

The meeting was held 6/21/2013 in Boise, Idaho in an Owyhee Hotel meeting room as part of the 2013 Annual Meeting agenda. The minutes are submitted by Nancy Miller, Secretary of the Idaho Native Plant Society.

The meeting was called to order by President LaMar Orton at about 1:05 p.m. MST. No Skype teleconference was held. A quorum of directors was present.

Board of Directors roster

Chapter / Officer	Director	Phone	Skype id	Email	
Calypso	Derek Antonelli	208 762 2575	derek.antonelli1	Derek email	present
Loasa	Kelvin Jones	208 886 7051		Kelvin email	present
Pahove	Karie Pappani	208 658 4529		Pahove Chapter President email	present
Sawabi	Bob McCoy	208 241 5851	hidesertrat	Sawabi president email	present
Upper Snake	Allen Perkins	208 529 0820		Allen email	not present
White Pine	Sonja Lewis	208 883 2638	sonjalewis-i-am	Sonja email	not present
Wood River	Carol Blackburn	208 886 7051		Carol email	present
President	LaMar Orton	208 734 7959; 208 308 6840	lamar.orton2	LaMar email	present
Vice President	Stephen Love	208 681 8742	monaquita.love	Steve email	present
Secretary	Nancy Miller	208 301 0560	nancy.j.h.miller	Nancy email	present
Treasurer	Elaine Walker	208 336 3983	tulara.drive	Elaine email	present
Past President	Janet Benoit	208 683 2407		Janet email	not present
Member-at-Large	Mel Nicholls	208 233 0714	mel.nicholls44	Mel email	present
Sage Notes Editor	Jane Rohling	208 938 3529	jane.rohling	Sage-editor @idahonativeplants.org	present at end of meeting
Membership Comm Guest	Ardys Holte		ardys.holte	Ardys email	not present
Meeting admin	Jody Hull	208 323 0516	j_hull	Jody email	not present
INPS Secretary elect	Alan Crockett	208 529 5188		Alan's email	present

LaMar welcomed everyone to the meeting. Each individual introduced himself/herself.

The minutes of the previous meeting are posted on the State Board web page:

http://idahonativeplants.org/inps/boardmeet_2013_04_24.pdf. LaMar asked if there were corrections to the minutes of the April meeting. Carol Blackburn moved and Derek Antonelli seconded that the minutes of April 24, 2013 Board meeting be approved as posted. The motion passed.

The **Treasurer's Report** for First Quarter 2013 was provided by Elaine Walker, INPS Treasurer. Amounts and primary categories are provided here. **Total Income** \$1816.25 (includes dues, ads, calendar sales, ERIG donations). **Total Expenses** \$394.97 (includes dues to chapters, ERIG Expenditures, Bank/PayPal fees). **Assets** \$14562.54 (includes Checking, Savings, amount due from chapters). **Liabilities** \$4137.25 (includes unclaimed and un-awarded ERIG funds). **Net Balance** is \$10425.29.

Derek had a question about the 'ERIG not awarded' category and what that meant.

The **Membership Reports** were provided by the Treasurer and are current as of 6/7/2013.

Nancy asked whether a letter had been sent by the INPS Treasurer as approved at the previous meeting. No letter had been sent. There was discussion about the number of non-renewed members and the merit of sending the letter from the state.

There was a question about the household memberships. Elaine explained how the calculation works for household memberships and why it doesn't match exactly. It is a close approximation. The number of total members represented can be determined by adding the household total to the membership total. The total number of people represented is important in determining the quorum for elections and other voting.

Derek moved and Carol seconded that the report be accepted for review. The motion passed.

Bob asked whether the audit had been done as was discussed at the previous meeting. It hadn't been done yet. Bob said ISU accounting students could potentially do it as a project. He will follow-up and report back.

Nancy reported that she had emailed the amount for postage and printing of the ballot but it was too late for inclusion.

Alan asked for clarification about dual chapter memberships. Elaine said she applied half the dues to each chapter. It is indicated on the chapter membership worksheet. She does not indicate the half in the membership report.

