

## IDAHO NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

**Minutes of the Sunday morning, September 12, 2010 meeting (7:30 a.m. PDT, 8:30 a.m. MDT).** This was a teleconference via Skype, presided over by Wendy Velman, President.

### Current Board Members

Calypso, Janet Benoit (acting)	present on phone
Loasa, Kelvin Jones	present on phone
Pahove, Susan Ziebarth	present on phone
Sah-Wah-Be, Linda Johnson	present on Skype
Upper Snake, Sue Braastad	present on Skype
White Pine, Helen Yost	present on phone
Wood River, Carol Blackburn	present on phone
President, Wendy Velman	present on Skype
Vice-president, VACANT	
Secretary, Nancy Miller	present on Skype
Treasurer, Jody Hull	present on Skype
Past-president, Janet Benoit	present on phone
Member-at-Large, Mel Nicholls	present on phone
Sage Notes Editor, VACANT	

Quorum present.

**Minutes of 6/13/2010.** Question about what needed to be included in the minutes about the Treasurer's report as the minutes only said it was posted on Google Group, reviewed by Jody Hull at the meeting, and accepted by the board. Nancy asked for clarification in an email about what was needed in the minutes or whether the report itself should be posted separately.

### **Treasurer's Report from Treasurer Jody Hull as of 8/11/2010.**

Treasurer Jody Hull reported that the Treasurer's report (current as of August 11) was uploaded to the Google Group File Folder and was available to group members. Amounts reported: Income Actual Total \$4,863.19; Expenses Total \$3,718.60; Net \$1,144.59. Assets reported are: Bank Balance (Checking) \$9,508.77 6-mo CD (7/23/10) \$2,914.49. Treasurer's report not required to be posted on the web.

There was a question about the annual meeting expenses from Nancy Miller. It was determined these were carryover from the 2009 Annual Meeting. Nancy Miller will submit campsite reservation expenses for 2010 as soon as possible. There was a question about the cost of printing this edition of Sage Notes as it will contain approximately 24 pages and so add considerably to the year's printing expenses.

### **Membership report presented by Treasurer Jody Hull.**

There are 304 paid-up members (409 with those who are still expected to renew). The Treasurer reports membership information to chapters monthly and should reconcile dues payments at least quarterly with the chapters. Jody will issue a list of chapter members whenever a chapter requests an updated list.

Sage Notes mailing list - normally unpaid memberships (105) are not included on the mailing list after the 2<sup>nd</sup> edition, but this year they are since no reminder was sent out. Many of the unpaid are Pahove memberships; Susan and Jody expect many renewals to come in as soon as they begin meeting again this fall.

Some chapter presidents related what they do to remind members to renew, or to encourage new contacts to join. Wendy reminded that the chapters are the primary means of recruiting new members and getting renewals. Few renewals come in from Sage Notes back page form, although many come in from the larger form in the December issue.

Linda Johnson moved and Carol Blackburn seconded to accept the Treasurer's report. Accepted by Board.

#### **Announcements:**

There is no Vice President currently. Janet Benoit said that Wendy Velman can fill the position, and then send the name to the Board for their approval. The appointed VP could then step up to fill the President position when Wendy's resignation takes effect November 1 until the next election in June. We discussed with no resolution a possible Sage Notes notice to see if anyone was interested in being a candidate. The new president could also appoint a VP to fill out the VP term; the VP sits on numerous committees and coordinates their activities with the board so is an important position.

A Nominating committee is needed to get candidates for 2011 election (President and Secretary positions). It consists of at least 3 members from different chapters, only one can be a board member. There is more discussion under Committee Reports.

A Bylaws committee is needed. There is more discussion under Committee Reports.

#### **Committee Reports:**

**Native Flora Workshop Committee:** No new information reported from the committee.

#### **ERIG Committee:**

Janet Bala is the new committee coordinator. Treasurer Jody Hull is ex-officio member according to the bylaws. Michael Mancuso wants to step down for awhile. Sage Notes will need an announcement in the February issue with the new contact information included. The Treasurer reported that some of this year's recipients had requested funds - Kinnikinnick chapter, Fred Rabe. Janet or Jody will remind recipients that a Sage Notes report is part of the grant stipulation.

