

**KANSAS NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY
BOARD MEETING
January 21, 2006 Emporia, Kansas**

President Jeff Hansen called the meeting to order at 12:00. He acknowledged Tom Eddy for making the arrangements to hold our meeting in Emporia and thanked him for his efforts. He welcomed the members present and applauded the large turnout. He introduced Phyllis Scherich as the new appointed secretary. Jeff and Jane Freeman presented retiring secretary, Cindy Ford, with a gift and thanked her for her many years of service to the organization. Shirley Braunlich moved the minutes of the Fall Board Meeting be approved as printed. Second by Michael Heffron. Passed.

Treasurer's Report: A report from treasurer, Sister Pat Stanley, was distributed showing a total actual income for 2005 of \$12,045.05 and total actual expenses for 2005 of \$11,576.23. The proposed budget for 2006 is income of \$13,680 and expenses of \$10,445.00. With no action the report was received. Account balances are Now Account \$5206.39, 66205 \$12,985.71, 66206 \$5521.10, Checking \$3710.06 for a Total of \$27,423.26.

Membership: Jane Freeman reported that 15 new members and 2 "returning" members have been added since the last board meeting. Total membership in the organization is 330. She reported a few dues for this year have been received, but that it is time for most to renew their memberships. Jane mentioned that she will be retiring from her position in September, and that we will need to find a replacement.

Spring Board Meeting: Iralee Barnard reported the Spring Meeting will be held April 1 at 10:00 a.m. at Cottonwood Falls. A tour of the Spring Hill Ranch, house, and barn will be scheduled, along with a foray.

Summer Board Meeting: Shirley Braunlich suggested July 8 as a date for the summer board meeting. Michael Heffron offered to host it in El Dorado at Butler Community College. It was decided to schedule a tour at 9:00 a.m. to "beat the heat", followed by the Board Meeting after lunch.

Fall Board Meeting: Fred and Nancy Coombs of Holton presented a tentative schedule for the 2006 Annual Fall Membership and Board meeting to be held in Holton September 8-10. Brochures were distributed on housing and an interesting variety of events are planned. They are estimating up to 80 persons to attend. Publicity of the event will be important for good attendance. Phyllis Scherich suggested we be sure to get information on this event in the Kansas Country Living magazine (P.O. Box 4267, Topeka, KS 66604 – Editor Larry Freeze) and the Kansas Traveler newspaper (147 N. Dellrose, Wichita KS 67208-3921 316-688-0905 / email howell@kotn.org– Editor Susan Howell – at least 2 months ahead of date to be published – published Jan 1, April 1, July 1, October 1). There is no charge.

Committee Membership Review: Jeff Hansen noted that the Publicity Committee needs a new chairperson and committee members. Ann Simpson volunteered to chair this committee. June Kliesen and Valerie Wright were added to this committee. The importance of linking KNPS to other related websites was stressed. Cindy Ford asked if we would like to be listed on the website of KACEE (Kansas Association for Conservation and Environmental Education.) The group agreed they would.

Brochure and Distribution: Shirley Braunlich distributed the 2006 KNPS Brochure for approval. A discussion followed concerning how many to have printed. It was determined at the 2005 Fall Board Meeting to do them in black and white this year to save money. Nancy Goulden moved to spend \$206 dollars to print 3000 brochures and spend up to \$450 to stuff and mail the new brochures, with cover letters, to various organizations around the state. Craig Freeman seconded the motion with budget approval. Passed.

Native Plant Poster: Craig Freeman presented the newly-designed KNPS Flower Poster. He indicated 250 could be produced in a 24" x 36" size for \$700 OR 1000 for \$854. A discussion followed. It was suggested we search for a grant that would allow KNPS to distribute them at the Kansas Science Teachers Association meeting to all Kansas science teachers to use as an educational tool. Michael Heffron volunteered to look into a grant. They also could be used by KNPS as a fund-raiser sales item.

Affiliate Organizations: Jeff Hansen asked to have KNPS join KTC (Kansas Trails Council) \$25, Audobon of Kansas, \$20, Ladybird Johnson Wildflower Center Affiliate Program, no cost, and Gary Weisenberger added the Tallgrass Legacy Alliance, no cost and Kansas Scenic Byway, no cost. Nancy Goulden moved we affiliate with the above organizations. It was suggested we just "trade" memberships with each, if possible. Michael Heffron seconded the motion. Passed.

Scenic Overlook at Cottonwood Falls: Gary Weisenberger gave a report on the KNPS plantings at the Overlook last fall. It was noted Gary and Jeff Hansen both had made personal contributions for plantings for the project. Reimbursement was offered, but refused. Phyllis Scherich showed the Fall Scenic Byways Newsletter that reported on KNPS involvement. Shirley Braunlich suggested KNPS continue to contribute maintenance and replantings to this project. It was agreeable. Nancy Goulden moved that KNPS, in principal, investigate and explore doing restoration plantings/seedings in similar situations in collaboration with the Kansas Department of Transportation. Cindy Ford moved this be handled by the Native Plant Committee, seconded by Michael Heffron. Passed. Craig Freeman asked to note in the minutes the appreciation by the KNPS Board for the initiation of this planting project and expressed the appreciation of the group to them, in coordination with the Scenic Byway group, for their time and donations. KNPS members involved were Gary, Jeff and Carl Paulie.

