

**MNPS Board Meeting  
Lewis and Clark Library, Helena, MT  
November 7, 2009**

Attendees: Susan Winslow, Dave Hanna, Karen Shelly, Cathie Jean, Kathy Settevendemie, Peter Lesica, Betty Kuropat, Kelly Upright, Bob Person, Kathy Lloyd

**President's Report – Dave Hanna**

Dave welcomed everyone. The next meeting is scheduled for February 27, 2010, at the Lewis and Clark Library in Helena.

**Vice President's Report – Karen Shelly**

Karen reported that she answers questions from the web site or sends the questions to the appropriate person. There are quite a few questions relating to places to go to see various plants.

**Secretary's Report – Kathy Lloyd for Patrick Plantenberg**

Kathy circulated the address list for updates. Patrick had corrected the 2009 Summer Board Meeting minutes and they were accepted as corrected. Betty for the Flathead Chapter made comments on the proposed policy for dissolution of a chapter. They suggested instead of a registered letter, the membership of the chapter should be contacted. They also wondered if the requirements for a chapter were too strict, but the board didn't think they were. The board agreed to changes to the proposed policy for dissolution of a chapter. Kathy will update it and send it to Patrick and Dave.

**Treasurer's Report – Dave Hanna for Marlene Renwyck**

Dave passed out the proposed 2009 Budget Summary, the proposed 2010 Budget Summary, and the Annual Balance Statement as of 10/11/09 as prepared by Marlene. We ended the year in the black due to the successful annual meeting the Flathead Chapter hosted. Cathie Jean needs our account number to deposit membership checks. Dave will contact Marlene and get the account number to Peter Lesica and Cathie. The cost of Microsoft Access and a lazer printer to print *Kelseya* labels will be added in the membership column for 2010. Bob will check to see if our domain name will be an expense for the coming year. We have approximately \$43,000 in our account and are in good shape. Betty mentioned she had *High and Dry* books that people could take to sell. They will sell for \$25 with the money to go to the state. The board decided to allocate \$2,000 to the Small Grant committee for the coming grant cycle, and to put in \$500 for potential chapter projects. The board also decided to put the Friends of Echinacea funds into the general fund.

**Membership Committee Report – Cathie Jean**

Cathie is getting a handle on the membership database and is processing memberships. She will honor any chapter's request for membership data and

will send memberships lists to the chapters before each board meeting. The board discussed the proposed policy for cancelling memberships due to non-payment of dues. Peter said membership renewal cards are sent to the membership in January and another card is sent in March to those who have not renewed. He said some people go a whole year and pay after their next renewal card in the following January. Cathie said she would like to increase our membership base. The board refined the policy and Kathy will send it to Patrick and Dave. It was decided that members who have not paid their dues will receive the spring issue of the *Kelseya* and the field trip booklet, and will then be removed from the *Kelseya* mailing list. Cathie will work on a customized mailing label for the spring issue for those who haven't renewed saying something like "Last Issue – Please Renew". Chapter presidents can sort the membership spreadsheet to see who hasn't renewed and make a personal contact. Susan suggested posting a list at the annual meeting of those who have not yet renewed their membership. Peter reported that Dennis Nicholls' mother had sent a thank you note to Wayne Phillips and a check to the Society for \$200. The board will ask Patrick to send her a thank you note. Cathie reported that we have 646 current members, not counting exchanges. 97 expired in 2009. Calypso has 47, Clark Fork 177, Kelseya 102, Maka Flora 26, Valley of Flowers 90, the State 46, Eastern 51, and Western 17.

#### **Newsletter Report – Peter Lesica for Caroline Kurtz**

Peter raised the issue of the "change service requested" forms the Post Office delivers for a fee after each issue of the *Kelseya*. These are the address changes that the Post Office has on file. It was decided to change the return address on the *Kelseya* to Cathie Jean's address and to change the address in the "Moving? Please let us know" box to Cathie's as well. Peter will let Caroline know about these changes. Peter reported that Caroline is considering a different printer for the *Kelseya* and had received several bids from printers in Missoula. The board was open to the prospect of changing printers but requested a more complete assessment of the cost involved, including mailing charges. The board would also like to continue to use recycled paper for the *Kelseya*. Peter made a list for Caroline of how many newsletters each person wanted. Cathie Jean is keeping an e-mail list in the event we want to send the *Kelseya* electronically at some point.

#### **Webmaster's Report – Bob Person**

Bob reported that the site is going well and requested involvement from the membership in terms of ideas and pictures. Bob suggested the chapters could post plant lists from popular hikes in their areas, neat places to go to see plants, etc. He plans to add a "what's new" box and additional links to other sites. Information about pollinators is a hot topic right now. The board discussed PayPal use for memberships, the Plant Conservation Conference, and annual meeting registration. Linda Lyon's husband is looking into it for the 2010 annual meeting. Bob described how the process works and explained that we would use forms that people would fill out online. Dave said there is a 2.2% fee for

using PayPal. Bob said he could work with Linda's husband and Dave recommended using the annual meeting as a test case for PayPal. Kathy Lloyd will send the new policies to Bob to post on the site.

