Welcome & Introductions
Attendees: Earl Allen, Iralee Barnard, Nadine Champlin, Krista Dahlinger, Mick Delfelder, Craig Freeman, Jane Freeman, Brad Guhr, Lorna Harder, Karen Hummel, Brian Martin, Andrew Mitchell, Chad Phillips, Joan Pritchard, Cynthia Rhodes, Dee Scherich, Phyllis Scherich, Paul Showalter

President Phyllis Scherich welcomed everyone to Wilson at 11. She passed a sheet for attendees to sign in and update their email addresses.

Krista talked about Jim Mason’s gracious donation of 80+ native plant books as a fundraiser for KNPS. Krista brought the books with her, giving the board members first crack at purchasing items from the collection. Remaining items will be added to the silent auction at a future Annual Wildflower Weekend.

In regards to the winter board meeting minutes, Nadine asked that I fix the spelling of Brad’s name in one section. Pending that change, Craig moved to accept the minutes, with a second by Mike Haddock.

Budget/Financial Report
Krista presented the budget report. Following today's board meeting, Earl will take over budgeting responsibilities. In short, we have approximately $33,000 available cash on hand, with the Legacy and Bancroft Scholarship Funds containing another $19,500. Our total assets are approximately $52,500.

After looking at the Fall 2014 budget for comparison, Mick asked about the amount of cash on hand and if we should look at investing the cash (rather than leaving it in low interest savings and Paypal). Earl said that he had already been thinking about investing some of the money in CDs. He will take up the issue with the Finance Committee and make a recommendation on laddering CDs at the next board meeting.

Earlier in the year, Krista signed up for the Amazon Smiles program, where a portion of Amazon purchases go to non-profit organizations. That has generated $5.03.

Without diving into the details, Krista reported that all of the organization’s income and expenses are where they should be at this time of the year.

Nadine moved to accept the budget report. Lorna seconded. The report was approved as submitted.
Membership Report
Craig passed around the membership report and began pointing out the highlights. For the most part, we are right where we expect to be this time of year with no major surprises. One positive note is that several members upgraded from Contributing members to Life members.

Craig received an email from the daughter of KNPS founding member Marjorie Neely of Chanute. Marjorie passed away last fall. Craig said that he would send a letter on behalf of the organization to thank her for her mother’s contribution during the organization’s formative years.

2018 Fall Board Meeting and AWW
Prior to the meeting, Krista had emailed a tentative agenda of the Annual Wildflower Weekend to be held Sept. 7-9, 2018 in Wichita. The theme is “Native Plants in Urban Settings.”

Krista reviewed the agenda and asked for a volunteer to give a short presentation on the 40-year history of KNPS. Lorna said she would check with founding member (and former President) Dwight Platt to see if he was interested.

Lorna mentioned that she will be visiting schools and hoped to get teachers involved in the weekend.

Lunch break
The board meeting paused for lunch at 12:05 and resumed at 1:20.

June Kliesen Memorial
Brad has been in touch with June Kliesen’s son and her estate has not yet been settled. Once that is done in the next couple of months, discussions can resume on the family’s request to fund native gardens and pollinator programs through the Dyck Arboretum and KNPS (see KNPS winter board meeting minutes for details).

Website & Events
Krista said that Jay Anderson is doing a great (and frugal) job maintaining the website. If anyone notices broken links or missing content, please notify Krista and Matthew Richter.

Awards
Mike reported that we are not awarding a Mary Bancroft Scholarship in 2018. He moved that we transition $1000 from the general fund into the Mary Bancroft Scholarship Fund as an investment. Karen seconded. All voted in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

Craig mentioned that several of the other annual awards had received nominations and we can expect their announcement at the fall membership meeting.

Public Policy
An update from this committee will be presented at a future board meeting.
Report by Mike Kaye on Weed ID or Mis-ID
Mike Kay will present on this at a future board meeting.

Revisit Diversity, Inclusion & Non-Discrimination Policy
An update on this topic will be provided at a future board meeting.

Education
This committee had no update to provide at this time.

Bundling Dyck Arboretum & KNPS memberships
Lorna, on the board of both Dyck Arboretum and KNPS, reported that Dyck Arboretum is reworking their membership levels. She wanted to discuss the potential of bundling Dyck and KNPS memberships.

The Arboretum recently sold over 12,000 plants at their recent plant sale and she feels that many of the customers could (and should) further their knowledge about native plants and their use. KNPS would be a good organization for them to join to gain that knowledge.

Craig mentioned that he would like to share some information about our membership database with Dyck and that would require board approval. During a discussion with Brad, Krista and Earl, it was suggested that we don’t want to dilute the membership dues of either organization, although they all saw a great potential in Lorna’s suggestion.

Craig said that he would discuss the suggestion with the membership committee and come up with recommendations to present at the next board meeting.

Anyone with additional thoughts can send comments to Lorna and Craig.

Newsletter
Cynthia said that story solicitation for the Summer/July newsletter would begin around June 1. That issue will go to the publisher around July 1 with a goal to be in mailboxes around July 13.

The Fall/October issue will begin around September 1 with delivery around October 15.

Cynthia and Brian would both like to thank the contributors. If you have story ideas and/or photos, please reach out to them.

Plant Resources & Stewardship
Brad announced that Verbena stricta, Wooly vervain or Wooly verbena, has been selected as the 2019 Wildflower of the Year.
In order to give KNPS members time to prepare and take photos for our photo contest, we’ll announce two more years (2020 and 2021) of Wildflowers of the Year at this year’s Annual Wildflower Weekend.

**Kansas Nongame Wildlife Advisory Council**

Although Cynthia had not been able to attend the April 24 Kansas Nongame Wildlife Advisory Council meeting, she had a short update. Dr. Roger Marshall (1st District of Kansas) has signed on as a cosponsor to reauthorize the Land and Water Conservation Fund (H.R.502) which provides much needed funding grants to state and local entities for outdoor recreation projects. He is the first Kansas congressman to do so.

**New Business**

During the lunch break, Krista spread Jim Mason’s donated books on several tables in an adjoining room. She reminded us that they were for sale and she encouraged us to offer a quality price for the books since all funds go into the KNPS general fund.

The meeting adjourned at 1:50.