Symphony on the Prairie: Krista Dahlinger distributed handouts with information on the Symphony in the Flint Hills event. They have asked KNPS to man a booth and provide guided walking wildflower tours during the afternoon. They would like to have about 25 volunteers for this project. In exchange they will offer tickets to the concert. Krista Dahlinger, Ann Simpson and Iralee Barnard were appointed an ad hoc committee to handle this event. Ann moved we notify Sharon Haun that KNPS will have a booth and lead wildflower walks and commit at least 25 volunteers for the event. Brad Guhr seconded the motion. Passed. A sheet was passed for members to sign up to volunteer to work at this event.

Wildflower of the Year Garden at Botanica: Krista Dahlinger reported she had visited with Pat McKernan at Botanica and reported Botanica is willing to make space in their "Wildflower Meadow" garden area dedicated to the Kansas Wildflower of the Year. Krista

moved that KNPS donate a Rose Verbena planting for 2005 and Pitcher Sage plantings for 2006 to be planted and maintained by Botanica. Seconded by Cindy Ford. Passed. Botanica will provide a plaque for each plant identifying it as the KNPS Wildflower of the Year, indicating it was donated by KNPS. Krista has volunteered to donate the plants personally, in the name of KNPS.

Krista Dahlinger reported that KNPS has been asked to give a 45 minute "Lunchtime Lecture" presentation during a Wednesday luncheon at Botanica. It was agreed that Krista and/or Nancy Goulden will do this when a date is selected by Botanica.

Krista Dahlinger reported the KNPS has been asked by Kae Bowles to provide a presentation at the Wichita Lawn and Garden Show Sunday, March 6 at 2:00 on the Kansas Wildflower of the Year. Nancy Goulden and Krista have volunteered to do this.

Document Procedures: Jeff Hansen reminded members that committee approval is needed for documents and changes to documents. Valerie Wright volunteered to proof-read documents before posting them. Craig Freeman volunteered to help. Jeff suggested we make public documents fit on one or two, at most, pages. Jeff suggested document standards would include a uniform heading, logo, web address, document date, and font. MS word shall be used for original documents with PDF files being used on the website. (Jeff needs to be commended for the excellent notebook of current documents he sent to each of the current board members recently).

Budget: A discussion was held whether KNPS wants to continue selling books (at a 20% discount). Jeff Hansen will visit with Carroll Morgenson to see if he still wants to handle this. Gary Weisenberger had information on a new grass book by Clenton Owensby that possibly should be added to the list.

Individual budget items were studied. Several additions, corrections, and deletions were made.

One of the large expenditures is the newsletter. Nancy Goulden reported that the expenses will probably continue to rise because of a larger membership (a good thing!), and more pages per issue. The cost of the printings has been \$224, \$250, \$640 and \$1400 this year. The color pages have been well-received. It was suggested we continue to have one edition that includes color pictures each year. She suggested the budget be amended to \$3000.

Valerie Wright suggested that members who choose to get their newsletters by e-mail could get all copies in color! A negative to this is we need the volume of mailings to get the current rates we are now allowed in mailing. The posting of the newsletter on the website now lags by two issues to encourage people to join KNPS.

Krista Dahlinger suggested we need a display board and display for use by KNPS at the Symphony in the Flint Hills, as well as other events. She will do some searching on prices and display options and report in April.

Ann Simpson, Symphony Committee, reported the Concert committee had asked for \$250 to scan our slide images and transfer them to digital image files. They will incorporate them into a slide presentation they will use at the event. Craig Freeman moved we donate \$250 to

them in exchange for this service, if we can obtain a copy of the digital images. Seconded by Michael Heffron. Passed.

The board agreed that Judd Patterson, our web developer, has done a stellar job on our website and did it at a fraction of the cost of most developers. To thank him, we will give him a KNPS T-shirt and poster.

Valerie moved that Jeff make the suggested changes to the budget and e-mail them to members for a vote on the amended budget.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:30pm. Members were invited to view the Natural History Museum collection of birds, etc. Members present were: Iralee Barnard, Shirley Braunlich, Fred & Nancy Coombs, Krista Dahlinger, Cindy Ford, Craig & Jane Freeman, Nancy Goulden, Brad Guhr, Jeff Hansen, Michael Heffron, June Kliesen, George Lippert, Frank Norman, Dwight Platt, Dee & Phyllis Scherich, Ann Simpson, Gary Weisenberger, & Valerie Wright.