

**Kansas Native Plant Society  
2014 Fall Board Meeting  
Friday Sept. 19, 2014, 12PM - 2PM  
Pratt Community College, Pratt, KS**

**Board Members Present:** Earl Allen, Iralee Barnard, Shirley Braunlich, Nadine Champlin, Krista Dahlinger, Mick Delfelder, Chelsea Erickson, Cindy Ford, Craig Freeman, Jane Freeman, Nancy Goulden, Mike Haddock, Jeff Hansen, Ken O'Dell. Susan Reimer. Matthew Richter, Dee Scherich, Phyllis Scherich, Valerie Wright.

**Guests Present:** Donald Erickson, Anthony Zukoff, Ken Barnard, Bob Champlin, Nadia Marji (KDWPT), Nancy Calhoun, Myron Calhoun, Gary Breckon.

**Welcome & Introductions**

President Mike Haddock welcomed everyone to the board meeting at 12:15.

The group circled the table and performed introductions. There were 18 board members present at the beginning of the meeting, plus nine guests. One board member arrived late.

Phyllis moved to approve the minutes of the July 12, 2014 board meeting. Craig seconded. Motion passed.

**Committee Reports**

**Budget/Finance Report:** Krista reported that we are in good shape. We have just over \$15,500 in available cash and \$22,000 in assets. The Legacy Fund grew 12% in the past 12 months. Merchandise sales coming at AWW will boost funds. Registrations for AWW will also boost income. We will turn over some funds to GPNC for printing of the Flint Hills Wildflower Pocket Guide. Web domain and web hosting fees are higher than expected. Newsletter costs are on track. Website maintenance expenses are a higher than expected, and we will discuss how to budget for anticipated maintenance needs through the end of the calendar year. Anticipated expenses are currently running below what was budgeted, although we still have the remainder of 2014 to go. Craig moved to accept the budget report. Valerie seconded. Report is accepted unanimously.

**Newsletter:** Nancy G. reminded the board that the upcoming issue is when we report about AWW. Nancy passed around a piece of paper to sign up for articles. Deadline for submission of newsletter articles is September 26<sup>th</sup>. Nadia Marji mentioned that interested parties could submit articles to her for inclusion in the KDWPT magazine as well.

**AWW:** Phyllis welcomed everyone to Pratt. She has enjoyed working with KDWPT folks for the outings, use of the college, and the local restaurants. Ag Instructor Dr. Bill Hunter of Pratt Community College is the official sponsor for the meeting. The meeting and conference room cost us nothing for the weekend. Phyllis reported that the bus is in the shop but a van and

minivan is available. Phyllis reviewed the weekend events including contingency plans for inclement weather. She thanked Dr. Chaco from Greenvision and Edward Jones investments for their contributions to the weekend. Phyllis's son and daughter-in-law donated a custom KNPS barn-board plaque which will go in the AWW silent auction. The group agreed it should be donated back to the auction each year as a traveling trophy. Krista discussed the logistics of the Silent Auction and said that there would be a raffle for a copy of Iralee's book Field Guide to the Common Grasses of Oklahoma, Kansas, and Nebraska. Valerie discussed the photo contest which is all digital this year. We had 77 photo submissions with the most in flora and fauna. She will display a slideshow before Saturday's membership meeting.

**Membership Report:** Craig reported a 4% increase in membership since July 10<sup>th</sup>, 2014. We normally see a large number of renewals at the end of the year, so we'll see a jump by the end of this year. Earl stated that he will formally recommend at the winter board meeting that we designate a portion or all lifetime memberships into the Legacy fund instead of the general budget.

**Nominations Committee:** Craig reported on changes to the board, including new members. Anthony Zukoff (Holcomb) and Cynthia Rhodes (Whitewater) will be joining the board as new directors. Craig also recognized June Kliesen, who is leaving the board after serving eight years and working on the newsletter. Nancy Coombs also recently resigned as Secretary after serving for five years. The proposed slate of officers for 2015 are Mick Delfelder as Secretary, Krista Dahlinger continuing as Treasurer, Phyllis Scherich continuing as President Elect, and Mike Haddock continuing as President. The slate of officers submitted by nominations committee was unanimously approved.

