 in Williamsport. There were only 350 tickets for the raffle in which someone was guaranteed to win \$10,000. Since no other officer was able to attend, Tim and his wife attended (with Tim purchasing a second \$100.00 ticket for his wife). They drew the 340 losing tickets first and we did not win anything.

Agenda Items for Next Board Meeting:

1. Fund Raider Ideas

Motion made by Rick Smith to adjourn the meeting at 12:05 p.m.; seconded by Marie Petrick. Motion carried.

Prepared by,

Verda Weder Knowlton
Secretary

Attachments: (1)