

MBC State Board Meeting Minutes — October 14, 2012

Michigan Botanical Club State Board Meeting

Sunday, Oct. 14, 2012 Kalamazoo Nature Center, Kalamazoo, Mi.

Members Present: Todd Barkman, Tyler Bassett, Becky Csia, Mary Danforth, Irene Eiseman, Patrick Fields, Richard Fowler, Ruth Hart, Judy Kelly, Robert Kelly, Emily Nietering, Larry Nooden, Sarah Nooden, Dorothy Sibley, Janet Skeberdis, Lynn Steil, Bev Walters, Alice Ward

1. Call to Order 12:14 pm by Judy Kelly
2. Approval of Agenda: Michigan Natural Area Council was added to the agenda under Old Business.

Judy Kelly called for approval of the agenda. Todd Barkman moved to approve the agenda and minutes. Bev Walters seconded. Motion was passed. It was noted that Bob Kelly would explain items on the treas. report under Old Business.

3. Roberts Rules of Order -- President Kelly said that our constitutional by-laws require us to use Roberts Rules of Order.
4. Announcements
 - a. President Kelly passed around her list of e-mail/phone contacts to be updated by the Board.
 5. Committee Reports
 - a. Web Master - Aaron Fown - There was discussion regarding the chapters' ability to access the website and edit/update information. President Kelly asked each chapter president or chapter-appointed liaison to inter- face with Aaron to get instruction/training to do so. It was suggested that Aaron organize a training session for all chapters to partake.
 - b. Nominations - Sarah Nooden - Sarah announced that no additional Board member nominations were submitted. Richard Fowler moved that we certify this slate of officers. Dorothy Sibley seconded. Motion passed.
 - c. Corresponding Secretary - Mary Danforth - Mary announced that an article sent in for the Fall Arisaema by Pam Laureto was left out by mistake. Mary said she'd be sending out this letter regarding Michigan Botanical Club Foundation fundraising. She also announced that the postage costs are down due to the Arisaema being sent electronically to about 1/3 of the members. She also asked for more photos/drawings for the Arisaema and thanked everyone for their input and meeting deadlines.
 - d. The Michigan Botanist - Todd Barkman - Todd announced that The Michigan Botanist (TMB) is behind and that the last issue of 2011 and the first of 2012 will be sent together. He announced that the first 2012 issue is devoted to the life of Ed Voss. He noted that there are not enough manuscripts being submitted to the journal which leads to the lack of consistency of publication which results in our journal not being listed on some searchable online sources for publications. Irene Eiseman asked if perhaps we should go with 2 issues instead of 4 per year. Discussion followed expressing the problems with attracting manuscripts from botanists. Todd inquired about the status of TMB support-funding from MBC and requested the monies be dispersed as was approved by the MBC State Board previously. Todd also noted that most professional botanists get their journals electronically and questions the necessity of the cost of

printing. Robert Kelly agreed to look into the funds that were ear-marked to support publishing TMB. Todd announced that he would like to step down as editor. He requested that the Board hunt for a replacement. He also mentioned that there are a couple of people on the editorial board or Michigan Consortium of Botanists who might like to do this. Irene Eiseman announced to the Board that it is the “club’s” journal and that it is up to us to solicit papers and now, find a replacement for Todd. It is not Todd’s “job” to have to do this. There was much agreement. President Kelly expressed her thanks to Todd for his hard work. She suggested that he go ahead and ask the editorial board members if anyone may wish to take on the task.

e. Treasurer - Bob Kelly - Bob noted that based on a year to date cash flow analysis there would be a shortfall of \$1169.83 in the checking account and to insure it did not go into the red, he transferred \$1000 from the TIMM (Tiered Interest Money Market Account) into the checking. Discussion followed regarding one-time expenses to the web-masters. Becky Csia reminded everyone that at the Spring meeting the Board understood that these expenses were worthwhile. Bev Walters asked if we could draw money from the Smith account. Larry Nooden said that the “Smith” Endowment was acquired in 2003 and is restricted. Bob Kelly inquired if the interest was not restricted. Pat Fields said that the money was to be used for publications regarding plants. President Kelly said that she would research the restrictions on these funds. Sarah Nooden moved that we accept the treasurer’s report, Janet Skeberdis seconded, motion passed.

f. Spring Foray - Dorothy Sibley - Dorothy announced that the White Pine chapter is celebrating 20 years. She announced that the foray planning is going well. There will be historic sites as well as a wide diversity of interesting botanical sites. There will be more forthcoming in the Arisaema. Irene Eiseman requested that the White Pine chapter provide information on the website as well.

6. New Business

a. President Kelly said she would check with Aaron Fown on the procedures for updating the website. Ruth Hart expressed the importance of the website and properly updating each chapter’s page. The webpage committee consists of Irene Eiseman (chair), Judy Kelly, Sarah Nooden and the 5 chapter presidents or designated chapter web-page liaison.

7. Old Business

a. Mission Statement - President Kelly announced that the mission statement committee consisted of the exec. board, Sarah Nooden, Larry Nooden, Ruth Hart and Aaron Fown. Larry and Sarah Nooden agreed to update the mission statement in the current brochure and bring it to the next Board meeting. Discussion followed regarding the necessity of a mission statement as the goals were listed. Emily Nietering reiterated that it was merely going to be a summary of the goals of the club.

b. Possibility of changing the name of the club - After several immediate concerns regarding this consideration President Kelly made it known that the Board is considering the rationale and not planning to change the name and said the Board would never consider doing such without a complete membership vote. Irene Eiseman said that this idea came up after the Board 360 evaluation results and discussion at the May Board meeting and it was only one of many things to consider. She said that Pam Laureto agreed to write a rationale for distribution to the membership and that was all. Sarah Nooden moved that we table the name change

consideration. Robert Kelly seconded. Discussion. Patrick Fields said he supported the tabling but noted that the club needs to revisit these types of things periodically. Motion carried.

c. Michigan Natural Areas Council - Point of Information -- the MNAC will be having a meeting at the Matthaei Botanical Gardens Nov. 4 at 1pm to discuss the status of their organization. President Kelly mentioned that there is a process for disbanding. There was general agreement that we welcome them back into the club since they were originally an outgrowth of the MBC with similar goals and a history of success. Todd Barkman also mentioned how their political experiences and contacts would be welcome.

8. Future State Board Meeting

The January Board meeting will be held Sat. Jan. 26th at a location to be announced.

Snow date, Feb. 9.

Tyler Bassett moved the meeting be adjourned. Seconded by Emily Nietering. Meeting adjourned 1:40pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Lynn Steil, Recording Secretary