**Events Committee:** Shirley thanked Jeff and Ken for making the membership regions so active. Jeff recommended we recognize the region leaders at the membership meeting on Saturday.

**Plant Resources & Sustainability Committee:** A forester at Ft. Leavenworth had contacted Brad about trying to help with a water situation with silt flowing into the rivers; Ken has not seen the request. Ken speculated that Brad will have Wildflower of the Year suggestions ready for the January meeting. Ken will get with Brad to begin a dialog with someone at the state level to see if the state will landscape with native trees instead of non-natives such as the Callery pear, when tax dollars are being spent.

**Public Policy Committee:** Fred was not at the meeting and did not submit a report.

**Publicity & Outreach Committee:** Mike thanked Chelsea for taking over as the chair of this committee. As a possible route of publicity, Nadia asked that we share photos with her from the weekend events. Nancy G. would also like photos for the newsletter, especially if they are

special and ones that 25 other people didn't take. Jeff asked that he be sent photos for the website.

**Website Report:** Jeff distributed a list of items that could be completed in the next couple of months. His estimated 84 hours of work includes AWW updates, weekly maintenance, award updates, and Wildflower of the Year updates. Craig asked for clarification on several of the items.

### **Old Business**

**Web Expenses:** As expected at the summer board meeting, we exhausted our web maintenance budget (\$6,000) in August. Mike stated he has authorized the use of funds for critical work. Jeff has held off on all but the most critical work until the board had a chance to discuss what to do. Jeff estimated 84 hours to would allow him to finish all work for the remainder of 2014. Jeff is also developing a proposed timeline and budget for 2015, which will be presented at the winter board meeting.

A short discussion was held that Jeff should not be preparing most of the content for the website. Content (copy) creation should be the responsibility of the committee or person making the publishing request.

Ken O'Dell offered a motion to amend the budget to allot \$1,600 (80 hours at \$20/hour) from the budget to cover the remainder of the web development for the rest of the year. Krista seconded. After some spirited discussions, Earl offered an amendment to move \$1000 that was budgeted for scholarships but unused this year to the website and then authorize \$600 on top of that. The motion effectively would cap additional web expenditures at \$1600 for FY 2014. The amendment and motion passed unanimously with Jeff abstaining.

Matthew stated he had been on the AWW committee twice and thought it would help if we had a form that outlines the requirements for hosting an AWW. That way, it's in a useful format for Jeff for posting to the website each year.

**Flint Hills Pocket Guide:** Krista reported that a third printing of the Flint Hills Pocket Guide was planned, with 20,000 copies produced in the first two printings. We cannot get any more and the Great Plains Nature Center is in short supply. The guide is a popular handout at our outings. The KNPS board earlier committed \$1000 for the new printing from the general fund. By virtue of a wonderful anonymous donation, we can provide an additional \$1250 to \$1500 in matching funds. A new fish guide will be printed simultaneously (KNPS is not responsible for any of those funds). The GPNC will let Krista know when they need funds, and she will disperse it.

**Hiking liability:** There is no update on this and the topic is tabled until the January meeting.

### **New Business**

Mike suggested that the 2015 Winter Board Meeting be held on January 24 or 31. It was recommended that we check with GPNC since they have hosted us in the past. Krista said she would look into availability.

Mike reported that Manhattan has volunteered to host of the 2015 Annual Wildflower Weekend. He does not have any dates because it will depend on the KSU football schedule. We need to be careful to select a weekend that does not conflict with a home football game. Phyllis asked that we try to avoid the weekend of the Winfield Bluegrass Festival if possible.

### **Announcement**

Nadia Marji stated she handles KDWPT's news releases and events on their website, so she could post KNPS-related events on their site.

The meeting adjourned at 1:55.

Submitted by:  
Mickey Delfelder, Secretary  
October 20, 2014