

**Kansas Native Plant Society  
Pittsburg State University, Pittsburg  
April 2, 2005**

**Board Meeting**

In attendance were: Nancy Goulden, Shel Cohen, Krista Dahlinger, Carl Paulie, Valerie Wright, Sister Patricia Stanley, Phyllis and Dee Scherich, Brad Guhr, Steve Timme, Lorrie Parrish, Allison Hamm, Gary Weisenberger, Jeff Hansen, Shirley Braunlich, Marion McGlohon, and Cindy Ford.

Valerie Wright, President, called the meeting to order. She wanted to highlight and record the year's accomplishments throughout the meeting.

*Secretary Report* -- Cindy Ford

Shel moved to accept the minutes as amended, Steve seconded, and the motion carried.

*Treasurer's Report* -- Sister Patricia Stanley

Sister Pat explained the organization income and expenses. Steve moved to accept the report, Jeff seconded, and the motion carried. Sister Pat asked the board whether we should move the interest from the account to the checking account in order to make it available for use. The interest is currently approximately \$2000. Shel moved to accept this strategy, Jeff seconded, and the motion carried.

For reimbursement of funds, Sister Patricia asked that the board members fill out the new form with the receipt and indicate which KNPS committee to charge. She asked that the paperwork be sent to her. Sister Pat has to reapply for the Tax ID number since we changed the name of the organization. She will e-mail the tax number to those who are interested.

*Membership* -- Valerie for Jane Freeman

Valerie reported that there were 85 new memberships in 2004 (approximately a 30% increase from last year). The organization has received 24 memberships from the first of this year. This increase may be due to the new brochure. In Jane's report was information that there was a new contributing member (\$100) and Ernie Miller Nature Center joined the organization this year. Valerie said that Jane could use more new brochures.

*Newsletter* -- Nancy Goulden

The new newsletter format is finished with four issues of the new newsletter sent out this year. Nancy thanked Sister Pat for her assistance in producing the newsletter. Nancy highlighted some new features in the newsletter, including Meet the Board Interviews and a native plant feature. Some goals for future newsletters are to include colored images, find a mechanism for reporting on board activities, including more information about plant issues (e.g. native plantings, etc.), and incorporating an events list as an insert that can be pulled out.

#### *Website -- Jeff Hansen*

Jeff reported that the website is set up but needs some enhancing in the "places" section, gardens, ecoregions, news section, and archived newsletters. He is working with the webmaster on providing a new link to existing sites that had our previous address. He changed the contact information to email@kansasnativeplantsociety.org. Still need images of ecoregions, awards, and Wildflower of Year. Krista will talk with Botanica and gardening groups about the Wildflower of the Year and contact groups involved with the choice. She will work on stronger partnership for the 2006 Wildflower of the Year and place any information that she obtains on the Yahoo website. Jeff continued by indicating that the native plant poster will be placed on the web by scanning slides. Contact Jeff for any new items, changes, problems, etc. concerning the website.

#### *Native Plant Resources -- Cindy Ford*

Cindy detailed the native landscaping fact sheet draft and presented it to the board for review. Brad explained a flier for plant resources, including plant references, ecotypes recommendations, what to improve ecotype resources (do-it-yourself, and encouraging nurseries), and ways to collect seed. Brad mentioned that a group at Dyck Arboretum has planted local seed and produced a prairie plot with the seed. Prairie restoration and prairie management is a future direction for the committee.

#### *Publicity -- Valerie for Anita Smith*

Valerie said that 1000 copies of the KNPS brochure was printed with cost of approx. \$700. Anita sent copies to the Manhattan Garden Show where KNPS was represented. Anita asked that "eventers" please contact publicity committee ahead of time so that news releases can be sent out. For best efficiency in distributing the new brochures, Shirley explained that brochures were sent to conservation districts, public libraries in the county seats.

#### *Education -- Valerie for Anita Smith*

Anita is wanting to present at KACEE to get more marketing of the Wildflower Patch Program for children. Gary proposed education programs for other ages as well, including introducing plants to family groups. Steve mentioned that he is planning on two adult workshops this year.

