

WNPS South Sound Board Meeting
Sunday, November 22, 2015
Brookreson House, 702 Columbia Ave, Fircrest

The meeting was called to order at 1:30 by Bill Brookreson. Board members present were Bill Brookreson, Jane Ely, Cyndy Dillon, Lee Fellenberg, Jane Ostericher, John Neorr, and Sharon Bergquist-Moody. Jim Evans, guest, was also in attendance.

Minutes of Previous Meeting: Minutes of the August 8, 2015 meeting were approved. The minutes of the 8/8/15 meeting stated that the meeting would occur Nov. 19th. This was incorrect as it was scheduled for 11/22/15. All board members were sent the minutes via email for viewing prior to the meeting.

Election Results: Bill thanked all board members for continuing to serve.

Committee Reports

Written reports were submitted via email in addition to the following discussion.

Chair's report / State Board: Bill gave a brief year in review following his written report noting the many activities and great participation. Lee Ellis donated her time for the Moss workshop where 12 attended. It was agreed that we should have more such workshops maybe on ferns and lichens. Bill will pursue this.

At the State level there was discussion of improving insurance for activities statewide such as hikes, restorations, and meetings. There was a reminder to all who lead such activities that waivers for underage students must be signed by parents or guardians. There was also suggestion made that individual chapters sponsor students for the yearly study weekend. The state board will continue these discussions. Another reminder to chapters: There is a \$500 limit on speakers or expenditures unless the president of the state board has signed off.

Treasurer: Jane E. submitted reports and gave copies to board members. We are under budget with grants and education. (see below for addition to the minutes regarding budget approval)

Grants: John shared a picture of a bench we funded at Kitsap Co. Fairgrounds native garden. He also shared copies of the Purdy Playground Field Guide that was a result of their grant. John will bring these items to our next membership meeting for folks to see what their dollars are accomplishing. There was discussion about an East Tacoma school that needs program funding greater than \$500. We want to support this project and the Education Committee can help them figure out alternatives to save money and still be successful.

Spring Plant Sale: Bill shared that Camas bulbs were potted at Montague's barn in Olympia. Other bulb species will also be planted. Bill will pot up bare root plants when they become available. Setup for the spring plant sale will be April 22nd and the sale will occur Saturday the 23rd at the Capital Museum Coach House in Olympia.

Education: Jane shared that a multidisciplinary curriculum with a small plant component is being developed by Boze Elementary, a Tacoma public school, in conjunction with the Technology Access Foundation. It is to be used by elementary students. Jane is acting as a contact and has led them to submit a grant to our chapter. This connection may have happened at the State Fair. We agreed that in some instances we may purchase items rather than give money, such as the carts that are being requested for the Boze School grant and the Pojar books that were purchased for the Purdy Elementary project.

Regarding books that we purchase for projects: Lee suggested that labels saying *Donated by NPSSSC* be placed inside the books, and all agreed. The question was asked if the **Douglasia** is sent to libraries statewide. It was at one time and the state board has discussed doing this again.

We are encouraged to give Jane suggestions for the 10 min. education part of our monthly meetings.

Volunteers: Cyndy reported that we were not represented at the Do it Yourself Nov. 7th event nor at the Go Green Aug. 29th event that was cancelled due to bad weather; these were listed as projected events at our last board meeting.

Cyndy will ask for volunteers to help at the Northwest Flower and Garden Show NPS booth Feb. 17-21st.

Hikes: Thank you to Cyndy for the great work with hikes and volunteering. Meet Up seems to be working as far as getting participants.

NPS Stewardship Training Program Update

Jim Evans- contact for Jim 206-678-8914 jimevans@centurytel.net

Jim wants to coordinate the program for the spring of 2016 to be held at the Snake Lake site. The program could be run with a low budget because his salary is already covered by the bequest. The South Sound pilot program would be a shorter version of trainings: A 6-week program, 1 night a week, 2 ½ hours long, with 3 Saturday field trips. A modular training format will be used which means the curriculum will probably not cover all habitat plants but be specific to the area where the training is occurring. The Wenatchee pilot program will start in the fall. Results of these two pilots can be used as marketing for grant writing for future trainings. Meet Up could be used to announce the trainings. One option is for some of the training to be web-based. Commitment to the stewardship training is in the form of payback plus becoming a member of NPS. The payback is yet to be determined. The hope is to have 25 folks sign up for each training.

John prefers a model of giving more certification at each level of training instead of all or nothing. The question was posed about folks who have transferrable credit say from college classes or expertise of prior work history.

Chapter Meeting Program Speakers and other Special Programs

There was a motion and approval for discussion about helping with the cost of bringing the author of Bringing Nature Home to the Elizabeth C. Miller lecture series at UW. We gave John approval to pursue the idea.

John reported that 2,300 flyers and 50 membership forms were given out at the Fair. Approximately 5000 contacts were made.

Evergreen scholarship: John has shared via email over the past few months regarding a student grant to be given out by Evergreen on behalf of the NPSSSC. Jane E. made a motion, Lee seconded, and we so moved to go ahead with a \$500 grant for an Evergreen student to be awarded in the fall of 2016. There is no administrative cost from the college. The hope will be that this can be a yearly grant from the SSC. There will be more discussion at the next meeting. John will keep in touch with board members via email as the process goes forward.

Other Business: None

Adjourned: At 3:50

Additions: Via email November 24, 2015, the budget for 2016 was approved by board members at the same level as 2015 with the addition of \$500 for Special Programs.

Next board meeting will be Sunday, March 20, 2016 at Bill's home.

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon Bergquist-Moody