

Minutes of March 29, 2016 Board Meeting

Attended: Joel Dunnette, Barb Nigon, Sharon Kaufman, Chuck Kernler, Dawn Littleton, Ryan Kemmerick, Susan Powers, Mark Stopyro, Jeff Summerfield, Ruthann Yaeger
Absent: Don Nelson Guests: Patty Kemmerick, Brian Littleton

Agenda Items:

- 1) Meeting called to order by Barb after delicious meal courtesy of Barb.
- 2) Introduction round robin of board members and guests
- 3) Treasurer's report: Chuck presented the report including items he got from our former Treasurer, Dave Edwards. PS has \$10,803.73 in bank now. Dave mailed PO Box key as well. After some hassle, bank accts are all signed over to Barb and Chuck. IRS 990E form will be used. Chuck will create a Treasurer's report format.

Motion: After report format is ready, a yearly budget will be made. Passed unanimously. Earmarked accounts will be kept separately for supporting large prairie projects in collaboration with other organizations.

- 4) Chuck requested help with disorganized membership list. Ruthann will help format list.

Old Business

- 1) Future activities - Joel contacted MN Land Trust (helps landowners create Conservation easements). Working through MLT, we can contact landowners re: site visits, management plans, etc. He outlined priorities for who needs the most help - remnants 1st, restorations, etc. Jaimie is willing to help with this. Includes being a resource for landowners to get more help with their plantings. Even non-expert members can help. Joel can create a kind of assessment sheet others can use to help landowners decide the value of what they have.
- 2) Need attractive, professional brochure that shows what we can do before contacting others. Need graphics person to help make good handouts and classy website. Sharon can help with this. Brian mentioned a program called Weebly that automatically formats for PCs, tablets, phones, etc.
- 3) Education and Interpretation - field trips, talks, etc. Long discussion followed. All agree we need to work on development of outreach.
Task list:
 - Brochure - Ryan, Ruthann, Dawn (advisor - Joel)
 - Education/Outreach - Jeff, Dawn, Joel
 - Site visit training - Jaime, Joel, Mark
 - Website - After more materials, pics, gathered: Sharon, Mike Kvitrud
- 4) Summer programs - Barb
 - Barb is contacting Spring Grove Shooting Star native plant nursery for a tour in August. Possible side trip at Barb's cabin and tour their prairies.
 - Hayden Prairie in Iowa - Joel leading Audubon trip there May 31st.
 - Weaver Dunes prairie tour to talk about restoration efforts there.
 - Assisi Heights prairie restoration tour? Check their program list
 - Fall picnic - at Jeff's place. Jeff will arrange this. Possible bonfire?
 - Rain gardens in Winona and Whitewater MA rain gardens and permaculture
 - Gruchow prairie revisit?

Barb will mail out list of programs to members when list dates have been set.

- 5) Outreach at local events - Earthfest, OC Fair, RochesterFest and Family Day, etc. Barb has PS display for events.
- 6) Use program list and info as a newsletter and sent out to members.
- 7) Equipment for burns is checked by Walt. New pump was purchased for burn wagon. All equipment has been transferred to Walt.

New Business

- 1) Susan was contacted by Green Burials organization to have a booth at Earthfest. Board agreed that lack of handouts and poor attendance last year, made it not worth the money.

Meeting adjourned.

Next meeting 6 pm Wed, May 18, 2016 at Barbs

R. Yaeger, sec'ty