#### *Outings -- Shirley Braunlich*

Shirley reported that there are events beginning next week. She distributed the publication, Kansas Traveler, as a suggestion for ways to advertise events. She also mentioned that the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center has a website that shows our events. KNPS is developing collaborations with the Kansas Land Trust, Grassland Heritage, and Konza Prairie. Shirley reminded attendees to sign event participation reports and send them to Jane Freeman. For an article about the event, send the article to Nancy and then she will send it to Sister Pat. State the relevant information and check with guidelines published in the newsletter.

### *Awards -- Steve Timme*

Steve has received applications from four applicants: three from KU and one from KSU. He did not receive applications for the Wayside/Botanist Award.

### *Sales -- Valerie Wright*

Valerie proposed forming a Sales & Fund-raising Committee. She suggested we table the discussion until the meeting in July when we will have a working session meeting.

### *Old Business*

Valerie presented the budget for members to verify. Valerie read a letter from Julie Torseth, who was requesting \$1000 for the Dyck Arboretum Plant Sale. Steve moved to donate \$500 instead of \$1000, Lorrie seconded. Discussion ensued about the philosophy of the contribution vs. practical budgeting and the possible funds deficit. Valerie reiterated that the 2005 budget is based on estimates, whereas the 2006 budget will be more realistic. Five members voted for the motion, nine members against, with two members abstaining, and the motion failed. KNPS will donate \$1000 to the Dyck Arboretum this year. Shel moved to accept the draft budget (trial), expecting that members will be fiscally conservative and that the income and the expenditures will be evaluated next year, Sister Pat seconded, and the motion carried. Allison said that she would check on reciprocity of membership with Dyck Arboretum, make sure that membership materials are up to date, see that the website link is more visible on the Dyck Arboretum web page, and give KNPS credit on the web and/or printed materials for contributing money toward the native plant sales. She will work on placing a "mark" on the membership materials to indicate whether KNPS members joined because of a membership form picked up from Dyck Arboretum.

Shel asked for board acceptance for the bylaws. Shel moved to accept the bylaws as circulated, excluding Article 2, the mission statement, Sister Pat seconded. He outlined the articles and asked for amendments. Shirley moved to amend the definition of "student", striking the "fulltime" adjective; Phyllis seconded; and the amendment carried. Valerie moved to make the "Contributing Member" category parallel with the other categories, Steve seconded, and the amendment carried. Valerie moved to clarify that each member or organization has only one vote, Carl seconded, and the amendment carried. Valerie pointed out that members cannot expect to place a vote electronically. Allison moved to strike Article 9, Sec. 1b, -- strike "and shall include the names of the committee", Jeff seconded. Nancy wanted to keep the committees in the by-laws where everyone could see. The amendment carried where the action committees will not be listed. Valerie proposed a change to the nominating process. She moved to submit to the administrative office a written recommendation of candidates to the board with their bio thirty days prior to the annual meeting where "at large" members are nominated from the floor, Carl seconded, and the amendment was rejected. Valerie moved to approve the budget by the end of the first board meeting of the year, Allison seconded, and the amendment carried. Allison moved to eliminate the statement of "dues shall be paid annually", Sister Pat seconded, and the amendment carried. A vote was taken for the by-laws, except Article 2, and the motion carried. The

discussion of the mission statement will be tabled until the next meeting. Shel invited comments about the mission statement and to send the comments to Jane.

#### *New Business*

Phyllis presented ideas for the fall meeting in Coldwater, KS, Sept. 30 - Oct. 2, 2005. Jeff moved to accept the proposal for the fall meeting agenda, Shel seconded, and the motion carried.

Topeka "Common Ground" asked KNPS to become a partner. Valerie asked for someone to look over the information to see if we want to do this. This group grows vegetables to give to food banks. Jeff volunteered to investigate the organization.

Valerie mentioned the vote in 2003 to produce a CD of Kansas Wildflowers. The society has numerous slide resources to use for this project. Valerie thought that this would make a good sales item. The project discussion was tabled until the July meeting.

Valerie stated that we will have new stationery printed with the new logo, new name, and new web address. Phyllis suggested placing the stationery format on the yahoo web site. Valerie will contact Jane about this suggestion.

Valerie asked if the board would want to meet in July. Sister Pat moved to have a meeting in July, Carl seconded, and the motion carried with one dissenting vote. Krista moved to meet on Saturday, July 23rd, Sister Pat seconded, and the motion carried. This will be a working meeting.

#### *Adjournment*

Carl moved to adjourn, Shel seconded, and the motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Cindy Ford  
KNPS Secretary