

Kansas Native Plant Society
Winter Board Meeting
Breukelman Science Hall, Room 156
12-3 pm
January 16, 2010
Emporia, KS

Members present: Iralee Barnard, Shirley Braunlich, Fred Coombs, Nancy Coombs, Krista Dahlinger, Craig Freeman, Jane Freeman, Nancy Goulden, Brad Guhr, Mike Haddock, Jeff Hansen, Evelyn Reed, Susan Reimer, Dee Scherich, Phyllis Scherich, Sister Patricia Stanley, and Valerie Wright.

Others attending: Glenn Fell (Emporia) and Ron Haselhuhn (Emporia, retired faculty).

Craig welcomed all to the meeting including visitors and new board members Dave Welfelt and Mickey Delfelder.

Approval of minutes of September 18, 2009 board meeting: Phyllis moved to accept the minutes as circulated; seconded by Valerie; motion carried.

President's report:

The Legacy Fund is now established thanks to Jeff, Krista, and Earl.

Stephen Timme donated 53 copies of his book "Wildflowers of Southeast Kansas" to KNPS to sell for profits to KNPS. Discussion followed about price discounts for members and whether to put money from sales into the General Operating Budget or the Legacy Fund. The paperback currently sells for \$54.99. The executive committee will decide on the cost and how to handle income.

Newsletters/gratis members: KNPS now has about 70 gratis members, including almost all native plant societies in the US. The cost to print and mail the newsletter for gratis members is about \$500 per year. Fred moved that, rather than mailing paper copies to gratis members, we notify our gratis members that they may access newsletters electronically; seconded by Susan; motion passed.

Review of 2009 budget: Krista gave a thorough review of the 2009 budget. Sister Pat moved to accept the treasurer's report; seconded by Mike; motion passed.

Discussion and approval of 2010 budget: Krista estimated the total income for 2010 at \$15,975. After discussion and adjustments, income was raised to \$16,475. Likewise, expenses were discussed and adjusted, for a total of \$17,800. The Mary Bancroft Scholarship line will be moved to the Awards line; special projects funded by the society will be listed as a single line in the budget with one allocation for all such projects. The Outreach Committee will evaluate and recommend funding for one or more special projects. Proposal will be due by April 15. The modified 2010 budget, if realized, would result in a deficit of \$1,325. Jeff moved to accept the proposed budget for 2010; seconded by Dave; motion passed.

Brochure/outings: Shirley/Craig (for Joc) Shirley asked that outings information be sent to her and Joc. Craig suggested that KNPS may want to co-sponsor a workday at Snyder Prairie. Grassland Heritage Foundation will be discussing possible dates for the workday at its meeting on February 13. Shirley will aid in co-sponsor support. Deadline for information to be printed in the brochure is mid-February.

2010 committee assignments: Craig will finalize organizing committees with a view to numbers, responsibilities, and equity with the desire to see more involvement by the membership. Mike Haddock will serve as chair of the Nominating Committee.

Newsletter: Nancy G. reported that Cindy Mines, editor and publisher of Travel Kansas, may do an article on KNPS board members' favorite outings in KS in conjunction with a piece on the Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve.

Website: Jeff's website work has expanded and improved to offer an e-mail list (discuss@knps.org), a county map of KNPS membership, some PDF downloads (volunteer and application project funding forms). A

membership form can now be printed off the web. The events database is current.

Using Facebook to promote KNPS: Dave suggested that Facebook could be a tremendous opportunity to post KNPS events. Mickey volunteered to do postings for KNPS on Facebook. Discussion followed on possibly establishing a Paypal account. Jeff added that it could be beneficial for renewals. Krista, Mickey, and Jeff will investigate the possibility of setting up such an account.

Adding plant identification features: Dave said that newcomers present an opportunity for increasing membership and suggested taking a genus at a time to teach new participants how to identify all the species in a genus. Craig added that Mike Haddock's database is a most useful resource. Iralee suggested a workshop. Craig will ask the Education Committee to discuss the possibility of sponsoring an identification workshop or developing new identification aids.

Spring two-day foray: Mickey proposed having a spring outing in April or May at sites further away from where we usually go. Jeff said it could be a spring alternative, or RAWW (Reduced Annual Wildflower Weekend) with minimal planning. People would be on their own for lodging and meals. The RAWW would be announced in the newsletter, Facebook, and e-mail. Craig will pass this suggestion on to the Events Committee.

Little Blue update: Valerie and Nancy G. urged more KNPS involvement by contacting individual legislators, writing letters, and getting children to the legislature. Seven legislators have verbally committed to support the Little Blue initiative; Kay Wolf will introduce it. Phyllis has made a number of direct contacts with legislators. Kids USA will help with the school part. Mike Haddock noted that Kansas is a prairie and an agricultural state but has no state grass; all four states around Kansas have state grasses.

Roadside Mowing: Nancy G. and Jeff reported that we've never seen so many comments in response to a newsletter as with the recent article by Fred on the roadside mowing issue. People seem to want KNPS to facilitate change in mowing practices. There is a need for a forum to tell

their story. We may be able to provide an outlet with the e-mail discussion site or Facebook.

Phyllis urged all to vote for the eight geography wonders of KS, an initiative of the Kansas Sampler Foundation. Participants must choose eight of the 24 finalists and may do so on-line (<http://www.kansassampler.org/8wonders/geography.php>) by February 17.

Future meetings:

April 17, 2010: space has been reserved at the Great Plains Nature Center, Wichita; 12-3 pm. The board agreed to change the venue to the Dyck Arboretum in Hesston if the meeting room there is available. Brad Guhr will check on this.

July 10, 2010: TBA

AWW likely will be in the Great Bend area. The AWW committee will investigate the availability of space at Camp Aldridge, Barton County Community College, and Cheyenne Bottoms.

Motion to adjourn was made by Valerie and seconded by Jeff. Adjournment was at 3:10 pm by unanimous consent.

Minutes submitted by Nancy Coombs, Secretary

(Circulated January 20, 2010)