

## **WNPSSSC Executive Board Meeting Minutes**

Sunday, March 22, 2015 2:45 - 4:45 pm

702 Columbia Ave, Fircrest, WA 98466

The meeting was called to order at 2:45 by Bill Brookreson.

**Attendees:** Board members Bonnie Blessing-Earle, Bill Brookreson, Jane Ely, Cyndy Dillon, Sharon Bergquist-Moody, John Neorr, and guest presenter Sara Zerkel

**Agenda approval:** no additions

**Minutes of previous meeting on Nov. 23, 2014:** approved

1. **Presentation of the Ethnobotanical Garden at Tumwater Falls Park:** Sarah Zerkel, volunteer at Tumwater Falls Park shared with us her desire to partner with the SSC to monitor the Ethnobotanical Garden and possibly have docents from the chapter at park events and school visits. John Freedman, Executive Director of the Foundation, is also supportive of this possible partnership. The garden is in good shape but needs to be trimmed and cleaned up several times a year. Sarah has developed a plant list of the Wildflower Garden and the Ethnobotanical Garden, including Salish, Latin, and English names on the plant labels. She also has a map carefully showing locations of all the plants by name. The Tribe was consulted in developing the garden. This will be presented to the membership as a volunteer opportunity if we choose to move forward with such a partnership.

2. **Plant Sale Update** Bill Brookreson & Bonnie Blessing-Earle submitted a written report 4<sup>th</sup> Corner in Bellingham will be a vendor if we can get a pick up, they have flowering, eye-catching plants.

There will be a big delivery on Thurs. the 16<sup>th</sup> so we will need volunteers to help unload and store them behind the Coach House. Because of a previously scheduled event we cannot begin set-up on Thurs. Bonnie will let volunteers know of the timing.

Bill shared a tentative plant list.

John requested help with a special order for someone.

Friday afternoon we will need volunteers to label and price.

Bill is going to meet with Shirley at Tadpole Haven to label and price ahead of time.

3. **Fall activity** John submitted a written report

**Andy Mackinnon co-author of Plants of the Pacific Northwest Coast- Sept. 30**

It was suggested that we invite the Olympic and Vancouver Chapters to the speaker part of the evening and that we keep the dinner/picnic at the same venue as the speaker. Two other possible venues to look into would be the community centers in Dupont or Steilacoom since it is desired that it be half-way between Tacoma and Olympia.

A motion was made and seconded to give John board approval to spend \$2000 for this event. Jane was directed to add this to the budget under the category of Special Programs.

4. **Financial Report** Jane Ely submitted a written report

Lee was reimbursed in Jan. of 2015 for 2014 newsletter website costs. Because of this Jane noted that it appears we didn't spend anything for 2014.

Budget addition: Add category of Special Programs \$2000 for McKinnon presentation

Calendars: \$10 of income \$7 of expense to NPS for each calendar, not clear on report but it does work out after a bill is received and paid to NPS. We make \$3 per calendar.

5. **Grant Updates** John Neorr submitted a written report

John is asking for suggestions on how to improve the process.

It was explained that typically half of the grant money is given before the project completion and the remainder upon completion. In some cases the grant amount is given up-front of the project.

6. **Washington State Fair** John Neorr submitted a written report

Set up will be Sept 9 or 10, the Fair dates are Sept 11-27. Byrna is helping with displays and Cyndy is recruiting the numerous volunteers it takes to make this event happen.

7. **Education Committee** Jane Ostericher submitted a written report

Tacoma Com. College wants to partner with Audubon and SPC-Native Plant Society to present and go on a plant hike. Frank Knight is the contact and more information is to come.

It is to be noted that the Grant to the school in Purdy is a direct result of Jane O's outreach.

Bill took the requested books, purchased by the chapter, to the school in Gig Harbor.

Washington is Under Attack, by Wash. State Dept. of Agriculture will be added to the education boxes that Jane has been working on. Bill could only get a few copies at this time but he will try for more. Teachers can make copies of pages from the booklet as needed.

8. **Hikes and Volunteer activity** Cyndy Dillon submitted a written report

A regular group is now showing up at Tacoma Nature Center for restoration activities.

John requested information regarding restoration projects and dates so he can post them on the **Meet Up** site.

Cyndy will add a hike to Hanson Family Farms, Chehalis. Bill will work on this with the owner, Bob.

Cyndy is continuing to find and communicate with volunteers for the April Plant Sale.

9. **Newsletter** Bill Brookreson gave an oral report

Bill is working on the first draft of the next edition to be sent out on line.

10. **Other new business:**

The Coach House as a venue for future meetings and plant sales is still up in the air. No new info. Bill will let us know when he hears anything.

**Shorebird Festival**, Bonnie and Chris will do a half day Sat., May 2<sup>nd</sup>, and Helen, a member in Grays Harbor, might be able to help. Bill will pick things up on Sun. unless Helen can do that. If we can get members to help, the board approves of this activity.

**Additions:**

1. **Clarification of T. F. Park presentation:** There was no specific action to be taken vis-a-vis the Tumwater Falls Park demo garden. However, in an informal manner we are going to look for opportunities to work together, leveraging each organization's resources.

**2. Clarification regarding calendar sales:** For every NPS calendar we sell (at \$10) we pay the state NPS \$7, thus making a 3 dollar profit. We return unsold calendars. In other words, we do not pay for the calendars up-front. This means that our calendar income is always divisible by 10 and our calendar expense is always divisible by 7. Bill said we have sold a total of 58 calendars. A few calendars were kept for handing out as prizes and at the end of the sales period extras have also been given out at the State Fair.

Bill currently handles obtaining the new calendars in Seattle. He collects calendar money as they are sold throughout the year and gives the Treasurer the cash/checks to deposit. Then the Treasurer receives the bill from state WNPS after the calendars are returned.

**3. Calendar billing:** March 25, 2015 Jane received a bill of \$406, from Elizabeth (state WNPS), for 58 calendars.

**4. Clarification of MacKinnon talk:** Our first fall event will be the MacKinnon talk on Sept 30<sup>th</sup>. Our October chapter meetings will be scheduled as usual - Oct 12th in Oly and Oct 14<sup>th</sup> in Tacoma. We will have some kind of banquet on the 30th immediately preceding Andy's talk at the same venue as the talk. Keep in mind this is scheduled pretty far out, so things can change. The only single thing nailed down for sure is that Andy will be speaking at 7PM on Sept 30th and the Oct meetings will take place on their regularly scheduled dates.

Next board meeting will be August 9<sup>th</sup> at Bill's home. *Bill will check on everyone's availability.*

Adjourned 4:45

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon Bergquist-Moody