

KANSAS WILDFLOWER SOCIETY

Special Meeting

Butler Community College

El Dorado, KS

July 10, 2004

Board Meeting

Members present were: Valerie Wright, Roger Boyd, Jeff Hansen, George Lippert, Jane Freeman, Craig Freeman, Shirley Braunlich, Lorrie Parrish, Steve Timme, Nancy Goulden, Marion McGlohon, Carroll Morganson, Dwight Platt, Michael Heffron, Sheldon Cohen, and Cindy Ford

Valerie called the meeting to order. She presented an agenda and reviewed the activities at the last meeting. The goal for this meeting is to choose the chairs and members of the committees that were described last meeting.

Secretary Minutes -- Cindy Ford

Craig moved to accept the minutes, Steve seconded, and the motion carried.

Treasurer's Report -- none

Committee Reports

Awards Committee -- Steve Timme

Steve reported on the Wayside Award. Two groups (City of Lawrence and Sedgwick County Zoo) are interested but he has received no applications yet. He designed a new nomination forms and shared the form with the board. A plaque is given to the winners. Committee members have been Mary Connell and Carroll Morgenson.

He also reported on the Photo Contest. There were no entries last year. Steve asked for suggestions for entries and shared the nomination form. A certificate is given to the winners.

Thirdly, he reported on the Mary Bancroft Award. There has been no interest in this award despite Steve's advertisement to universities and colleges. There is a \$500 award. Michael proposed establishing a contact person at each educational institution.

Steve had an update on the Important Contribution to Botany in Kansas Award. One award was previously awarded to Woody Holland (2001). This year the award is going to Harold Kline who has conducted the Barton County Wildflower Outing for years.

Valerie suggested that a committee be established to handle all awards. This could maybe be included in the Publicity Committee. It may be necessary to narrow the awards to two awards. Valerie asked for a temporary committee to describe details of these committees. Steve will serve as chair, Cindy and Roger will assist. By fall, the committee will report on which awards to retain, give recommendations on changing the name of the Wayside Award, and follow through with awarding the Contributions award.

Sales Committee-- Carroll Morgenson

There have been no sales for quite a long time. Clinton Owensby's book is back in print; Valerie will check on whether a discount is available and where to order. Valerie asked for a temporary committee to decide whether to sell anything, whether we will make money, marketing strategies, separating "sales" into different appropriate committees, and how we should proceed if we want to continue. Michael is chair of the temporary committee to determine feasibility of sales, Cindy and Jeff will assist. A report will be given in the fall.

Publicity Committee -- Anita Smith

Valerie read a letter from Anita. Anita sent all conservation district contacts to Michael, sent information to radio and tv stations, and reported that a class is currently using the Prairie Patch program in Fredonia Arts Council. She thanked Gary, Michael, Lorrie, Steve, and George for helping with the wildflower outing. Craig is working on a poster and will contact Anita for distribution to the public. Valerie explained that if there is an event, send the information to the Publicity Committee so that they can disseminate the information.

Native Plant Resources Committee

Cindy agreed to chair the committee, with Michael, Craig, Gary, Lorrie, and Brad serving on the committee. Selection and priorities of projects will be clarified and the committee will report at the fall meeting.

Outings and Events Committee

Shirley will serve as chair; committee members will be Jeff, Sandra, Michael, and Gary. Outing leaders need to submit a sign-up sheet to Jane on the Membership Committee. The committee should design a sign-in sheet, make a matrix, assign a representative to attend forays that are sponsored to publicize KWS, and find a way to highlight KWS events. Valerie encouraged the outing leaders to send an article to the Newsletter Committee (Nancy). A report will be given in the fall.

Website Committee

Lorna was not present to update the board on web development. The board expressed the importance of getting a domain name and hiring a web master as soon as possible. Valerie emphasized that it is crucial to get the website running right away. Jeff will serve as chair, Sister Patricia, Shirley, and Lorna were nominated to serve on the committee. The committee will find a person to serve as webmaster and discuss how to make the website flexible for the society to use. Craig's email will be removed from the website and replaced with Shirley's email at Yahoo called kansaswildflowers@yahoo.com.