2013 Annual Meeting update: Steve arrived after giving his introduction at the APS Board meeting and first discussed some aspects of the 2013 meeting. He reported that the field trips to all sites are okay – flora-wise. Leslie Gulch is desert, very dry and will not have as many blooming plants as hoped but will still have many of the special plants we desire to see. Mores Mountain flora is in prime condition now. Hells Canyon flora is some of the best Steve has seen.

He reported that doing a joint meeting is working out okay and that the committee had learned much. Because this was a critical departure from the usual INPS Annual Meeting format, we definitely need to solicit comments from INPS members (attendees and non-attendees) about the meeting format, cost, meal format, benefits of joint meetings, etc.

Steve also reported that the registrations (108 at time of his report) should cover the necessary meeting fees – meeting room, meals, etc. A contingency percentage had been included in the cost. He explained the guarantees made with the hotel for food service, etc. and also that any amounts over the amount needed would be returned to the Societies based on attendee percentages. When the Owyhee Hotel sold and canceled hotel reservations, the Safari Inn had taken the hotel reservations on under the same agreements.

Joint annual meeting with the Eriogonum Society in 2014 as discussed at the previous INPS Board meeting. The Eriogonum Board has approved pursuing the possibility of a joint meeting. They usually meet the weekend after the APS meeting however the 2014 APS meeting will be held in April near Zion NP so isn't a factor in determining the date of an INPS/Eriogonum Society meeting. We tentatively agreed that the 2014 meeting will be held the weekend after Father's Day 2014 (June 20-22).

The 2014 INPS annual meeting will be hosted by the Upper Snake Chapter and will be held in Twin Falls with probable field trips to Gooding City of Rocks and other areas around south central Idaho. Although Eriogonum bloom time varies depending on weather and elevation, the best time to see the most bloom will likely be the latter part of June and we should see *E. caespitosa*, *E. umbellatum* (one variety of which has not been described), and *E. thymoides* at a minimum.

There was considerable discussion about the benefits and disadvantages of holding joint meetings especially in town.

Everyone thought it best to somehow restrict costs next year as cost appears to be the big factor in whether many INPS members considered coming. Several board members stated they did not want to price people out of attending. Some had expressed interest only in the field trip(s), others only Saturday dinner and keynote. Because of the APS format we couldn't offer these options. It is important to make camping alternative close. There is the possibility of use of the campus rooms for meetings

Others thought we did not emphasize the benefits of joint meetings or get the information out early enough. Jim Reveal will provide considerable instruction and also updated keying information at the Eriogonum meeting. LaMar will discuss this further at the membership meeting.

Allen Perkins President of Upper Snake has not attended recent meetings. Alan Crockett reported that he, Sue Braastad and Sherry Sellers would be helping LaMar, Kelvin and Steve to make the preliminary arrangements for the 2014 meeting.

The **proposed membership survey** which was sent to the Board was discussed and the following suggestions were made.

- Derek thought the formatting could be improved.
- Bob McCoy thought it didn't reflect what we were attempting to accomplish with the survey.
- Derek suggested better response with online survey; Nancy discouraged using Sage Notes and mailing to members. Several web-based applications were mentioned.
- If member has no email for notification, then a mailed survey will be necessary.
- Steve said he had tried SurveyMonkey once, Elaine had responded to them.
- Jody has had some experience with the online surveys.
- There was a question about household type membership and how each member would respond if they shared one email as most applications only allowed one per email address.
- Janet Benoit had suggested the phrase 'if appropriate' be removed.

Sage Notes issues and concerns were discussed at length. Some of the issues include:

- 1) The printing company has been very slow in printing and mailing Sage Notes. It has told us it printed, reprinted, re-labeled, etc.
- 2) The February issue was posted on our website February 7 but was not mailed out to all members. It was printed at some point as Elaine picked up the extras. The printer indicated they were left at the mailing services company but disappeared.
- 3) The May issue was posted online just prior to Annual Meeting. Jane had other commitments and health problems. She sent it to the printer but had no report at that time when he might send it out. The online version still has some links which do not work but Jane did not have time to fix.

