

**Forest Fire Lookout Association
Board of Directors
2007 Annual Meeting
January 13th 2007**

CALL TO ORDER:

The 2007 Annual Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Forest Fire Lookout Association was called to order at 8:40 AM on 13 January 2007 at the Forest History Society, 701 Wm. Vickers Ave., Durham, North Carolina. The officer presiding was Chairman Keith Argow. Board members present, included:

Keith Argow; Chairman
Rob Hoeye, Secretary
Gary Weber, Treasurer, Editor, North Idaho-Montana Director
Bob Spear; Historian
Steve Cummings, Keystone (Pennsylvania) director.
Don Shedd, Georgia Representative

Guests

Ray Grimes, New Jersey member and past Secretary
Dave Andres, Forest Management Branch Head, North Carolina Division of Forest Resources.
Steve Anderson, President/CEO, Forest History Society, Host
Chuck Helms, Pennsylvania member

Minutes approval

RESOLUTION

Hoeye moved for approval of the Minutes of the 2006 annual FFLA board meeting, Magnus Tree Farm, Wilsonville Oregon, January 2006. They are unanimously approved as submitted.

AGENDA

Chairman Argow presented the agenda for the meeting.

Program Speakers:

Steve Anderson
Dave Andres, NC Forest Service

Sunday - Lookout Tours.

Elections:

There were 12 ballots returned for the 2007 election. Chairman Argow appointed Don Shedd, who is not a board member, as the tally committee. All nominees are elected.

Western Deputy Chair: Dave Bula

Historian: Bob Spear

Secretary: Rob Hoeye

RESOLUTION

The elections results are approved without dissent.

Treasurers report:

Highlights:

- FFLA is doing well financially.
- Cost of the newsletter is better than expected.
- Restoration Grants – as expected
- Merchandise sales are as expected, only one new item, ball cap.
- Merchandise purchasing, shortfall (over budget) due to an extra order.
- Web management, under budget, \$0.
- Year end balance of \$5000 (\$500 budgeted).

2006 National Account			
	Approved 1/14/2006	Actual 12/31/2006	2006 +/-
Income			
Balance Forward	\$2,510.00	\$2,510.12	\$0.12
Dues	\$9,000.00	\$11,315.82	\$2,315.82
Donations	\$300.00	\$748.20	\$448.20
Merchandise Sales	\$1,000.00	\$1,089.43	\$89.43
Total	\$12,810.00	\$15,663.57	
Expenses			
Newsletter	-\$7,000.00	-\$6,273.08	\$726.92
Chapter Distributions	-\$1,800.00	-\$585.32	\$1,214.68
Brochures	-\$200.00	-\$67.55	\$132.45
Welcome packets/cards	-\$200.00	\$0.00	\$200.00
Restoration Grants	-\$2,000.00	-\$2,000.00	\$0.00
Merchandise Purchase	-\$800.00	-\$1,628.13	-\$828.13
Web page mgmt/host	-\$150.00	\$0.00	\$150.00
Executive committee	-\$160.00	-\$25.38	\$134.62
			\$0.00
Year-end Balance	-\$500.00	-\$5,084.11	-\$4,584.11
Total	\$12,810.00	\$15,663.57	
Balance 12/31/2006		\$5,084.11	\$4,584.11

Treasurer report is approved as submitted without dissent.

Membership report:

Weber has started Emailing renewal notices. There no data about its success at this time.

Weber raised the issue that there have been many requests for a membership directory. In the past the membership requests have included a checkbox to allow a member to not have their name and address published in anyway. The organization does not, has not and will not sell its membership roster for any reason.

In the past members have asked for the names of nearby members, wishing to contact their fellow enthusiast about a local event or project. Supporting this effort seems to be justifiable. The scope of sharing the contact list is currently and will continue be limited to other members of each state. To support this it was recommended that the checkbox for non-sharing of name be removed from the application.

RESOLUTION

Motion by Weber, Second by Hoeye: Drop the “will not share your information” from the membership form (and all variants thereof, web, brochure, newsletter).
The resolution passed unanimously.

Chairman’s report:

Chairman Argow discussed his concern over the apparent lack of interest among the general membership and directors in the activities of the board. He also expressed concern for the future of the organization based on the level of involvement at the board level.