Newsletter Committee

Sister Patricia has published the first new newsletter. Valerie invited comments or suggestions on the new format. Steve moved to have the banner across the top of the newsletter (name and logo), Shel seconded, and the motion carried. The events list needs to be more inclusive and either placed on an insert or on added pages. The list

needs to start a week after the newsletter comes out. The newsletter editor can make arrangements with the printer. Nancy and Sister Patricia will serve as co-chairs with Shel, Anita, and Sandra and assisting. Nancy asked the board into which areas the newsletter should expand. Nancy suggested adding a question/answer column.

Membership Committee

Jane stated that 30 new members have joined this year. The membership sheets are starting to be color-coded. Jane wanted to let event leaders know to color-code. All board members were encouraged to send at least one name to Jane. She will send a membership packet. Craig will serve as chair, Jane and Anita will serve on the committee. They will consider the question of how we want to handle regional contacts and memberships.

Education Committee

Valerie designed the form for the patch program and it has been sent to Anita. Michael and Lorna will serve as co-chairs and report to the membership in the fall.

Old Business

Poster

Craig showed what the poster will look like. The images will be on the website printed on a poster that is 3 ft. x 4 ft. The posters will be laminated and used for special events. The board inquired about mass production of these posters. The feasibility will depend on cost. Craig will report back for the fall meeting.

Fall Meeting

Craig, Jane, and Valerie will plan the agenda for the fall meeting.

Service Projects

The Hollenberg Pony Express Station planting assistance was taken care of by Julie. Shirley reviewed the concept of the Kansas Land Trust. She asked if KWS would partner with Kansas Land Trust to purchase a conservation easement of 200 acres north of Manhattan. Valerie visited the site and validated the quality of the prairie and suggested that we may want to do something. Discussion ensued with questions proposed for Shirley to ask Kansas Land Trust. She will submit a report in the fall.

Wildflower of the Year

Carroll will meet with the partners of this project and report back in the fall meeting.

New Business

Valerie initiated a discussion on the KWS bylaws, mission statement, and name change. A temporary committee was set up to work on the mission statement. Shel and Marion will serve on this committee.

Shel and Craig have worked on the bylaws. The word, "corporation", is used because of the state definition. Shel pointed out the need for several changes in the

wording of the bylaws (e.g. number of members on board, maximum service on board, and student memberships). The board gave suggestions and the committee will meet to clarify the bylaws which they will bring to the board in the fall.

A 2/3 vote of board members can change the name of the organization. Roger moved to change Kansas Wildflower Society to Kansas Native Plant Society and Shirley seconded. Discussion supporting both names ensued. Roger amended the motion by stating that the name change would go into effect January 1, 2005, Shirley agreed. There were twelve votes for, one vote against, and one abstention; the motion carried. Steve will write a brief article discussing the name change and Craig will write an article discussing the problematic term of "native" plants.

Jane is planning on retiring, but will remain in the position until a replacement can be found. She will write a job description and outline work loads that she has throughout the year.

Membership dues were discussed. Added expenses include the website domain, website master, publicity, color in newsletter, and office expenses. Shel proposed making a budget to decide how much we need to raise the dues. Shel moved to assemble a budget committee made up of the President, Treasurer, and anyone else the President designated to design a workable budget, and Carroll seconded. Steve mentioned that the Lifetime Membership seems high at \$500. The motion carried. Valerie said that she would try to have a draft budget by the fall meeting.

Valerie wants to encourage board members from far away to become more involved. Valerie proposed a process where board members could submit expenses to the board to get reimbursed. Criteria for selection would need to be set up. Valerie will propose a line item for travel funds in the budget.

The fall general meeting is October 1 - 2 with the board meeting Friday evening at the Red Buffalo Ranch in Sedan.

Craig and Valerie thanked Michael for being host. Valerie read a thank you letter from Julie concerning the money donated to the FloraKansas program and the board members who helped. Valerie thanked the board members who have helped with the new committees.

Steve moved to adjourn, Carroll seconded, and the motion carried.

Minutes Submitted by

Cindy Ford, Secretary