

**Kansas Native Plant Society
Board of Directors Winter Meeting
January 17, 2009 12:00 - 3:00 p.m.
Kirby House, Abilene KS**

Members present were: Earl Allen, Jocelyn Baker, Iralee Barnard, Shirley Braunlich, Fred Coombs, Nancy Coombs, Krista Dahlinger, Craig Freeman, Jane Freeman, Nancy Goulden, Mike Haddock, Jeff Hanson, Michael Heffron, June Kliesen, Ken O'Dell, Evelyn Reed, Dee Scherich, Phyllis Scherich, & Valerie Wright.

President Michael Heffron called the meeting to order and thanked all for coming. A special welcome was given to new board member, Ken O'Dell. Each member introduced him/her self.

Craig moved the October 2008 Board meeting minutes be accepted as circulated. Valerie seconded the motion. Members approved it.

Ken O'Dell gave an update on the Spring Board meeting. It will be held April 18 at 10:00 a.m. at the Overland Park Arboretum. A consensus of the group asked to have the general membership of KNPS invited to share the outing from 1:30 – 4:30. Craig will coordinate with Ken to make arrangements for lunch, which likely will be from Subway.

Susan Reimer has invited the Board to Buffalo Hill (next to Maxwell Game Preserve) for the July meeting. The group opted to accept her offer and set the date for July 11 (to be confirmed by Susan). Craig will coordinate with her.

Craig has been in touch with Cindy Ford about the possibility of having the 2009 AWW in Pittsburg. Cindy said she was willing to help host the event at Pittsburg State University. The Board agreed to hold the 2009 AWW meeting Sept. 18-20 at Pittsburg State University. Craig will coordinate with Cindy on details.

Krista presented the treasurer's report, a comparison of budgeted and actual amounts of income and expenses in 2008, and a suggested budget for 2009. After much discussion and some changes, Nancy Gould moved it be accepted as amended, with a deficit. It was seconded by Valerie and approved by the membership.

Valerie asked KNPS to help fund the KEEP (Konza Environmental Education Program) in the amount of \$1000 for 2009. It was put into the budget as an expense.

Earl Allen reported that pledges for the Legacy Fund now meet the minimum amount needed to open the account. Krista, treasurer, will call for pledges and the funds will be invested as recorded in the October 3, 2008, minutes.

Krista reported she would like to change banks for the KNPS funds. The Board agreed to let Krista investigate several options and to select one that works best for her and Jane, the two individuals handling most of the money. Krista will report to the Board on the change.

Jane gave a membership report. She and Jeff urge all Board members to encourage new memberships at every opportunity.

Craig reported that he had received a resignation from Board Member Carl Paulie. Craig has already thanked Carl for his service to the organization. At the time of his resignation, Carl became a life member of KNPS.

Shirley reported on the printing costs for the 2009 KNPS color brochures. She will have 3500 copies printed, as budgeted, for about \$1200, including postage.

Ken O'Dell reported he has written an article on The Wildflower of the Year for the *Kansas City Gardener*. He investigated the process that established selections for the Wildflower of the Year through 2012. Because the other organizations that were involved in that selection appear not to be interested in continuing the selection process, Ken asked if KNPS would like to take the lead in the Wildflower of the Year program. He volunteered to coordinate the effort, which will be discussed more fully at the April meeting.

After a discussion about KNPS participation in the Symphony, Nancy G. moved KNPS participate in the Flint Hills Symphony June 13 in Morris County. It was seconded by Valerie and approved by the Board. Nancy will coordinate this event for KNPS.

Iralee gave an invitation for KNPS to participate in the 2009 Tallgrass National Prairie Preserve event Sept. 12 – 13, 2009. Additional details about the event will be provided later.

Jeff proposed an Education Program for KNPS as outlined by him in an e-mail to Board members. The Board recommended Jeff's proposal be reviewed by the Education Committee, which will make a formal recommendation about the program to the Board at the April meeting.

Jeff recommended a Stewardship Award be set up. Valerie and the rest of the Awards Committee will review the recommendation and will make a formal recommendation to the Board at the April meeting.

Jeff called attention to the Small Wildlife grant offered by Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks, suggesting that such a grant might be used to cover some of the costs of his proposed Education Program. Jeff and Nancy will work on a proposal, which is due in February.

Phyllis asked members to log onto the Explorer website and enter their "favorite tree".

Craig reported that Dr. Stephen Timme of Pittsburg State University is working on a new color guide to the wildflowers of southeast Kansas. He has a private donor who wants to help subvent the printing costs for the book and also receive a tax deduction for his contribution. To that end, KNPS has agreed to accept the contribution from the donor, earmarked for use for the book subvention. When funds are needed to cover project costs, KNPS will cut a check for the amount requested by Dr. Timme, for a total pay-out not to exceed that of the donation. In exchange, KNPS will receive any interest received while the donation is in the KNPS bank account, as well as 50% of royalties received from sales of the book.

A discussion of the pocket guide to wildflowers by Friends of the Great Plains Nature Center was held. Craig will contact Cindy Ford to learn more of what is needed.

Michael Heffron declared the meeting adjourned at 4:05 p.m.

Submitted by Phyllis Scherich, Secretary