

**Minutes**  
**ILLINOIS NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY**  
**March 14, 2022, 6:00pm | Zoom Meeting**  
**Governing Board Meeting**

Attending: Emily Dangremond, Susanne Masi, Trish Quintenz, cassi sari, Paul Brent Marcum, Eric Ulaszek, Courtney Cartney, Gretel Kiefer, Daniel Pohl, Angela Kerber, Anna Braum, and Joseph Armstrong.

Meeting Begins: 6:04PM

Review and approve the Minutes from the [February](#) governing board meeting.

- Eric Ulaszek moved to approve February Minutes. Susanne seconds. All in favor, none opposed. Motion passes.

Website Report (Jeff Nelson): [LINK to February 2022 web report.](#)

- Nothing out of the ordinary for February, same number of views as January.
- Native plant sales lots of hits asked if there were questions, there were none.
- Jeff has been asked to serve as president as Kentucky NPS.
  - Stepping down as web master.
  - Will keep working until INPS replacement has been trained.
  - Available via email as necessary after the new web master is trained.
  - Replacement ideally determined before forms for spring/summer annual meeting.
  - Refer to document with requirements for web master.
    - WordPress is the most important skill to have as INPS uses WordPress.
    - Gravity forms and gravity view would be important too. Susanne asked if gravity forms apply to grant applications, Jeff said no, but uploading submissions are.
  - Jeff suggests a new web master and grants committee look into purchasing Adobe Acrobat.
  - Emily asked if anyone on the board would be interested in being web master.
    - Gretel would consider it.

INPS Web Master: [LINK to board memo.](#)

Board Member 'Packet'/Handbook

- cassi created a draft handbook for the NE Chapter [LINK](#).
- Emily would like to create a unique handbook for each chapter based on the NE Chapter version.
- Useful to have bylaws, contact info, information about insurance, non-profit status, and other resources for board members in one document.
- Paul said he has some original files that can be used to create a digital handbook for the state board.
- Angela started a Google drive document to work on the handbook.
- Historical documents can be shared in Google docs.
- Paul to share documents he has with Emily and Angela.
- Noted that Chris started 'packet', touch base with Chris too.
- Angela to assist with creation of a draft handbook for the state board.

Bell Bowl Prairie Signature

- [LINK](#) to action alerts, INPS has signed

#### Goals for 2022:

- Emily asked if the board should have goals for the state governing board.
  - Board retreats – used to have these to set goals, but have not done these since COVID. Would like to reinstate board retreats.
  - In-person annual gathering for 2022.
  - Handbook for new board members.
  - Chapter allocations.
  - Brainstorm goals for 2022.

#### INPS New Brochure and Logo:

- [LINK](#) to the new high-resolution logo. New INPS logo (*Dodecatheon/Primula meadia*) is now distinct from the southern Illinois Chapter logo (*Primula frenchii*).
- [LINK](#) to new brochure (trifold).
  - Printing brochures – state board and individual chapters
  - Plant sale – how many do we need? Does each board member need printed copies? Do individual chapters want to print copies too?
  - Discuss once we know how much and how many we want to print.
  - Costs of printing and where to print. Trish to obtain an estimate.

#### Review/Vote on Bylaws: Chapter Allocations:

- [LINK](#) to membership disbursement scenarios.
  - A 20% increase was recommended.
  - Last year's disbursement total was \$1,850, 11% of membership money collected.
  - If we use 20% of money collected, years do not matter.
  - Consideration for chapters that have high numbers of life membership.
  - Some think 25% allocation fitting, or bump to 25% and \$3.50/life member.
  - Needs to be a bylaws change.
  - Tracking years people joined as life members, but don't have this data for all life memberships. Stop tracking historic life members and/or track life members who have passed?
  - Preliminary vote: Option 1) 25% or Option 2) a percentage (20% or 25%) with concessions on annual basis for life members and determine ways to deal with budget shortfalls.
  - Floyd moved to increase payment to chapters to 25%. cassi seconds. 12 in favor. Angela, Paul, Jeff abstained. Motion passes
  - Joe recommended a change to bylaws, so this doesn't need to be voted on in the future and so that the board can determine the rate on an annual basis.
  - Change to bylaws to include details so that percentage can change on an annual basis without vote.
  - Lailah to send Google ballot to members to vote on the proposed change to the bylaws.
  - Proposed Change: The INPS State Board proposes that going forward dues shall include a component for the State INPS budget and a component for regional chapter budgets. The component for regional chapters will be based on a per member or percentage rate, set by the State Board.
- State Chapter has saved money by minimizing printing.
- Split out membership dues vs. other types of donations.
- State Board to ensure the State Chapter has adequate funds. Costs include printing *Erigenia* once a year, at a minimum.

- Auto-renewal of memberships – new web master to research this, and present this as an option. Would this miss out on extra contributions? Maybe reminders instead? Revisit once we know technical details.

IEC Affiliate Membership – once the budget is approved.

Annual Gathering (<https://illinoisplants.org/2022-annual-gathering-save-the-dates/>)

- In person event in 2022.
- RSVP is live on the INPS website.
- 15 responses thus far.
- Drop language about Covid in the first paragraph.
- What to charge for registration and food?
- Grantees to give short talks at gathering.
- April to officially advertise.

Meeting adjourned at 7:36PM.

Next Meeting: April 11th, 6PM.