

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

Tuesday, December 27, 2016, 2:00 pm

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

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

Others Participants in Attendance: Anthea Lavallee (AL)

Absent: Mike Smith

Action items are highlighted in blue.

Peter Martin called the meeting to order at 2:05.

SH made a motion to approve the minutes from the November 29 meeting. JS seconded the motion, and the minutes were approved unanimously at 2:07.

Roles of the Executive Committee

Participants confirmed that the actions taken by the committee would be reported to the full board at the next Trustees' meeting. The committee can serve several functions which would be typical of an executive team. The committee will, in no way, make the BOT superfluous. Members will help to support the organization during the intervals between full board meetings.

The Olympic Forest Project

JS described a timber harvesting program at the Olympic State Forest in which proceeds benefit the operation and infrastructure of the forest. The group then discussed whether this model would be productive and appropriate for HB. Could HB scientists assist private landowners by providing forestry expertise in exchange for a portion of their timber sales? Challenges to this approach include:

- **Limited state forest in NH**
- **No certified foresters among COS members**
- **SPNHF does this; they own large land tracts and manage for timber**
- **HB specializes in ecological research and not silviculture**
- **Bartlett EF would be better suited**

We could talk with Tom Wagner at the WMNF about the possibility of breaking out a portion of their timber sales to benefit HB. At HB, cutting as a means to generate income would never meet with approval. Cuts and any related proceeds have been and will be incidental to the research (e.g., W4, W5). SH suggested reviewing the schedule of proposed actions according to the 2005 WMNF Management Plan:

<https://www.fs.usda.gov/land/whitemountain/landmanagement>

The best course of action would be to reach out to Chris Woodall to let him know that we would like to discuss the idea with Tom Wagner. Ultimately, Chris Woodall would make the arrangements with Tom Wagner, but we should find out if the idea is viable/worthwhile before coordinating discussions at that level.

John will present this idea at the next full board meeting on 1.6.17.

The Hubbard Brook Consortium

It would benefit the COS to have a clear understanding of how HBRF resources are allocated across projects, with particular emphasis on direct services to scientists (i.e., fundraising for programs and rentals to scientists

vs. non-scientist rentals). We should plan present this information at the spring COS meeting.

Participants agreed to short meetings every 4 to 6 weeks.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:05.