The renewed efforts of the two regional deputy chairs to keep quarterly contact with their state and area directors has not generated as much involvement as anticipated. Currently there is no other plan for increasing the level of involvement of each state director in the matters of the national board.

Restoration Grant report:

Weber reported on the four grants:

- Mt. Danaher, CA
- Crossroads, AR
- Kelly Butte, WA
- Beebe Hill, NY

Each received the maximum grant of \$500.

Editor Weber agreed to publish the FFLA “involved” restoration efforts for 2006 in an upcoming issue of the Lookout Network newsletter.

2007 Budget:

Treasurer Weber presented the budget proposal for 2007.

2007 FFLA Budget		
<i>Income</i>		
Balance Forward	\$5,084.00	
Dues	\$12,000.00	
Donations	\$500.00	
Merchandise Sales	\$1,000.00	
	Total	\$18,584.00
<i>Expenses</i>		
Newsletter	\$7,000.00	
Chapter Distributions	\$1,800.00	
Brochures	\$200.00	
Welcome packets/cards	\$250.00	
Restoration Grants	\$3,000.00	
Historian	\$1,000.00	
Merchandise Purchase	\$1,000.00	
Web page mgmt/IT committee	\$150.00	
Executive committee	\$184.00	
Forest History Association membership	\$130.00	
Endowment	\$1,000.00	
Year-end Balance	\$2,870.00	
	Total	\$18,584.00

RESOLUTION

Motion by Weber, Second by Spear: Approval of 2007 Budget as amended. The resolution passed.

Old business:

NHLR certificates (Gary)

North Idaho and Montana Director Weber raised the issue concerning the timely reception of NHLR certificates and asked “What can the Association do to help?” Argow related the process the various texts are derived from the application. The acceptance letters, magazine text, and certificate are created from the text of the application. Often the available space differences of each cause much editorial grief and potentially introduces errors.

It was asked “Will a review, ‘DRAFT’ copy, of the certificate, via PDF file, help with the quality of the certificate?” The attendees agreed that a review copy would greatly streamline the current error prone process. Argow concurred and said this new procedure would be implemented immediately.

Argow thanked the Board for their continuing support of the NHLR and promised a streamlined approval system for 2007, including delivery of metal signs in February.

New Business:

Approval of the activities of the executive committee in 2006

RESOLUTION

Motion by Cummings, Second by Hoeye: Approval of actions of the Executive Committee on behalf of the Board during 2006. The resolution passed.

Upcoming 50th Meeting of FFLA.

It was noted by Spear that the next annual meeting will be the organization's 50th meeting. Such a milestone may deserve special consideration.

The 2008 national board meeting is tentatively set for the 12 of January 2008 at the Tillamook Forest Interpretive Center. Howard Verschoor previously agreed to coordinate the event.

Ray Grimes Assistant Secretary

Ray Grimes was appointed Assistant Secretary (non-voting) by Chairman Argow. Grimes, the past National Secretary, has been diligent at attending all meetings, and has, in Hoeye's absence, performed the roll of secretary when called upon and as such is a valuable resource to the organization.

IT Committee

An ad hoc committee consisting of Hoeye, Weber and Cobb was appointed to see to the computing needs of the organization. The first task is to address the needs of the historian.

Weber and Hoeye will work with Spear to determine what HW and SW will be needed to augment the task of Historian. The result will be a new computer Hardware and Software that the Historian will use to compile and distribute histories of the organization and lookouts.

Lightning Protection

Hoeye reports that the Lightning Protection Institute provides accreditation services for individuals wishing to be certified at Lightning protection design, installation and evaluation. The discussion about the roll of the FFLA and lightning protection evaluation concluded with the recommendation that Hoeye take the test for Designer-Inspector. The FFLA would pay the expense (not to exceed \$100) associated with taking the test.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the 2007 Annual Meeting was adjourned at 5:05 PM

Tours on Sunday:

Sunday 14th January six of the attendees visited 10 lookout sites, 2 former and 8 remaining. Of the 8 remaining; 2 are in disrepair, 6 are maintained by the NCFS.

The tour took 10 hours and spanned 280 miles.

Rob Hoeye

Keith A. Argow

Secretary

Presiding Officer