

**MNPS Board Meeting
Lewis and Clark Library, Helena, MT
October 23, 2010**

Attendees: Susan Winslow, Dave Hanna, Kathy Settevendemie, Kathy Lloyd, Peter Lesica, Joanne Jennings, Beth Madden, Patrick Plantenberg, Caroline Kurtz, Jenny Tollefson, Jennifer Hintz, Bob Person, Judy Hutchins

President's Report – Dave Hanna

Dave welcomed everyone and introductions followed. The spring 2011 Board meeting is scheduled for Saturday, February 26, 2011 in Helena.

Vice President's Report – Dave for Karen Shelly

No update. Karen continues to work on IPAs.

Secretary's Report – Patrick Plantenberg

Patrick circulated the address list for updates. Patrick completed the 2010 Summer Board Meeting minutes and they were accepted without any corrections. No by-law or policy changes were identified. The Board will go over old MNPS records at the next meeting and the Secretary will keep the consolidated records after the scheduled purge.

Treasurer's Report – Jenny Tollefson

Jenny passed out the updated 2010 Budget Summary, the Proposed 2011 Budget, and the Annual Balance Statement as of October 20, 2010. It appears we will have a slight loss in 2010. We have almost \$42,000 in our account and are in good shape. Patrick will send Jenny some new financial instruments that may make more interest than our checking accounts. They are not guaranteed investments like CDs.

The proposed 2011 budget was discussed and revised throughout the meeting. Operating expenses were raised from 0 to \$15. Committee expenses were increased from \$0 to \$100. The publications expenses were increased from \$0 to \$1,000 to cover the cost of the new MNPS brochure printing. The Small Grants Fund was increased from \$2,000 to \$2,500. Chapter Projects were increased from \$500 to \$1,000. Jenny will revise the budget and send corrected versions to the Board.

Jenny will renew our DUNS number if we can find the password. If the number can't be found, we will wait until it is needed again. Dave will check to ensure we get the non-profit "990" form completed for the IRS.

Newsletter Editor Report-Caroline Kurtz

Caroline apologized for the Newsletters being a little late and some of the quality issues especially with photos. The Board would like to see more plant articles, field trip reports, and plant profiles.

Membership Committee Report – Jenny T. and Peter for Cathie Jean

The Board voted to give members the option to pay membership dues electronically using PayPal and to offer an electronic version of the Newsletter. Jenny T. and Bob will coordinate to implement the Membership change. On the registration form the member will request either an electronic or hard copy of the Newsletter and update their e-mail address if they want an electronic copy. Peter will also revise the post card reminder to members to renew their membership to include the electronic option.

As mentioned above, the Newsletter will also be offered electronically. The Newsletter Editor will send the final pdf to the Membership Chair for distribution. The Membership Chair will distribute the electronic Newsletter. The Newsletter Editor would continue to make sure the hard copies are sent to those who request that version with the Membership Chair providing those labels.

Cathie Jean will check on a bulk mailing service and check if the server can do the mailing. Cathie Jean will poll the exchange members to see if they want electronic versions of the Newsletter.

Webmaster's Report – Bob Person

Bob provided another Google analytics report for the website. Bob will include a link on the home page to all Chapter landscaping packets. Judy would like to try Facebook for MNPS.

2011 Annual Meeting Update – Beth Madden for the Maka Flora Chapter

The annual meeting is set for June 17-19 at the very rustic Camp Needmore in the Ekalaka Hills. Beth and Doug have been carrying the load so far. The theme will try to include the name "Needmore". The Chapter will be using PayPal registration. Insurance won't be needed for the facility. The Chapter is considering using Chapter funds to secure a speaker and will provide the Friday dinner. Doug Smith is coordinating the field trips. The Chapter is looking at a \$5,000 budget. They will present all information at the winter meeting. The facility has bunkhouses, camping, and RV hookups. It has a commercial kitchen and a large meeting room. The organizers will secure a microphone for the meetings. The Flathead Chapter has a microphone system and the PowerPoint projector. The Chapter would like someone else to run with the bus or van option to get MNPS members there from long distances.

