

Minutes of the State Board Meeting: January 15, 2011

Michigan Botanical Club Minutes of the State Board Meeting

Fenner Nature Center, Lansing, MI Members present:

Tyler Bassett, Becky Csia, Mary Danforth, Irene Eiseman, Patrick Fields, Richard Fowler, Judy Kelly, Pam Laureto, Mark Ledebuhr, Larry Nooden, Sarah Nooden, Ron Priest, Andy Sawyer, Lynn Steil, Alice Ward

Call to Order: Michigan Botanical Club (MBC) president Judy Kelly called the meeting to order at 1:10 p.m.

1. Agenda approval

The 2011 mini foray was added under new business and Mark Ledebuhr was added to the announcements. Sarah Nooden moved to accept, Alice Ward seconded; motion passed.

2. Approval of minutes

A typographical error was noted by Lynn Steil. Patrick Fields moved to accept the minutes, Richard Fowler seconded. Motion passed. Lynn asked if the Board would like to see the fall minutes before the day of the winter meeting since they do not appear in the Arisaema prior to the meeting as the others. If so, she said she would e-mail them to all. The group indicated that they would like this.

3. Announcements

A. Thank you: President Kelly thanked past president Pam Laureto and outgoing members of the Board for their hard work.

B. Fred Case obituary: A copy of the obituary was passed around and individuals shared memories and offered tributes.

C. Update of president's e-mail List: President Kelly passed the Board e-mail list around for edits/updates.

D. Spring Foray update: Andy Sawyer and Tyler Bassett gave updates on the spring foray announcing two speakers: Tony Reznicek, who will be speaking on the Michigan Flora project, and Bill Burger of the Chicago Field Museum. They also announced that the lodging locations will be listed in the Arisaema and some will be located between Niles, Michigan and South Bend, Indiana, not far from Fernwood, our foray center.

E. Isle Royal botany workshop: It was announced that Janet Marr is again leading a botany workshop on Isle Royale in June and that the info would be on —the website.||

F. Brochure update: Sarah Nooden passed around the brochure information for any updates on chapter contacts, etc. Sarah also announced that the Huron Valley chapter is celebrating their 50th anniversary, and read some excerpts from some early notes/minutes.

G. Mark Ledebuhr announcement: Mark expressed difficulties of the Red Cedar Chapter maintaining member interest. He announced that three of four members will not be coming back in April. Discussion ensued, with several offering suggestions, such as combining meetings

with other like organizations. Some wondered if the fear of organizing a foray could possibly keep membership back. Mark discussed a multitude of efforts to build interest/membership, to no avail.

Old Business

A. Michigan Consortium of Botanists: Tyler Bassett explained that this organization will be a method for botanists to communicate. He announced that the goal is to meet once a year in May, develop a website, statement and discussion board. The forum will be designed by subject and be a place where researchers can contact other researchers working on similar projects; needs can be expressed, and help offered. Tyler also said that it is hoped that herbaria would be made more accessible throughout.

B. Editor for Arisaema job description: President Kelly requested a volunteer to take on this job. Must have a computer with broadband internet access. Must produce Arisaema in digital form and be able to convert it to a PDF file. Must be able to scan photos. Must be able to manipulate digital images. Discussion touched on the need for an editor soon for the next Arisaema, as it will contain time sensitive information/registration for the spring foray.

Mary Danforth suggested the use of digital issues for speed and saving of mailing costs. She suggested that, for now, we use outside help for getting this issue out. Mary emphasized that she, as corresponding secretary, would be contacting Board members for articles/materials for the Arisaema. Mary moved that we allocate a maximum of \$300 for outside edition of the spring issue of Arisaema. Mark seconded and motion passed.

C. Membership chair job description: President Kelly said that since membership is now on the website, this job is now deleted. Discussion regarded contacting old members to renew membership. Several ideas were suggested.

D. Distinguished Service Award: President Kelly shared the need for criteria for this award. She decided that vice presidents (or representatives) work with their Chapter president on criteria and report to the Board at the May Board Meeting.

4. New Business

Use of e-mail for club business: President Kelly led a discussion regarding more effective use of e-mail. It was suggested we set up a club account for minutes or working on documents together. Andy Sawyer said that our potential new website process will allow for this capability.

A. Mini foray: Larry Nooden encouraged others to do the mini foray, as he will be out of the country this summer.

5. Reports

A. Webmaster: Andy Sawyer delivered a small presentation on the changes of the new website capabilities by going to a new provider using a new management system. Andy would redesign the site (an in-kind contribution). He also explained the use of an —Event Registration Module|| that could be used for the foray registration. This would come with a one-time cost of \$80. Larry Nooden moved to support the website plans up to \$200 with an ad-hoc committee advisory along with the foray registration (Event Registration Module) with the \$80 one-time charge. Tyler Bassett seconded. Andy explained that outsiders would experience no

change to access the website. Sarah Nooden volunteered to help on a brochure. Pat Fields called the question. Motion carried.

B. Corresponding secretary: Mary Danforth announced that the deadline for articles/information for Arisaema is the first week of March. Mary asked for suggestions and photos. This Arisaema will be including the list of Board members and contacts, and Tyler Bassett will write an article on the consortium.

C. Michigan Botanical Foundation: (none)

D. The Michigan Botanist: Via e-mail, Todd Barkman reported that issues 49.2 and 49.3 are being printed and 49.4 is being typeset. He said that The Michigan Botanist should be caught up at that point. Later this month electronic issues will be available.

E. Treasurer: Lynda Pelkey expressed that information can be seen on the website.

6. Future State Board Meeting

The spring 2011 State Board Meeting will be held at the Foray at Fernwood, SWC hosting. Emily Nietering will be chairing

the Board meeting; send agenda items to Judy Kelly. Meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynn Steil, MBC recording secretary