

Kansas Native Plant Society

Minutes Fall Board of Directors Meeting
Friday, September 18, 2009 1:00-3:00PM
Pittsburg State University Natural Area

Members present: Evelyn Reed, Jeff Hansen, Krista Dahlinger, Craig Freeman, Jane Freeman, Shirley Braunlich, Mike Haddock, Nancy Goulden, Jocelyn Baker, Earl Allen, Nancy Coombs, Fred Coombs, Valerie Wright, Iralee Barnard, Ken O'Dell, Cindy Ford, Frank Norman, Susan Reimer, Sister Patricia Stanley. Three visitors: Nancy Calhoun, Ken Barnard, Delia Lister.

President-elect Craig Freeman welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order. He announced that outgoing President Michael Heffron is teaching this weekend, so he will fill in for him. Craig also reported that Phyllis Scherich has resigned as Secretary and Nancy Coombs will take notes today and tomorrow. He then introduced Delia Lister, Director of Pittsburg State University Nature Reach, who began a brief summary of the area, an 80-acre former strip mine. Cindy completed the summary noting that nature education programs are conducted here.

The July 11, 2009 Board meeting minutes were discussed. Krista moved they be accepted; seconded by Susan. Approved.

Calendar items were considered as follows:

- Winter Board meeting: 16 January 2010 with weather backup date 23 January at Emporia State.
- Spring Board meeting: 17 April 2010; perhaps at the Great Plains Nature Center Wichita?
- Summer Board meeting: 10 July 2010; location undecided.
- Fall Board meeting: 17-19 September 2010; location undecided.

Cindy gave an update of the 2009 AWW events which reflected those posted on the KNPS website. She noted Saturday's picnic lunch at College Lake following the morning meeting. Cindy advised caravanning to Saturday's outings.

Craig announced the following nominations proposed by the Nominating committee. Jeff will present the slate to the full membership tomorrow for a vote.

Officers:

President	Craig Freeman
President-Elect	Nancy Goulden
Secretary	Nancy Coombs
Treasurer	Krista Dahlinger

For reappointment to the Board (class of 2009-2012):

Earl Allen, Manhattan
 Shirley Braunlich, Lawrence
 Cynthia Ford, Pittsburg
 Craig Freeman, Lawrence
 Nancy Goulden, Manhattan

New nominees to the Board (class of 2009-2012):

Mickey (Mick) Delfelder, Topeka
 David Welfelt, Newton

Krista passed around a three-page document, "2009 Budget of Income and Expense," which showed total assets of \$20,763.79. Total 2009 income to date has been \$15,076.10, while expenditures to date have totaled \$19,824.01. Valerie moved to accept the report, seconded by Mike Haddock. Passed.

Craig said that he would give the membership report tomorrow morning at the business meeting. Jeff noted that membership has increased over last year by 15 percent; KNPS now has 518 members.

Appreciation was offered to Nancy Goulden for her splendid work on the newsletter. She in turn gave credit to the many people who make the newsletter possible: June who carefully and promptly edits every edition as well as writes articles; Karen Hummel who does the layout; Ken (propagation of native plants) and Jeff (landscaping with native plants) who write feature articles; Lorraine Kaufman who writes historical pieces, and Shirley who maintains the events lists. Nancy also passed around a sign-up sheet for fall newsletter articles and AWW photos. All are due September 25.

Fred, chair of the Ad Hoc Committee, reported that drafts of the application form to be used by non-profit organizations seeking funding from KNPS are being turned over to the Outreach Committee. He also read an update from Clay Adams of KDOT noting last winter's purchase and planting of wildflower seeds in each of the six KDOT districts. KDOT also plans to use American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funds this winter to reseed two interchanges on I-70 and has reduced mowing of rights of way for the benefit of both native plants and the KDOT budget.

Jeff suggested writing a letter of thanks to KDOT for their efforts with native plantings, with copies to the people who work on Scenic Byways. Jeff also reminded members of the importance of calling KDOT to thank them for NOT mowing. KDOT usually receives many calls complaining when they do not mow. Craig offered to write the letters.

Craig distributed a four-page document comparing native plant society membership fees in 24 states. Graphics were presented to illustrate income sources and the impact of a possible dues increase. A lively discussion ensued and ended with a vote to increase membership dues by \$5.00 in each of the following categories: Organization, Family, Individual, and Student. The increase will take effect on January 1, 2010. The motion passed.

Other business:

Shirley was roundly applauded for her excellent work with the KNPS brochure. Jocelyn volunteered to take on that project under Shirley's tutelage.

Craig announced that for the winter board meeting he would try to increase KNPS efficiency by reducing the number of committees.

Nancy Goulden reminded members of the newsletter need for photos of events during this Annual Wildflower Weekend. She also reported on the work she and Jeff did (education committee) on creating a list of volunteers to speak or lead prairie walks in each section of the state. About 15-20 responses were collected from volunteers, ten of whom will be listed as speakers. Most of the volunteers were relatively new members. Nancy said we need a solid list from all areas of the state, to be posted on the website.

Jeff suggested that KNPS write a letter of support to the Friends of the Burnett Mound Restoration Project. This is a group of volunteers desiring to clear all trees from Topeka's Burnett Mound to restore for prairie. The Green Team will help; perhaps the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation will become involved as well.

Fred moved and Valerie seconded that the meeting adjourn. Members then dispersed either to the Ford farm for a spinning/dyeing event or to the Mon Shon Prairie, an 80-acre native prairie owned by the Missouri Department of Conservation.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Coombs, in lieu of Phyllis Scherich