Ad Hoc Committee Reports

Nominations

The offices of President, Treasurer, and Western Representative at-Large will be up for election. Jenny T. and Judy H. will run again. Dave and Peter will come up with a President.

Awards

Patrick and Joanne will solicit nominations for Awards in the Winter *Kelseya*.

Standing Committee Reports

Small Grants Committee – Dave for Linda Lyon

The Peas project will be extended with an article to be submitted in the Summer *Kelseya*. \$1,000 is left to be paid out for the second half of the two 2010 projects. The 2011 budget will be \$2,000 again plus \$500 left to be paid out for a 2009 project.

Conservation Committee – Peter Lesica

Peter circulated the one letter written by MNPS supporting the listing of Russian olive as a Priority 3 noxious weed which was enacted. There will be no Rare Plant Conference in 2011. The Board agreed with Peter to rotate the Conference between Missoula, Bozeman, and Helena. The 2012 Conference will be on climate change effects and will be in Helena. The Conservation Committee will have a conference call on nominations for Important Plant Areas in February. Some of the potential areas to be listed would be the Bent Flat Fen, Centennial Valley Sandhills, and Lolo Peak. Karen Shelly will also conduct a meeting in November on important plant communities.

Landscape/Revegetation/Publications – Kathy Settevendemie

The MNPS brochures need to be updated. Kathy S. will have a new one designed and printed. The Board reapproved \$1,000 for that printing project in the 2011 budget. Kathy indicated the Source Guide is updated as new information is submitted. The Montana Nursery and Landcape Association publication to promote drought-tolerant and native plants was not reprinted and the budgeted \$500 from last year was not added to the 2011 budget.

Areas-at-Large

Eastern-at-Large – Kathy Lloyd for Wayne Phillips

Dave reported that Wayne will lead one of the Ekalaka field trips next year at the annual meeting.

Western-At-Large – Judy Hutchins

Judy helped Peter organize a 2010 summer field trip in the Cabinet Mountains with Anne Garde. She is working with Peter to do another trip in late May along the Thompson River.

Chapter Reports

Calypso Chapter – Catherine Cain letter

Catherine reported that the Chapter had a program on useful native plants by Linda Lyon. They are looking to produce a 2012 MNPS Calendar. They are

working on a Southwest Montana Native Landscaping Packet to be released in 2012.

Clark Fork Chapter – Peter Lesica

Peter reported the Chapter continues a regular slate of programs. They are also working on the Waterworks Hill Missoula Phlox cushion plant community restoration project.

Flathead Chapter – Jennifer Hintz

The Chapter is very active and has had programs all winter. They have \$430 left to continue planting in the native garden at the Discovery Center. They are updating their local source guide and may be working on an Interpretive Trail as a Memorial to one of their members.

Kelsey Chapter – Kathy Lloyd

Kathy reported that the Chapter has a planning pot luck, a holiday pot luck, some weed pulls, fall and winter programs, and are planning adding photos of the Mount Helena plant collection to the Lewis and Clark Library website.

Maka Flora – Beth Madden

Beth and Doug Smith are busy planning the annual meeting for Ekalaka. Beth reported that Maka Flora had field trips this year and only 1 or 2 people showed up. The Chapter also did a couple of native seed collections for native seeding projects.

Valley of Flowers – Joanne Jennings

The Chapter continues to have programs. Joanne reported that they have picked up some new members from ads in the local papers. The number of students attending programs depends on the program.

Other Business

Dave reported on a request to develop a Missouri River Native Plant Restoration Project adjacent to the Missouri 5-7 miles south of Great Falls on 23 acres of private land. Dave will talk to Wayne. The site has some smooth brome and leafy spurge on it. The site would probably need to be developed by FWP. MNPS may be able to cooperate with FWP on the site.

Wrap Up – Dave Hanna

The Board reviewed and approved all the proposed changes to the budgets and Jenny T. will send out revised copies to all. Dave asked for spring 2011 Board meeting topics. Suggested topics include: IPAs, Chapter Projects, Annual Meeting Updates, and an update on development of electronic newsletter, etc.

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