

**Kansas Native Plant Society
Fall Board Meeting
Armitage Education Center, University of Kansas Field Station
Lawrence, KS
1-3 pm
Friday, September 16, 2011**

Members present: Earl Allen, Jocelyn Baker, Iralee Barnard, Shirley Braunlich, Fred Coombs, Nancy Coombs, Krista Dahlinger, Mickey Delfelder, Craig Freeman, Jane Freeman, Cindy Ford, Nancy Goulden, Mike Haddock, Jeff Hansen, Michael Heffron, Chelsea Juricek, Frank Norman, Ken O'Dell, Susan Reimer, Valerie Wright. Guests: Ken Barnard, Delia Lister, and Marge Streckfus

Welcome: President Craig Freeman welcomed attendees and made several general announcements regarding activities for the three-day weekend.

Approval of minutes of July 16, 2011 board meeting: Approved by consensus.

President's report:

The 2011 AWW plans for outings in and around Lawrence, the silent auction, the photo contest, and the awards were reviewed and updated. Group leaders were identified for the Friday outings nearby on wooded and prairie trails, and for the new medicinal plant garden. A BBQ dinner will be served at 6 pm.

Craig reported that additional copies of the Flint Hills Wildflower guide, authored by Iralee, were printed by the Great Plains Nature Center and KNPS financial support was not needed. KNPS will continue to be listed as a sponsor. Some additional copies now are available at the KNPS administrative offices.

Posters are down to 40 or 50, but that should be enough through the end of 2011.

Saturday and Sunday meeting plans were reviewed in greater detail. On Saturday Rex Buchanan, author of "Roadside Kansas: a Traveler's Guide to its Geology and Landmarks" and Interim Director of the Kansas Geological Survey, will be the main speaker. There will also be a panel discussion by KNPS regional leaders. Gordon Barnhardt, lifetime KNPS member and owner of several large remnant prairies in Leavenworth County, left portions of his prairie hay meadows uncut for our Saturday outings. Shirley has organized plans with Gordon and his brother Bill Barnhardt for these very special visits. Following an early Sunday morning stop at a small prairie remnant at the Prairie Park Nature Center in Lawrence, Roger Boyd, Emeritus Professor of Biology Baker University, will talk with us about wetland issues at the Baker Wetland restoration area. After lunch the group will caravan to Coblentz Prairie west of Lawrence. Shirley Braunlich helped assemble the plant lists that are available for these visits.

Nominations Committee report: Mike listed the following names from the nominating committee for one-year terms (Sept 2011-Sept 2012) as KNPS officers: Secretary, Nancy Coombs; Treasurer, Krista Dahlinger; Vice President, Mike Haddock; and President, Mickey Delfelder. The slate was elected and will be reported to the membership at Saturday's meeting. The board also voted unanimously to nominate Craig Hensley as a new board member. He is a lifelong naturalist and educator currently serving as the Lead Education Specialist/Manager of the Schlagle Library in Kansas City.

Budget update: Krista reported that we are in good financial shape for the year based on comparisons of previous yearly budgets with our current status. As for expenses, the Grassland Heritage (GHF) and KNPS cooperated on this year's Bancroft scholarship, each donating \$500 for research on big bluestem by Jacob Olsen of Fort Hays State University. Expenses for the newsletter and the website are on track. Our two checking accounts total \$9,332.33. Krista would like for KNPS to consider saving money for future years at the January 2012 board meeting. The Legacy Fund is now at \$3,539.87; total KNPS assets are at \$20,167.82. Valerie moved, Frank seconded to accept the budget report. Motion passed.

Recommendations of Outreach Committee concerning non-profit funding requests: Jeff reported on two applications: one from Sterling College for \$250 in support of a native tree walk on Sterling campus and the other from the Kansas Grazing Lands Coalition (KGLC) adult range schools for \$300. Both were approved by the board.

Jeff also updated KNPS member statistics: we have 656 paid memberships, of which 141 are students. With the 74 gratis memberships the total is 730. A brief discussion followed on how to attract and keep young members.

Newsletter update: Nancy G. sent a sign-up sheet around asking all to submit articles about the AWW weekend for the next newsletter. Articles are due next week.

Other business

Locations for 2012 board meetings:

Winter: February 4, with a backup/snow delay date of February 11, Emporia.

Spring: April 14, Great Plains Nature Center, Wichita

Summer: July 14, site to be decided

Location for 2012 AWW: A committee will meet to make plans.

Fred offered special thanks for Craig's work as president, adding Craig has set an exemplary model for KNPS. Adjourned by acclamation at 2:40 pm.

Nancy Coombs, Secretary