

**MNPS Board Meeting
Lewis and Clark Library, Helena, MT
November 5, 2011**

Attendees: Dave Hanna, Kathy Lloyd, Peter Lesica, Beth Madden, Patrick Plantenberg, Caroline Kurtz, Jenny Tollefson, Jennifer Hintz, Bob Person, H. Wayne Phillips, Judy Hutchins, Kathy Settevendemie, and Karen Shelly

President's Report – Dave Hanna

Dave welcomed everyone and introductions followed. The Spring 2011 Board meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 16, 2012 from 3:30 -8:00 pm after the Conservation Conference. Kathy Lloyd will check on availability of the Conservation Conference facility.

Vice President's Report – Karen Shelly

Karen will discuss the IPA Program later in the agenda.

Secretary's Report – Patrick Plantenberg

Patrick circulated the address list for updates. The Board discussed the 2011 Summer Board Meeting minutes and approved the revised edition. Patrick will prepare a summer general membership meeting notes for Board approval. No By-laws or policy changes were identified. Record retention time was discussed at the meeting. Dave prepared a summary of a draft schedule. It will be reviewed by the Board and discussed at the next meeting.

Treasurer's Report – Jenny Tollefson

Jenny passed out the MNPS 2011 Budget Summary, the proposed MNPS 2012 Budget Summary, and the Annual Balance Statement as of 11/1/2011. It appears 2011 is going to be very similar to 2010. We have \$42,000 in our accounts and are in good shape. Several changes were discussed over the course of the meeting and approved later in the meeting. Jenny will send out corrected e-mail copies. Peter said the Clark Fork Chapter will cover the 2012 Annual Meeting expenses out of the chapter budget. Jenny is tracking PayPal expenses. It appears there are minimal problems and expenses associated with using the service. Chapters must report yearly income and expenses minus membership money and any chapter grants received from the State MNPS. The reports are due by January 31st. These Chapter assets will be included in our IRS reporting. Jenny will send out an e-mail to Chapters.

Newsletter Editor Report-Caroline Kurtz

Articles are due by December 10. Caroline needs more articles. The Board discussed the many ways she could get more articles, book reviews, etc. Bob is making PDFs out of past copies of the Kelsey to archive for the website.

Membership Committee Report – Patrick Plantenberg for Cathie Jean

MNPS has 520 membership households and 161 of those are getting electronic copies of the Newsletter. This is about 31% of the membership. 86 used PayPal to pay for membership. Cathie prepared a table of membership over time. She is missing some data. Patrick will search the records to try and fill in some blanks. Peter suggested that Cathie report the membership in this table not using family members as it was done before 2009. A line item for investing in a WEB based membership database in 2012. Bob will get a cost estimate by February.

Webmaster's Report – Bob Person

Everything is going fine.

2012 Annual Meeting Update – Peter Lesica for the Clark Fork Chapter

The meeting will be at the Lubrecht Forest from June 29-July 1, 2012. Beth passed the notebook Tupperware package to Peter. Linda Lyon has the CD and Beth will get it to Peter. Line items were added to the budget for income and expenses which will be revised in February when they come in with proposed schedules, costs, registration form, etc. .

Community IPA discussion- Patrick facilitated.

Dave gave a summary of where we are in the process and his view on what needed to be done. Patrick summarized past Board meeting minutes about the IPA process. The Board discussed the e-mails sent out by Peter Lesica, Karen Shelly, and Steve Shelly about how to deal with the community based IPAs. Many topics were discussed including the Criteria (A, B, and C) being used for species-based and community-based IPAs. This is a MNPS program. The Board concluded that plant communities are important in the MNPS mission. After an hour of discussion it was concluded that we needed to vote on competing motions concerning keeping the IPA program in one program using both species- and community-based areas or splitting the program into two separate programs with species-based areas in one and community-based areas. After lunch Wayne presented an argument for a program keeping the IPA program intact and Patrick presented the other motion separating the species-based from the community-based program.

The two competing motions voted on were as follows:

Option1: One Program (IPA A, B, and C criteria used)

- Combine criteria, use existing process or modify as needed**
- Have one review committee; expand review committee to include community experts**
- Present to Board**
- Focus on Criteria A and B; Criteria B is not priority at this time.**

Option2: Separate Programs (IPA: Criteria A and C for one program; New program for Criteria B)

-Community committee finish developing vision, Criteria B, nomination process, review committee composition, and present to Board for approval.

-This could use the existing IPA program as model or could be something different

-Need to distinguish community program from existing IPA program (community program should have different name)

-Community committee will communicate with existing IPA review committee to ensure the two programs are complementary and not in conflict.

For both motions: MNPS encourages and supports the scientists in the plant community committee to continue efforts in community classification and development of criteria for nominating community areas.

Thirteen Board members were present which are more than the minimum needed for a quorum. The vote was eight in favor of motion 2 and five voted for motion 1. Option 2 is the guidance the board provides for the Community Committee.

Ad Hoc Committee Reports

Nominations

The offices of Vice-President, Secretary, and Eastern Representative at-Large are up for election. Dave Hanna and Jenny Tollefson will be the nominating committee.

Awards

Peter and Madeline Mazurski will coordinate the awards committee. Some suggested awards have already been discussed by the Clark Fork Chapter.

Standing Committee Reports

Small Grants Committee – Dave Hanna for Linda Lyon

Linda was snowed in and sent an e-mail report to Dave. The proposed deadline for submissions is February 14, 2012. This will make it hard to discuss by the time of the next Board Meeting. The Board decided to review the recommendations of the committee by e-mail.

Conservation Committee – Peter Lesica

The new facility in Helena for the Plant Conservation Conference will be free. The 2012 Rare Plant Conference will be on climate change effects and will be in Helena on February 15 and 16. The morning session will be on effects. The afternoon session will be on strategizing for mitigating effects. The second day will include threat assessment and IPAs similar to the last conference. The committee will be sending out e-mails to past attendees.

Landscape/Revegetation/Publications – Kathy Settevendemie

New MNPS brochures were passed out. Kathy discussed the potential of a native garden contest. Several other ideas were also discussed such as a photo contest.

Areas-at-Large

Eastern-at-Large – Wayne Phillips

Wayne's field trip on the Bill Milton Ranch near Roundup after the annual meeting was successful. He is considering a trip in the Lewistown area. Fort Benton was also discussed.

Western-At-Large – Judy Hutchins

Judy and Peter are considering another trip in May 2012. They had a good trip last spring.

Chapter Reports

Calypso Chapter – Dave for Linda Lyon

Linda sent Dave an e-mail listing the many activities they have planned. The Chapter is very active.

Clark Fork Chapter – Peter Lesica

Anne Garde and Madeline Mazurski are co-presidents. As usual, the Chapter has many activities.

Flathead Chapter – Jennifer Hintz

Jennifer reported on the very active Chapter.

Kelsey Chapter – Kathy Lloyd

Kathy reported on the activities of the Kelsey Chapter. They are beginning the search for the location for the 2013 annual meeting.

Maka Flora – Beth Madden

The Chapter is resting after the annual meeting. They made \$1,758. Beth brought the leftover merchandise and the Board set prices. Judy will fund the purchase for printing some more notecards before Christmas.

Valley of Flowers – Joanne Jennings absent

Other Business

Peter gave an update on the new Flora of Montana.

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.

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