

WNPS SSC Board Meeting
Sunday, August 13, 1-3:30 pm
Sue Butkus' House

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 by Bill Brookreson. Board members present were Bill Brookreson, Cyndy Dillon, Lee Fellenberg, Jane Ostericher, Sue Butkus, Gail Trotter, Sharon Bergquist-Moody, and guest chapter member Allan Borden.

Review of Minutes from March 12, 2017:

The minutes were approved via email within 10 days after the March 12th meeting. No additions or changes were made at this meeting regarding the March 12th minutes.

Reports:

Treasurer's Report: Jane Ely was unable to attend the meeting but she sent a full report.

No changes are anticipated regarding the Native Plant Weekend 2018 costs. It will show in next year's budget.

Lee stated that the 2-year cycle costs for maintaining the website will be submitted at the end of this year.

The treasurer's report was approved.

Programs Update: Sue Butkus submitted a written report.

There are a couple of issues with the fall presentation schedule:

Jack Nesbit is holding Wednesday January 10 for two talks, one on David Douglas at noon in conjunction with Evergreen classes and one talk on his latest book in the evening in Tacoma. The cost for the two talks will be \$1,000, plus two overnights, and travel expenses. Evergreen can only come up with about \$250 in support of this talk. Bill offered to talk to Frederica Bowcutt. There was discussion about travel in January being a bit unreliable and perhaps a better time for him to speak might be spring.

Linda Danner, author of the book Crown Jewel Wilderness is "on hold" for the January 8th meeting in Olympia.

The second issue is that the October 9 presentation in Olympia is an open slot. Bill suggested that Carlo Abbruzzese from WA DNR might be a possibility or someone from the Chehalis Basin Land Trust. Another suggestion is to have the Nisqually Land Trust talk about the new Community Forest and carbon sequestration that was done with Microsoft. Bill wants to complete the newsletter within 10 days so speakers need to be confirmed as soon as possible.

Addition to the minutes from Sue Butkus:

Follow-up note 8-20-17: Jack Nesbit will not be speaking to our groups in January 2018 as he only travels when he can do more than one talk at a time. He suggested that a better time for a presentation to the Native Plant group might be fall 2018 to coincide with the release of his new book. Bill Brookreson and Sue Butkus agreed that that would be a better time and we could recruit other organizations to join us. The October 9 presentation in Olympia will be made by representatives of the Chehalis River Basin Land Trust.

Volunteer Update: Gail Trotter submitted her report at the meeting.

10 people have signed up to volunteer at the fair. A suggestion for Gail was to send out a calendar so people can see open times. The upcoming picnic would also be a good time to show this calendar. Salmon Homecoming is soon, at the hatchery in Puyallup, Saturday, Oct. 7; Gail will send out a request for volunteers.

Bill will put the volunteer opportunities in the coming monthly updates. Another idea is to ask people who live close to table an event.

The supplies for tabling are at the Tacoma Nature Center and people can coordinate with Cyndy to get things before the events. Bill may keep the display boards at his house just for convenience of pick-up.

If some event comes up at the last minute Bill will let Gail know.

Gail will start an effort to get volunteers for the October 27th native plant sale. Cyndy will send Gail a list of names just for the sale.

Lee would like Cyndy to send an "interested list" from meetings and events ASAP so he can include names on the electronic list.

Hike Update: Cyndy Dillon submitted a written report of hikes that have happened and planned hikes.

Cyndy will lead a hike around the Dupont picnic area prior to the actual picnic.

Audubon would like a combined hike with us and Cyndy is working on this.

Cyndy welcomes more hike suggestions.

WA State Fair: John Neorr was not at the meeting but he submitted a written report.

Bill will get some plants from the Eatonville Nursery for the fair that can be sold at the sale in Oct. John, Bill, Byrna, and Cyndy will help set up the booth at the fair. Byrna will duplicate copies of new plant lists. We will try out the new racks for printed material display.

10 days prior to the fair John gets the tickets and then Gail can mail them out.

Grant Update: John Neorr submitted a written report.

Gail will visit the project at the DOT property near Griffin School on Steamboat Island Road but she needs an address from John. The students at the school are involved with the oak scrub habitat cleanup assisted by the chapter grant, as reported by John.

Education Update: Jane Ostericher submitted a written report.

Evergreen elementary school is developing an outdoor classroom. Jane will provide them our education resource box. Bill has extra Native Plant posters that would be available for the school's use.

Jane coordinates with schools as a resource of information about Native Plants. We have two kits K-6 and 7-12, also information on line. Jane often points teachers in the right direction for information.

Jane stated that 5-minute presentations should be included in the WNPSSS monthly meetings prior to the scheduled talks at the Olympia and Tacoma meetings. Jane was asked to present the education kits at one of these 5 minute segments so members can know what is happening with outreach to the schools.

Election Update: Cyndy Dillon stated that Allan Borden said that he would run for secretary because Sharon Bergquist-Moody is stepping down. All others agreed to serve again.

Chair's report: Bill Brookreson submitted a written report.

Many applicants are already signed up for the Bellingham Stewardship Training with Jim Evans. 30 is probably the maximum. Jim is setting up a database to track the activities of the past stewardship trainees and to improve communication between them.

Plant Sale: Bill Brookreson submitted a written report.

Bill and Bonnie are working on plant lists for the Sat., October 28th sale. Setup for the sale is Fri., Oct. 27th. Pre-sale is probably too complicated. One reason is we only have a sale permit for 2 days. Sue Butkus intends to measure tables and space at the Coach House in Olympia to see if the space arrangement of plants and cashiers can make customer traffic flow smoother.

Native Plant Weekend 2018: Bill shared details of the planning of this event May 5-7, 2018 in White Salmon in his written Chair's Report.

Reimbursement Process:

Bill showed us a form for reimbursement and asked that people consistently use this because the auditor at the state level needs something to show how money was spent. It has been around for some time but people have neglected to follow through with its use.

Dupont Powder Works Park Picnic, September 13, 5-7 pm: Hamburgers, Polish sausages, and a vegetarian option will be grilled. People are asked to bring sides, salads, and/or desserts. Water will be provided. No alcohol is allowed in the park but people may bring sodas, etc.

Gail has an idea for music, a group called the Pollinator Blues. If it works she would ask them to come 5:30-7pm. The board approved a \$200.00 budget for the picnic, that includes rental of the park.

Other business:

Lee has unsubscribed us from neighborhood links. People were getting too much spam.

Next meeting: Sunday, November 19, 2017

The meeting was adjourned at 3:30 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Sharon Bergquist-Moody