

**Kansas Native Plant Society  
2014 Summer Board Meeting  
Minneapolis Public Library  
July 12, 2014; 1:00 - 3:00 PM**

**Board Members Present:** Earl Allen, Jocelyn Baker, Iralee Barnard, Shirley Braunlich, Fred Coombs, Nancy Coombs, Krista Dahlinger, Mickey Delfelder, Chelsea Erickson, Craig Freeman, Jane Freeman, Nancy Goulden, Brad Guhr, Mike Haddock, Dee Scherich, Phyllis Scherich, Valerie Wright.

**Guests Present:** Donald Erickson, Stockton; Ardath Lawson, Winfield; Cynthia Rhodes, Whitewater.

**Welcome & Introductions:**

President Michael Haddock welcomed everyone. Craig moved approval of the minutes of the May 3, 2014 board meeting; Valerie seconded. The motion passed.

**Budget/Finance Report:** Krista reported total assets as of June 30, 2014 at \$23,966.10. The legacy fund has benefitted from a 15.46% growth in the market and now stands at \$6,638.20. Earl moved, and Valerie seconded, acceptance of the budget report; motion passed.

**Newsletter:** Nancy G. said the quarterly issues should be mailed by the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month. The focus of the spring newsletter is on the Annual Wildflower Weekend (AWW). She solicited ideas for articles and photographs, and expressed appreciation to Karen Hummel, editor, and to Phyllis, proof reader.

**AWW Planning Report:** Phyllis presented a quick review of the AWW schedule, including overnight and dining venues, all of which will also be posted on the website. Outings will be in the Red Hills as well as in the Pratt area. She has sent some information to various newspapers; the AWW Committee will assist in publicizing the event. A full discussion followed on the topic of an AWW registration fee. Phyllis moved to charge a registration fee of \$10.00 for members and \$20.00 for non-members; Brad seconded the motion. It passed.

**Membership Report:** Craig reported there are 765 members of whom 27 are life members. The website is the major membership source (53%), with others joining by the brochure, or at meetings and outings. Slightly more than half of the annual renewals come via the renewal letter. He said there have been two new life memberships in the last month.

**Nominations Committee:** Craig & Mickey reported that nominations are ongoing. There are 23 current board members. The total allowed by the bylaws is 30. Having served 5 years as secretary, Nancy C. announced that she would not seek another term, so a new secretary will be needed beginning this fall.

**Awards Committee:** Valerie announced that the photo contest is digital this year. Mickey's instructions are almost ready for members to test. Valerie urged everyone to share comments while working through them, using the new password. During the AWW, all photos will be on a continuous slideshow; winners will be posted on the screen during the awards ceremony. She also noted that there are some candidates for awards.

**Events Committee:** Shirley asked if Jane receives names of attendees for outings, and urged organizers to send lists in to Jane. She thanked both Jeff and Ken for their regional leadership activities, which have expanded KNPS events. Shirley was thanked for her work on the annual Governor's proclamation making June Native Plant Appreciation Month.

**Plant Resources & Stewardship Committee:** Brad said the focus is on invasive species, improving the existing list, and using other resources. This committee is also charged with selecting the Wildflower of the Year for 2016. Mike asked for clarification of the members of the newly combined committee, adding that those members should contact Brad to indicate their interest in working with the new committee.

**Public Policy Committee:** Fred shared a member's concern about the invasion of eastern red cedars and common teasel in highway rights-of-way near Garnett, KS. The member plans to ask other groups to join him in urging KDOT to burn these roadsides. Fred asked board members to contact him with their thoughts about the role KNPS should play with respect to this issue.

**Publicity & Outreach Committee / Website Report:** Mike shared a quarterly website report from Jeff indicating projected work for this calendar year, some of which is backlogged. Krista shared calling cards for members to distribute as advertisement for the AWW. Mike called for a volunteer to chair the Publicity & Outreach Committee. He suggested that the duty to oversee the Native Plant Proclamation be moved from the Publicity & Outreach Committee to the Events Committee since Shirley has taken responsibility for it. Krista volunteered to continue overseeing volunteers.

**Old Business:**

**Scanning of archival KNPS newsletters (tabled):** This item was tabled again.

**Committee chair still needed for the Publicity & Outreach Committee. Also, a volunteer is still needed to assume responsibility for the annual brochure.** Joc asked to step down from her work on the annual brochure; after the meeting, Chelsea volunteered to take that on.

**Proposal to contribute toward re-printing costs of the Flint Hills Wildflower Pocket Guide:** Mike announced that up to \$1000.00 in matching funds has been offered by an anonymous donor toward the reprinting of the *Kansas Flint Hills Wildflowers and Grasses* pocket guide. Craig moved that KNPS agree to match the offer of \$1000.00 without specifying from which budget line the funds should be drawn. The funding source will be decided when we know the funds are needed to help subvent the printing cost. Krista seconded the motion; it passed. Other suggestions included having an article in the newsletter soliciting donations to help offset the cost of reprinting and/or offering to make a presentation at AWW on the importance of the two native plant pocket guides with an on-site request for donations. Nancy G. volunteered to make a short presentation about the field guides at this year's AWW. The question of additional money for web backlog was discussed further. It was suggested to delay any action until September at which time if more funds are needed, the board could consider the allocation. Mike will contact Jeff and ask that four Plant Resources & Stewardship updates be completed.

**Hiking Liability:** Mike raised the question whether or not KNPS wants to pursue this issue. Mickey volunteered to research Kansas groups that require waiver signatures. Craig will obtain the waiver used by The Nature Conservancy (TNC). The issue will be on the fall agenda.

**New Business:**

**Request from Ryan Armbrust of the Kansas Forest Service, for possible partnering on bush honeysuckle control through education and credit for hours spent in removal activities:** Mike shared information about a grant proposal to eradicate bush honeysuckle in Kansas. The KFS has invited TNC to participate in the grant proposal. Brad, as chair of the plant resources committee, knows other groups involved in natural areas and will explore this further.

**Announcements:** Craig said that back in May, Warner Brothers Pictures requested a KNPS poster and a ball cap for a new Batman/Superman film with the working title of *Sage and Milo*. Warner Brothers will purchase the items; as the registered agent for KNPS, Craig signed a use form granting the company use of the two items in the film if they desire.

**Adjourn:** The meeting ended at 2:54PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Nancy Coombs, Secretary