

**Hubbard Brook Research Foundation  
Executive Committee Meeting Minutes**

**Friday, February 17, 2017, 4:00 pm**

**Hubbard Brook Research Foundation Administrative Office in Woodstock, VT, and via Zoom**

**Trustees Participating by Zoom:** Peter Martin (PM), Steve Hamburg (SH), John Smitka (JS), and Mike Smith (MS)

**Others Participants in Attendance:** Anthea Lavallee (AL)

Action items are highlighted in blue.

**Peter Martin called the meeting to order at 4:05.**

**Scientist Rental Rates**

Regarding rental rate increases for scientists, we agreed to a modest increase, consistent with CPI.

**NRS Leaders to Visit HB on April 5**

In preparation for the April 5 meeting at Hubbard Brook with Northern Research Station leaders, SH recommended that AL research earlier plans to develop HBRF's potential as an independent "friends/funding" mechanism for HB. This was intended to serve as a model for other experimental forests. In this capacity, the foundation can extend and leverage the investment that the FS is making through an ever-growing, deepening partnership. MS and SH expressed interest in attending the April 5 gathering.

**Academic Consortium**

The group agreed to give AL freedom to negotiate with prospective members, with guidance as requested. She will regularly report progress to the committee.

SH, JS, Lindsey Rustad, and Jane Sokolow have connections at Yale and are investigating opportunities for re-engaging HB. Approaches on behalf of HB will be more effective if they are coordinated. JS stated that Gabe Benoit and Mark Bradford are potential champions and could advocate for consortium membership. SH has known Indy Burke, Dean of F&ES, for 30 years. On the basis of this longstanding relationship, SH offered to talk with Indy one-on-one. This would be a good first step toward a longer conversation. PM offered to email Lindsey and Jane to explain that SH will make initial contact.

**Olympic Project**

SH proposed a conversation with Tom Wagner, Forest Supervisor, WMNF. Bernard Bormann, might be on the east coast in the spring. This would be a good opportunity for members of the Executive Committee and AL to convene a meeting with Tom W. and Bernard. We could then expand the circle to include the HB FS. JS suggested that this might lead to U. of Washington joining the consortium. JS will check with Bernard about his travel plans. AL will work with SH's assistant to coordinate dates.

**Corporate Sponsorship**

JS presented the Corporate Consortium Overview document that he and Anant Sundaram prepared. PM distinguished between small corporate sponsors and bigger requests to larger organizations for project funding. MS expressed reservations about corporate support in light of the unstable economy. SH suggested working in collaboration with Dartmouth. MS stated that, with Dartmouth, we need to bring something to the table that they don't already have. We should take care to avoid being exploited for "green washing" purposes. PM stated that this will be an agenda item for our annual summer meeting. JS suggested maximizing Anant's expertise and willingness to lead this effort. MS reminded the group that Anne Kapuscinski, Dartmouth

Professor of Environmental Studies and Professor in Sustainability Science, could be a close ally. AL added that Anne's husband, Wayne Bartstad, is also active with like-minded organizations in the area (i.e., Donella Meadows Institute).

**The meeting adjourned at 5:00.**