### **2010 Annual Meeting Update – Kelly Upright for the Calypso Chapter**

The annual meeting is set for July 16-18 at Birch Creek. There are 112 beds available, including 30 at the Bender Center. There are showers and cell service. The nearby Aspen Campground has been reserved for the overflow. The chapter is working on electronic registration. Friday night campfire will feature Lee Harvey talking about the Columbus Tree, and on Saturday Andrea Stierle will talk about ethnobotany. Field trips include Vipond Park, the fens at Agnes Lake, Signal Mt., Granite Peak, and on Sunday the Silverstar area and the Big Hole Battlefield. Some sort of service project is planned as one of the field trips. The chapter plans to sell long and short sleeved t-shirts, bandanas, plant journal cases, and bags. They are still working on a calendar for 2011 to sell at the meeting.

### **Ad Hoc Committee Reports**

#### **Nominations**

The elections will be for Vice President, Secretary, and Eastern Representative at-Large. Susan and Kathy Lloyd volunteered to serve on the committee. They will contact potential candidates and be sure a short bio is sent to Caroline and Patrick to be included on the ballot.

#### **Awards**

Peter and Linda Iverson will serve on the committee.

### **Standing Committee Reports**

#### **Small Grants Committee – Kelly Upright for Linda Lyons**

Kelly said Linda has already received one proposal. Cathie reported that last year's winner, Tracy Dougher and Casey Delphia's project called "Backyard Conservation: evaluation of Montana native perennials for water savings and pollinator attraction" has done some planting and is still going ahead with the project after some setbacks.

#### **Conservation Committee – Peter Lesica**

Peter reported that the Plant Conservation Conference is set for February 9-10, 2010, in Missoula. The first day will have a morning symposium on using databases for conservation. It will include presentations on Invaders (the weed database), Tracker (the Montana Natural Heirtage Program database), and the University of Montana's herbarium database. Attendees will be able to go to break-out rooms with their laptops to try the various databases. The afternoon will feature five researchers speaking about using herbicides to manage weeds in wildlands, followed by a panel discussion. The second day of the conference the

group will go through the Natural Heritage Program's list of Species of Special Concern (SOC) and threats rankings to update them; then will talk about the Important Plant Areas (IPA) guidelines. The IPA committee will review any nominations. Prior to the conference Karen will go over the community part of the process to gather existing data on important plant communities, such as community data from the Heritage Program, and will overlay historic data. Jane Horton is working with Karen to develop maps of IPA locations. Several maps will be presented at the conference as examples. Peter said the registration form for the conference will be inserted into the winter issue of the *Kelsey* and will be e-mailed to former attendees. Cathie volunteered to look over the e-mail list to see if it is current. Registration for the conference is \$25, \$20 for MNPS members, and \$5 for students. It will cost approximately \$1,000 to rent facilities at the U of M. NRCS will print the proceedings. Lunch is "on your own" for the conference and people are encouraged to take the "Park and Ride" or walk to campus.

### **Landscape/Revegetation/Publications – Kathy Settevendemie**

Kathy indicated she is working on the Source Guide update and revisions are due by November 15. The Montana Nursery and Landcape Association has a grant from the Department of Agriculture to promote drought-tolerant and native plants. They will print 1000 copies of the Source Guide to include with a document they are preparing for the Montana Green Expo, January 6-8 in Missoula. MNPS will have a table at the event. Kathy is looking for volunteers to help at the table during the Expo. The Source Guide will also be posted on our web site and any extra hard copies will be distributed. Betty has our membership brochure CD in Publisher. It needs to be updated and converted to PDF. Cathie Jean will do that and e-mail it to the board. Cathie will also get some prices on reprinting the brochure.

### **Montana Outdoor Education Center – Dave Hanna**

Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks is creating the Montana Outdoor Education Center at Spring Meadow Lake near Helena. Demonstration gardens are part of the project. Chris Smith is the FWP contact. Dave wondered if MNPS wanted to be involved in some way. Bob Person said they might be looking for letters of support and later for technical advice. Kathy S. said she would write a letter from the Landscape Committee and Kathy L. will write one from the Kelsey Chapter. It was suggested Chris Smith present a program for Kelsey Chapter.

## **Chapter Reports**

### **Calypso Chapter – Kelly Upright**

The chapter is hard at work on the annual meeting.

### **Clark Fork Chapter – Peter Lesica**

The chapter is planning a regular slate of programs. Scott Mincemoyer and Peter Stickney will be giving herbarium night sessions.

**Flathead Chapter – Betty Kuropat**

The Chapter has programs lined up for fall and winter, including a holiday party at Betty's home. The garden at Discovery Square is going well. The chapter donated money for plants and didn't use all the money the state allocated for the project. They plan to finish planting next spring.

**Kelsey Chapter – Kathy Lloyd**

Kathy reported that the chapter is getting programs scheduled for fall and winter. She couldn't find anyone to do a hands-on learning session. There is a holiday party scheduled at Bob and Toni Person's home.

**Maka Flora**

No report. Dave said Beth Madden is in Bozeman for the winter.

**Valley of Flowers – Cathie Jean**

The Chapter has programs scheduled. Cathie said Joanne Jennings and Robyn Klein seem to get things going even if there is no official president. They have a new treasurer.

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