

Kansas Native Plant Society Summer Board Meeting
Hemisphere Room, Hale Library
Kansas State University, Manhattan, KS
1–3:35 pm July 16, 2011

Members present: Earl Allen, Iralee Barnard, Shirley Braunlich, Fred Coombs, Nancy Coombs, Krista Dahlinger, Mickey Delfelder, Craig Freeman, Jane Freeman, Nancy Goulden, Mike Haddock, Jeff Hansen, Chelsea Juricek, Ken O’Dell, Susan Reimer, Dave Welfelt, Valerie Wright. Guests: Matthew Richter, Lee Skabelund

Welcome: President Craig Freeman welcomed attendees and made several general announcements. He thanked Mike Haddock for arranging the use of the Hemisphere Room in the Hale Library. Mike also arranged for tours of the green roof with Lee Skabelund, Department of Landscape Architecture. Appreciation was also expressed to Mike Haddock and others from Manhattan who provided lunch prior to the meeting.

Approval of minutes of April 23, 2011: Krista offered a change in the minutes. On page 1 in the Budget section, the sentence “The CD that matures in June may be reinvested.” should read “Funds from the CD that matures in June will go into the general fund.” Valerie moved to accept as corrected, Jeff seconded. Motion carried.

President’s report:

Several comments and observations were made about the successful Virginia Native Plant Society trip to Kansas (June 11-18).

Craig shared inventory status of KNPS brochures, “A Pocket Guide To Kansas Flint Hills Wildflowers and Grasses” and posters. There are enough brochures to last through the end of the year. Almost all of the popular pocket guides have been distributed. A lively discussion on funding reprints of the guide followed. A decision about whether KNPS should help pay for a second printing of the guide was deferred until the budget discussion. Jeff noted that the cost to reprint more posters averages about \$200.00 a year.

Planning for AWW, September 16-18, 2011 in Lawrence, KS:

Craig, Jane, Jeff, Mickey, and Shirley met recently to plan outings and to discuss other activities for AWW. On Friday, following the board meeting (1-3 pm) at the Kansas Biological Survey on KU’s West Campus, attendees will caravan to the KU Field Station north of Lawrence to visit a native medicinal plant garden, the Rockefeller Prairie, and the Fitch Natural History Reservation. Plans also include the possibility of a BBQ cookout at the Field Station that evening. On Saturday the business meeting will begin at 9 am in Nichols Hall on West Campus near the Lied Center. The guest speaker for Saturday will be Rex Buchanan, Interim Director at the Kansas Geological Survey, and co-author of *Roadside Kansas: A Traveler’s Guide to Its Geology and Landmarks*. He will speak on the landscapes and geology of Kansas. Following a catered lunch people will visit two remnant prairies in Leavenworth County owned by

Gordon Barnhart. On Sunday morning folks will visit the remnant prairie at the Prairie Park Nature Center in Lawrence, Baker Wetlands Restoration Area, and the Coblenz Prairie west of Lawrence. Craig will work with Shirley and others on plant lists for the outings.

Several different approaches to the Silent Auction were offered, such as having 'reserve' status on items or having a raffle. Additional ideas should be sent to Krista, who will coordinate the auction.

Discussion on the AWW Photo Contest focused on several ways to get attendees more involved in the selection process. Valerie said the photographer's name must be on the backside of the photo. Some suggested going with digital copies of entries. Craig will work with Valerie to include a category for the 2012 wildflower of the year, *Amorpha canescens*. Other topics included promotion of Little Bluestem and including roadside photos as part of the photo contest.

Nominations have been received for KNPS recognition awards: Excellence in Botany, Rachel Snyder Memorial Landscape, and the Sheldon H. Cohen Award for Outstanding Service to KNPS.

Mike Haddock reported that all board term expirees agreed to run again, including the Treasurer and the Secretary.

Budget report: Krista said that most of KNPS income is from membership dues and that more people are renewing online or at the annual AWW. She said that income is where she expected it to be at this time of the year, with total assets at about \$21,000. The newsletters and the website take about a quarter each of income. Two printings of the annual brochure this year are on target. Earnings on deposits in the Legacy Fund, which is reserved for scholarships, run around 20%.

Discussion on how to finance reprinting the popular *A Pocket Guide to Kansas Flint Hills Wildflowers and Grasses* continued. All agreed that the guide is a great tool for outreach, education, and promotion of our organization. Nancy Goulden said that the guides have changed how some walks are done, allowing more interactive learning. A motion to accept the treasurer's report was made by Earl, seconded by Iralee. Carried. Further discussion from the President's report ensued. Craig noted that there are three contenders for use of special project funds in the 2011 budget: reprints of the pocket guide, posters, and applications for support from other organizations. It was moved by Iralee and seconded by Dave to authorize the president to talk with Bob Gress, Director of the Great Plains Nature Center, about KNPS contributing up to \$1000, which will come from the special projects line of the 2011 budget, to help with reprinting the Flint Hills pocket guide, the eighth in their series of GPNC pocket guides. Motion carried.

Mickey proposed that KNPS solicit the general membership to help fund reprints. A variety of comments followed, some pro, some con, but all in favor of reprinting the pocket guide, as well as support to print future plant pocket guides on other areas of Kansas. In the end, Earl moved that membership be notified of the need to reprint the guide and allowed to contribute funds to help cover that expense, Dave seconded, carried unanimously. The process by which the members are notified of the opportunity to donate, whether through the website, email, Facebook or AWW, was left unresolved.

Craig, Valerie and Jeff mentioned they would be willing to co-author a solicitation statement.

Membership report: Jeff and Jane said there are 614 paid members through 2011, of whom 572 live in Kansas, 42 out of state. New regular members by source: 54 from the brochure, 1 from a meeting, 3 from the newsletter, 1 from an outing, and 68 from the website making a total of 127. About 12% have not renewed yet. Jeff proposed emailing that group to find out why; Mickey will develop a simple survey.

Newsletter report: Nancy G. said the newsletters went out earlier this time due to a new employee at the print shop. She expressed her appreciation to all who write for the newsletter.

Other business: Ken shared ideas about organizing meetings for the Kansas City region of KNPS, beginning with planning in January 2011, followed by a first meeting in early March. They have had several meetings and excursions since. Ken also gave a preview of future plans for his region. He hopes to locate a group leader in each county in his region. For example, Craig Hensley has agreed to plan events for Wyandotte County. Ken's goal is to get everyone involved. Ken also proposed that other KNPS regions come together for joint meetings. Nancy G. said that the regional meetings are unique. She suggested that there be a regional component at the AWW. Krista noted that group leaders currently correspond by email. Craig will try to incorporate time for short presentations or a panel discussion involving a few regional leaders for the AWW agenda.

The meeting ended at 3:35 with a motion to adjourn by Valerie, seconded by Iralee.

Mike Haddock gave members a tour of the Hale Library following the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,
Nancy Coombs, Secretary