

**Society of Wetland Scientists  
New England Chapter  
Board Meeting April 29, 2004**

The meeting was held at Barbara Keller's house in Weston, MA. The agenda included the following:

- Approval of 2/26/04 minutes
- SWS New England Chapter Banner
- MACC Spring Conference Booth
- MA DEP Wetlands Subcommittee
- MESA Regulatory Revisions
- MA DEM Repair Permitting Committee
- Treasurer's Report/Expenses/Annual Meeting
- Functional Assessment Workshop
- Wetland Replication Workshop
- Bulletin Info
- 2004 Research Conference

The meeting attendees were:

- David Cameron, President
- Jennifer Doyle-Breen, Secretary
- Barbara Keller, Treasurer
- Ruth Ladd
- Bonnie Potocki (present for portion of meeting)

The group approved the 2/26/04 minutes. Jennifer will forward the minutes to SWS for posting on the website. Barbara Keller, the Chapter Treasurer, provided the Treasurer's report. There was essentially no change in the account balance since the Board's February meeting. In regard to the annual meeting in Seattle, the group voted to approve payment of David Cameron's airfare and hotel, which amounts to approximately \$720.00 for hotel plus airfare. David will pay the registration fees for the conference.

#### **SWS New England Chapter Banner**

The color banner has been obtained and is available for use as needed at future conferences and other venues.

#### **MACC Spring Conference Booth**

David and Carrie Holtan attended the MACC conference and were present at the SWS booth. David and Carrie spoke to potential new SWS members and distributed the call for papers for the SWS Fall, 2004 conference.

#### **MA DEP Wetlands Subcommittee**

David spoke to Bob Golledge regarding the MA DEP Wetlands Advisory Board and SWS was invited to have a presence on the Board. David attended one meeting at which the draft regulation change regarding the MA Wetland Buffer Zone was discussed. David primarily

listened to the members of the group discuss the proposed regulation changes as the process of developing the new regulation is well underway. The Association of Massachusetts Wetland Scientists also has representation on the Advisory Board. This position was previously filled by Garrett Hollands, but is currently vacant. Heidi Ricci (formerly Roddis) of MA Audubon and Ken Pruitt of the Massachusetts Association of Conservation Commissions are also on the Advisory Board. Public comment on the regulation changes is scheduled for May, 2004.

### **MESA Regulatory Revisions**

David spoke to individuals from the MA Division of Fisheries and Wildlife at a recent conference regarding Massachusetts Endangered Species Act regulation changes that are expected to be released for public review shortly. The new regulations will clarify MESA jurisdiction. A draft will be sent to SWS New England for review. Additionally, David learned that SWS New England can advertise the Fall, 2004 conference on the odonates website, and David will attempt to solicit papers from this group of individuals.

### **MA Dam Repair Permitting Committee**

On April 15, a meeting was held to discuss Dam Repair Permitting in MA. The meeting was co-sponsored by SWS, Tighe and Bond, and the Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) and held at the DCR office in West Boylston. The meeting was attended by a variety of groups, including MA DEP, the Corps of Engineers, AMWS, MHC, and NEWWA. The meeting was useful in identifying dam repair permitting as an important issue in Massachusetts. A second meeting was scheduled for late June to discuss next steps to streamline the permitting process for dam repair.

### **Functional Assessment Workshop**

The functional assessment workshop will be held on June 4 at the Conyer farm in Exeter New Hampshire. The fee is \$50 for members and \$60 for non-members. Approximately 30 people can register for the conference.

### **Wetland Replication Workshop**

Carl Tammi is still investigating the feasibility of conducting the Wetland Replication Workshop at the Ottati and Goss site in Kingston, NH. The group agreed that it was preferable to have the morning, classroom portion of the workshop close to the Kingston site rather than in Westford, MA. Jennifer indicated that she would investigate potential classroom sites near Kingston and would contact Carl to further discuss the workshop with him. (Note: subsequent to the meeting, it was learned that permission for a group to attend the Ottati and Goss workshop was not granted. This workshop will be post-poned until 2005).

### **SWS/NE Chapter Newsletter**

Carrie Holtan will provide input into the upcoming SWS bulletin within the next week.

### **2004 Research Conference**

The call for papers was distributed at the MACC spring conference, as was a call for vendors. Vendors will be charged \$150/table. David is currently coordinating with Burke Associates to

distribute the Call for Papers by mail, and will also finalize the contract with Holy Cross. There will be no speakers in the morning or at lunch. Joan Ehrenfeld is the keynote speaker, and will speak from 3:15 to 4:00. Between 4:00 and 4:45 there will be a panel discussion. At 4:45 there will be a social/hour mixer in the ballroom. Holy Cross can provide microphones and lecterns, and power point projectors are available for rent if needed. Bonnie, David, Jennifer and Ruth agreed to investigate providing laptops for the day of the conference, and Jennifer and David indicated that they would investigate providing projectors.

### **Next Meeting**

A date was not set for the next meeting, which is anticipated to occur in late summer to review abstract submittals for the Fall, 2004 conference.

### **ACTION ITEMS**

#### **Jennifer Doyle-Breen**

- Forward 2/26/04 minutes for posting on SWS website
- Prepare 4/29/04 minutes, including action items, and distribute
- Investigate alternative locations in Kingston for wetland replication workshop classroom portion and coordinate with Carl Tammi

#### **David Cameron**

- Coordinate with Burke Associates to distribute Call for Papers
- Finalize Holy Cross contract

#### **Carrie Holtan**

- Continue to provide material for submission to SWS bulletin