

KANSAS NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

Emporia State University

February 12, 2005

Present were Jeff Hansen, Shirley Braunlich, Nancy Goulden, Sheldon Cohen, Jane Freeman, Lorrie Parrish, Steve Timme, Ann Simpson, Anita Smith, Sandra Tholen, Sister Patricia Stanley, Craig Freeman, Gary Weisenberger, Krista Dahlinger, and Cindy Ford

President's Report

Valerie was unable to attend the meeting, so Jeff called the meeting to order. He explained that an extra meeting was scheduled to update the board on the budget.

Minutes -- Cindy Ford

Steve moved to accept the minutes, Shirley seconded, and the minutes were approved.

Treasurer's Report -- Sister Patricia Stanley

Sister Pat did not bring an official report since the meeting is an extra meeting, but Nancy Goulden reported from Valerie through a letter discussing the new budget.

Draft Budget

The budget will not be approved today, but it will be available for discussion. Valerie would like to have the board consider increasing merchandise sales (e.g. teeshirts, etc.) and to get sponsorships to help with production costs, etc. Nancy pointed out that the meals category in the budget is not actual income since it balances out with expenditures, although there is sometimes some money lost because of *gratis* meals. She also highlighted several items in the budget for the board to verify. The budget shows that we may be \$1,500 in the red at the end of this year, not counting the cost of producing the brochures.

Brochure Budget

Jeff asked the board members to estimate how many brochures we would need to print and where we may want to distribute the brochures. The board agreed that we would need brochures at outings (100), in the membership packets (200), at events (360), in nature centers (100), and at arboreta (60). Shel would like to keep membership dues for costs with the newsletter, but suggested getting sponsorships to produce the brochure each year. He also stated that we should correlate success of membership with the money need to produce brochures (approx. \$700 - 750), although the education value is good despite the cost. Craig suggested handing out brochures to interested people instead of distributing them as a "pick up" item. Sister Patricia moved to print 1000 brochures, Steve seconded. Discussion involved printing the brochure on recycled paper. The motion carried.

More Budget Discussion

Nancy pointed out that the budget would now be approximately \$2,210. Anita suggested that we may want to plan a silent auction for the fall membership meeting in order to generate some extra funds for the society. In addition, Shel suggested getting donations to include color pages in the newsletter. Shirley added that it would be good to offer a list of special projects for donations. Donors could specify what project they want to support. Shirley and Shel will write an article to solicit donations for the brochure, web site, and the color pages in the newsletter.

Brochure Content

Shirley xeroxed a draft of the brochure for the board to review. Gary voiced concerns for having an expensive brochure that must be produced each year. Shirley justified the annual brochure since it can be updated more readily. Gary also wanted to discuss the statement on the brochure. Shel pointed out that the statement is not the mission statement for the society. Gary suggested making the mission statement broader and avoiding "buzz" words, which may leave the perception that some groups (e.g. private land owners, like ranchers) are not included in the society. He would like to have the mission statement address appropriate management of native plants in order to stress sustainability of these plant communities. He suggested that we need to be partners with management agencies. Craig interjected that he and Shel are developing a mission statement and by-laws that may address this issue. Steve moved to change the statement on the brochure, Shirley seconded, and the motion carried with two members voting no. Shel proposed that members send suggestions of mission statement wording to Craig.

New Business

Comanche County was proposed for the fall meeting, September 30th.

Steve volunteered to do a wildflower feature in the newsletter with Cindy's illustrations. Craig is going to write up an article on native plants and descriptions of various prairies around the state for inclusion in the newsletter.

Jeff proposed the question of how to use volunteers. Craig suggested there would be a need for volunteers for processing slides in his office. Nancy suggested that volunteer opportunities could be listed in the newsletter.

Jeff updated the board on the website process. The web master has a site called naturalplanet.org if anyone wants to view his designs.

Adjournment

Steve moved to adjourn, Sister Patricia seconded, and the motion carried.

Submitted by,

Cindy Ford
Secretary