Jane has resigned as editor. Cindy Snyder (the name she writes under) from Hansen has expressed interest in serving as our editor. Her resume is attached to the Agenda. Her name is Cindy Bjorneberg. She is active in native plant growing and writes on many subjects. Jane provided copies of emails she had sent in the past based on her experience and research. Karie asked about a previous interviewee and Nancy indicated he was no longer interested. LaMar will discuss further with Cindy regarding the September issue (August 1 deadline) and let the board know.

We discussed many aspects of Sage Notes: Timeliness, number of issues, paper and cover type, printed copy or not, type of format, additional charges if opt for printed copy, timing questions, one journal with other newsletter format issues, institutional copies, how pay if only a few printed. Bob McCoy mentioned having a theme for an issue such as a particular genera. Nancy said there had been issues devoted to Fire when Sarah Walker was editor.

Someone brought up whether only members should receive and be able to view online. Nancy said that had been discussed in the past and that the online version availability increased the visibility of INPS, made information available to students and researchers, and made it possible

for members to look up information more easily. Topics were available using web search engines.

What do members want to see in Sage Notes? This and other questions about Sage Notes options should be in the member survey.

Committee Reports

Bylaws Committee: Some members did not receive the election/bylaws ballot for some reason. All 2012 and forward members were sent the ballot first class postage. A few were undeliverable and Elaine has followed up on those to get the correct address. A quorum did approve the election of president and secretary and the bylaws amendment, but the return rate was lower than expected.

Nancy has posted the ballot on the webpage (Sage Briefs 05...). LaMar indicated that the Proposed Bylaws could be changed to 'approved' on the website.

Conservation Committee: Derek Antonelli, Chairman of the Conservation Committee had explained in a separate document that the rare plant ranking processes are beginning to take shape. The three Regional Rare Plant Working Groups have formed or are in the process of forming. The South West Idaho Regional RPWG met and reviewed/recommended rankings for 14 species. The North Idaho Regional RPWG met on three occasions and has reviewed and recommended rankings for 21 species of rare plants. He had no report from the South East Idaho Regional RPWG. Species rank recommendations from the RPWGs will form the basis of the species ranks that are reviewed and approved by the bi-annual Rare Plant Conference. Alexa DiNicola has developed a very useful online tool that allows members on the RPWGs to communicate with each other regarding the status of rare plant species. It is definitely possible to rank more species with this process. It will be very valuable as Rare Plant Conference participants will be able to look at the information before the meeting.

Derek requested that each chapter have at least one representative on the statewide committee and who is willing to work on local plant conservation issues and help formulate the INPS position on the issues. It is possible Justin Fulkerson is returning to the state. Karie will begin as the Pahove representative.

Many voiced the opinion that the Committee should provide information to the Board and that it was important that INPS not become confrontational in approach.

ERIG Committee: Janet Bala sent information about the two awards that had been made. Pocatello Zoo was awarded \$975 and Bruneau Elementary School was awarded \$1000 for native plants and soil for Outdoor Learning Center. No recent completion reports had been sent to Janet. She did not send information about the other applicants. There were 7 this year.

There were no recommendations received from the **Membership Committee**. Ardys Holte, chair of the committee, has resigned.

LaMar reported results from the **Ballot Counting Committee** submitted by Elaine Walker:
Results of the election for President and for Secretary are as follows:

Votes for president: LaMar Orton – 54

Votes for secretary: Alan Crockett – 53

There were no write-in names.

Karie Pappani reports only 1 submission so far for the **Photo Contest**. The final date for submittal is August 30, 2013. Karie has suggested that we sent a reminder about the contest to our members since the next Sage Notes will be mailed after the deadline.

INPS Pahove chapter will award the **Lifetime Achievement Award** to Roger Rosentretter and Ann DeBolt at the Annual Meeting.

The **Rare Plant Conference** will be held in Boise on Wednesday and Thursday, October 23-24, 2013. Our next board meeting has been tentatively scheduled for Tuesday October 22nd at 3:30 PM at the BLM office in Boise.

Bob has volunteered to help chapter treasurers who have not yet set up accounts for sharing **Membership files**.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 3:30 p.m.