Janet Benoit asked about when we can approve the amount to be used for ERIG grants for a year as it is included in the budget. In the past Rare Plant Conference income provided grant funds. When we went to holding the RPC in alternate years then we lost income. We may have used a donation from a donor to fund ERIG grants one year. Jody Hull and Janet Bala will check the funding history and report back. This year's Native Flora Workshop provided income to the ERIG program.

Several recipients from past years have not requested their funds so we need a policy concerning grant funds expiration. If so, then the policy needs to be included in the announcement, as does the requirement for a report to be included in Sage Notes at the end of the project.

**Annual Meeting Committee:**

White Pine has not submitted final expenses for campground reservations but will as soon as possible. Nancy Miller needs to meet with the White Pine Treasurer to reconcile her expenses with the other expenses and the funds received from attendees for dinner, extra vehicle charges, etc.

The Vice President is chair of the Annual Meeting committee according to the bylaws and would work with the host chapter(s). December Sage Notes will need a short announcement (where, when, contacts) about the 2011 Annual Meeting. The February Sage Notes will need a more complete Annual Meeting Announcement. Valdon Hancock is the Loasa contact. There are both Federal and State sites at this location. The state park - Capitol Rock State Park - is where Loasa will make reservations. Kelvin said they would make campsite reservations, but also prospective attendees could make their own if they wished. Kelvin should send out an email to presidents when he has more information about reservations. Reservations cannot be made until 9/24 for the state park.

In the agenda Wendy submitted a possible change to the chapter host designation rotation as we have lost Kinnikinnick and gained Upper Snake chapter - which means we now have 2 northern and 4 southern chapters hosting. There was much discussion as Wendy also suggested changes based on Pahove continuing to do Rare Plant Conference, other chapters alternating with something similar to the Native Flora Workshop, etc. This needs a lot more discussion. For now Loasa is set to host 2011 and Calypso plans to do the 2012 Annual Meeting.

The previous six meetings and their hosts: 2004 (White Pine, Priest Lake), 2005 (Loasa, Challis?), 2006 (Calypso, Farragut SP), 2007 (Wood River, Craters of the Moon), 2008 (Kinnikinnick, Sam Owen Campground), 2009 (Sah-Wah-Be, Buffalo Campground), 2010 (White Pine, Heyburn SP). Future: 2011 (Loasa, City of Rocks), 2012 (Calypso).

Wendy also discussed briefly the possibility of chapters working with local Universities to host the Native Flora Workshop as Sah-Wah-Be did with ISU. This could affect the Annual Meeting rotation as chapters would not want to host both Annual Meeting and Workshop too close to each other because of the time and resource requirements. Calypso and White Pine could work with the University of Idaho Herbarium to host a NFW or something similar; Helen Yost and Nancy Miller will talk with Pam Brunsfeld and David Tank. Pam had indicated that this could best be done with UI in the summer, not spring as in 2010. (It was even discussed briefly that the 2012 Annual Meeting and 2012 NFW might somehow join forces if both were to be done in June. However the two events have quite different attendees and the focus is also quite different.) Although Loasa/CSI and Upper Snake/BYU were listed in the chart as possible collaborators, these weren't discussed in detail.

**Rare Plant Conference Committee:** This committee needs a chairperson and people to update statuses and to add new plants and all their associated data to the lists

as the Heritage Program doesn't have the staff to do this any longer. Lynn Kinter is the only staff person presently at the Heritage Program. Karen is working with Lynn. Susan reported that she is having difficulty finding a chairperson and questioned whether Pahove could continue to do the RPC.

Cyndi hasn't completed documentation on Dr. Roger Rosentreter and Ann DeBolt for Life Achievement Membership Award but is working on it.

The Board was taken off record to discuss other personnel issues. It was then put back on record.

**Calendar Committee:**

There will not be a 2011 Calendar. A Photo contest was discussed in June, but there was no followup with the Board. The purpose would be to get quality photos for use by the Society. It is important that the judges would not know the names of the photographers whose photos were to be judged. The consensus was that we should do a photo contest and that Sah-Wah-Be would be in charge this time. They may use Picasso (a Google product) to upload photos. Previously photos were emailed or sent on a disk to the chairperson. Presidents would need to announce the contest early so that photos from all seasons were submitted by members.

Chapter presidents need to see if someone in their chapter is interested in doing the Calendar in the future (2012 Calendar). It was suggested that a graphic designer could be paid if the price of the calendar were increased slightly. The last time Nancy Miller talked with the WNPS coordinator they paid approximately \$325 to design the calendar using WNPS contest photos. The photo contest and the calendar assembly could be two separate processes with one overall coordinator managing the project.

