

Kansas Native Plant Society  
September 21, 2007  
Dillon Nature Center, Hutchinson, KS

Board Meeting

Members present were: Earl Allen, Shirley Braunlich, Fred & Nancy Coombs, Krista Dahlinger, Cindy Ford, Craig & Jane Freeman, Nancy Goulden, Brad Guhr, Jeff Hansen, Michael Heffron, June Kliesen, Carl Paulie, Sister Patricia Stanley, Valerie Wright, and Ann Simpson

Jeff Hansen called the meeting to order. The minutes were presented for approval. Craig moved, Shirley seconded to approve the minutes and the motion carried.

The Treasurer's Report was presented by Sister Pat. A sum of \$102.05 and \$246.07 were earned from two CD accounts. The NOW account earned \$5.39. There is \$6,256.53 in the checking account.

Brad read a letter from Julie Torseth at Dyck Arboretum requesting \$1,000 for support of the Prairie Window project at the arboretum. This program engages students in prairie restoration. KNPS is represented on the Dyck Arboretum web site as a supporter. Earl moved to give \$1,000 to Dyck Arboretum for the Prairie Window project, Shirley seconded, Ann and Craig abstained, and the motion carried.

#### Nominating Committee

Ann moved to accept the nominations to the board and for officers, Krista seconded the motion, and the motion carried. The slate of officers and new board members met approval by the board and will be presented for a vote by the general membership at the General Meeting. Two board members, Ann Simpson (9 years) and George Lippert (6 years), will be stepping off the board this term.

#### Membership

Jane reported that membership remains the same on average as previous years, but many members have not renewed their memberships. In 2006, 99 members did not renew, although in 2007 there were 311 members current because of 66 new members. Discussion about communication to the membership, retention of members, and reaching new members resulted in getting addresses of previous members as far back as 2000 and sending an invitation to join. Jeff asked for a motion to send a special mailing asking for members to renew. For this mailing only, a "request address" service would be eliminated. Michael moved to send a letter requesting renewal in KNPS, Carl seconded, and the motion carried. Nancy and Jeff will compose the letter.

Jeff suggested sending a reminder for renewal at the end of the year, enclosing a return envelope in the newsletter. Nancy Goulden moved to send a newsletter with envelope, Nancy Coombs seconded, and the motion carried. The membership committee (Jane, June, Jeff, and Iralee) will work out logistics of the proposal.

Valerie received information on the KSU Marketing Study. David Andrews teaches a course that requires students to do a marketing plan, but the service would cost \$500 and the students would need to meet with all members of the board. As an alternative to this venue, Nancy Goulden proposed a retreat to set up goals for organizing whether we need to change or whether we even need a marketing plan. Fred wanted to set aside part of a board meeting to do strategic planning by breaking into small groups.

The Education Committee discussed a weed spraying brochure that may be distributed through NRCS. No action was taken.

The proposed state grass, little bluestem, did not become official this year, but will be presented again to next year's legislature. She will compose a fact sheet for the grass.

Nancy Goulden composed a booklet on Plant Identification booklet that she distributed to the board members. She encouraged board members to coach new native plant watchers at the general meeting. The booklet will be posted on the web. She also produced a CD on introduction to plant flowers.

Jeff asked for suggested for next year's annual fall workshop/meeting. Ann moved to schedule it for October 3, 4, 5; Carl seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

The winter board meeting will be in Wichita at the Great Plains Nature Center at 12:00 on January 12, 2008.

June moved to adjourn, Jeff seconded, and the motion carried.

Notes taken by Cindy Ford (for Phyllis Scherich, Secretary)