

Minutes
ILLINOIS NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY
July 13, 2020, 6:00pm | Conference call
Governing Board Meeting

Attending: Anna Braum, Cassi Saari, Chris Evans, Susanne Masi, Jeff Nelson, Jean Sellar, Paul Marcum, Joe Armstrong, Chris Benda, Trish Quintenz, Emily Dangremond, Courtney Cartney, Gretel Kiefer, Floyd Catchpole, Amanda Pankau, and Angela Kerber

Meeting Begins: 6:10pm

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

- Chris Evans moves to approve June minutes, Paul seconds. All in favor, none opposed. Motion passes.

Chapter Reports

Are Chapters doing field trips with social distancing, etc. for Covid situation?

- Outside events a go, limiting group size - 20-25 or less; 10 or less and host 2 separate events, hosting zoom meetings as well to keep in touch with members
- Central: Trish Quintenz, President
 - On July 9, Central Chapter met for our first gathering since March. Meeting outdoors at the Edgar Lee Masters home in Petersburg, we each brought a lawn chair and a brown-bag supper for a social-distanced picnic. Had a good turnout! After a brief business meeting, we were led on a walking tour of the native plantings around the courthouse square in downtown Petersburg by Alana McKean who has planned & supervised their installation over the past two growing seasons. Our Grant Committee reports that we have 2 recently completed special youth involved projects and another approved regular grant for a pollinator way-station (currently on hold due to COVID at the applicant's request.) The Grant Committee is currently reaching out to local colleges as it develops options to engage students in native plant projects.
- Forest Glen: Paul Marcum, President (Connie Cunningham, Past President)
 - We once again have a full slate of officers at Forest Glen Chapter. Numerous events and programs were planned but have been shut down due to COVID-19. Susan McIntyre (Forest Glen Vice President) is working on re-establishing our chapter newsletter, *The Bellflower*.
- Grand Prairie: Joe Armstrong, President
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- Northeast: cassi saari, President
 - We reached 2000 viewers and >300 comments on our Facebook Live tour of James Woodworth Prairie in late May ([view here](#)), led by Erin Faulkner with support from Iza Redlinski
 - Our second edition of The Nodding Onion for 2020 was released in May ([read it here](#)) and we are hoping to get some of the articles posted as standalone blog posts on the website
 - The chapter continues to be active on social media ([FB](#), [Instagram](#), and [Twitter](#))
 - We are having chapter board meetings every other month, and had a few new faces at the last one

- Our first in-person event since the start of the pandemic is scheduled for this Saturday, July 18th: a hike at Boloria Fen and Sedge Meadow Nature Preserve
- cassi reached out to two people to see if they'd be interested in leading a short intro to sedges workshop (remote, e.g. via Zoom) but both fell through. Any takers?
- Quad Cities: Bohdan Dziadyk, President
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- Kankakee Torrent: Floyd Catchpole, President
 - One field trip before hot weather came. Postponing more events until later
- Southern: Chris Evans, President
 - Events and programs have been shut down since March due to COVID but last month we held our first virtual meeting via Zoom with two short presentations. The first was a virtual tour of Panther Den Wilderness by board member Nick Seaton and the second was a discussion of the recent taxonomic changes to the Botrychium genus by board member Kurt Neubig. The meeting had over 50 in attendance. We are planning on continuing the virtual meetings and will start some smaller outdoor field tour style gatherings in August.

Website Report (Jeff)

- [LINK](#) to website report

Treasury Report (Courtney)

- [LINK](#) to the treasury report
- Thank you for the 1Q & 2Q local chapter financial reports and sales tax input. We are current now!
- State balance of all Accounts \$85K to \$1400 QTQ and \$6K YTD
- Total all Chapter balance is \$207K, also up to \$5.
- Transferred \$30k from SIU Checking to Saving (~\$8/month interest)
- All membership checks deposited, 75 checks for ~\$3k; Some Chapter disbursements sent, rest forthcoming
- Issued grant payments; revised grant fund report, which should be simpler
- KEB Accounting is done with our income tax filing & state tax filing! Floyd and Courtney's signature will be needed, can be electronic. Not sure on final amount for their services, but it will be approx \$300 total. This could be an isolated year and may not have to complete for several years. All will be documented so can be repeated when needed.

Membership Report (Amanda)

- [LINK](#) to membership report
- Members that want secondary affiliation have been entered now into Google spreadsheet. Amanda can send an excel spreadsheet if needed.
- Send new members a welcome email after joining. Chapters can also send a welcome through their program, Mail Chimp, Google Contact, etc.
- Chapters can send Amanda links for upcoming events to go out with renewal reminders
 - Renewals general come in throughout the year. 2017 was a big year. If send out one more renewal notice, may get up to 2019 membership (currently down about

~30) . **Plan on moving forward with email reminder along with Harbinger.**

Could add a note similar to other organizations about current situation.

- October 1st - December 1st membership gets added for both current and next year. Could change (to be more straight forward for record keeping) if apply after Oct 1st apply to next year. General consensus to move to this format.
- Please keep in mind that the google spreadsheet should only be shared with individuals needing to work with it as it has personal information of donation amounts and such. If someone needs access, they can request it through google docs and it gets sent to creators or to person that sent the link.

Plant Watchlist Update (Chris Benda)

- July 28th 6pm is the date everyone that wanted to participate can attend. Chris will send out meeting invite.

Harbinger

- Send Chris verbiage in next few days to send to Marta - it's ready to send out by end of month

New Business:

Chapter-specific Logo Discussion (Chris Evans)

- Southern chapter is interested in looking into a chapter-specific logo, looking into French's shooting star and working with graphic designer.
- State logo done about 10 yrs ago; everyone voted coloring to cover some of letters, this can be difficult at times for embroidery. Could change/update species
- Would every Chapter have its own logo? If so, could be themed or state wide logo pull in all individual logos together. Gretel volunteered to work together if Chapters are interested

Meeting ends: 7:00pm