The printer of Sage Notes/Calendar was brought up but there was not much discussion. Someone needs to look at this and Dylan is no longer available to do it.

FLICKR Idaho Native Plant group (separate from the photo contest). Nancy Miller explained the difference between a FLICKR site and a FLICKR group. She will hopefully have the Flickr group set up by December and will let the Board know so they can let members know to link their photos to the group. We need to talk to Ann DeBolt or another botanist who will be needed to verify photos are of natives. The group would be moderated by Nancy Miller at first.

**Bylaws Committee:** This is an adhoc committee formed when needed. It is not mentioned in the bylaws although the amendment process is discussed. It is recommended to have someone from every chapter on the committee. Janet talked about the history of the most recent bylaw amendment process which was a major rewrite. Topics which should be part of this amendment process are:

- A Chapter leaves the Society as Kinnikinnick did;
- A President resigns without a VP in office;
- The 25/75 percentage split of dues;
- Two votes for Household - Patron and Sustaining also may be households and may need two votes;
- Misprint - Section 4 of Article IV; and

- Consistency in spelling the word Bylaw.

Possible people to contact: Alan Perkins (Upper Snake), Lamar Orton (Loasa), Laurel Asbell (Calypso), Kristin (WR), Nancy Miller (WP); Sah-Wah-Be, Pahove?

The process can take over a year due to the time necessary to write amendments, the membership notifications, balloting, etc. The revised bylaws become effective January 1 of the year after they are accepted by the membership. Board members should read the Amendment process specifically - Article XII of the posted Bylaws. See Sage Notes Spring 2008 or the INPS Board webpage for current bylaws. Both are on the state website.

**Membership Committee:**

See the discussion of a postcard survey on electronic delivery of Sage Notes below.

**Conservation Committee:** 2009 Rare Plant Conference results need to be published (Lynn and Wendy are doing this). Helen Yost might be interested in being on the committee. No one was sure if either Juanita Lichthardt or Chris Colson is still on the committee. Chris had to recuse himself when he was working on an EIS for the Upper Lochsa. Wendy Velman will try to get someone from southern chapters to be on the committee - especially as so many Rare Plant issues involve Southern Idaho natives.

**Nominating Committee:** This committee needs to be in place by the end of September according to the bylaws. Current vacancies should be filled by appointment to complete the terms of President and Vice President. The Nominating Committee then needs to find nominees for the offices of President and Secretary for the election in June 2011. Vice President and Treasurer positions will be on the June 2012 ballot. Helen Yost and Susan Ziebarth will try to talk to several people about being on the Nominating Committee. Members should be familiar with many people in and the work of the Society.

**Sage Notes Committee:** We want to move towards having no large-scale printing and providing electronic delivery via a website to most members. The survey discussed before needs to go out to members notifying them of the proposed change from printing to online color presentation. Susan Ziebarth will create the postcard survey. Susan will send it to the board for review before putting it in Sage Notes or sending it out to the membership. It would eventually be a data item that the membership/renewal form would carry and the Treasurer would track so that members wanting printed copies would have their names on the mailing list.

Elaine Walker will be approached about being Sage Notes Editor. If others have possible editors in mind they should inform Wendy Velman soon.

The state website needs a full repository of Sage Notes. Previous editors were Sarah Walker, Steve Rust, possibly Cyndi Coulter. Nancy Miller will inventory what issues she has this winter and then check with long time members and herbaria to see who has any missing versions. She has agreed to scan the historical issues for inclusion on the website. The index of Sage Notes on the web is on the left navigation bar of the Home page.

**Native Plant Appreciation Week:** Wendy will draft a letter by October 1 to the governor (and legislators) to request a 2011 proclamation. She will coordinate with KNPS. We prefer the last week of April for Native Plant Appreciation Week. Nancy Miller moved and Susan Ziebarth seconded that we designate April 24-30. This was approved. Wendy will also send a copy to chapter Presidents - both to write in support and to approach their representatives for support. Helen Yost asked if chapters should seek other organizations to provide support? Herbaria, Botanical Gardens, etc. It was thought this was an excellent idea.

**Carol Blackburn moved, Linda Johnson seconded that the meeting be adjourned. Approved. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 10:30 PDT (11:30 MDT).**