



Board Meeting Minutes Aug 4, 2015

The meeting was held at Ron Groves and Pam Bryant's home.

Call to order at 2:05 pm.

Present: Jeff Boyd, Sue Brown, Pam Bryant, Ron Groves, Charles Holmes, Keller Suberkropp, Andy Payne

Absent: Elroy Limmer, Joan Limmer

Previous Meeting Minutes: The minutes of the April 14, 2015 meeting were approved.

Treasurers Report: The following are balances to date: First New Mexico Regular Checking \$3990.48, Garden Account \$6221.95, EO Jones Account \$35,182.75.

Silva Creek Botanical Garden: Two work days have been held recently, July 24 and 31. The major tasks completed have been to move gravel into planting beds and weeding. A neighbor has requested a 'Little Free Library' at the garden, and she will have someone construct the library box to be mounted in the garden. She will offer the design to GNPS for approval prior to construction. The board approved the request and Keller will inform her.

Membership: Ron will request that the State NPS send monthly membership updates. Up to now, the State has sent quarterly updates, and often GNPS does not know of new members until several months after their application has been sent. GNPS will try to keep a separate membership list so that new members do not miss newsletters and notifications. The State NPS announced a significant increase in dues that will affect individuals and families but not seniors and students. The board emphasized a need to reach out to the community to avoid losing membership due to the increase.

Plant Sale: Keller reported the net profit from the Plant Sale was \$725.66. Web site orders were \$1799.50, pre-sale orders \$1278.50, sales on pick-up day and Earth Day were \$358.40. Donation to the Silva Creek Garden totaled \$1130.78, which was paid for by the plant sale profit (profit before the donation was \$1856.44).

GNPS Communications: Charles Holmes is stepping down after many years of service as Communications Chair. The two major functions of this office are: 1) sending email communications as requested by the board or other GNPS members 2) publishing the quarterly newsletter. Pam volunteered to take the email task. The newsletter task has no owner as yet. Charles mentioned he is getting numerous requests that go beyond the normal email communication: Trish Hurley has asked that he send email publicity for Lone Mountain Natives to GNPS members. Margaret Hadderman has asked for the GNPS membership email list for a volunteer mailing. The

board discussed both issues and decided the following: Emails will not be sent by the GNPS to publicize another business, except when involving a joint activity with that business, and the GNPS email list will not be shared with another person or organization for any activity outside of GNPS (this is a reiteration of an established policy).

Give Grandly: GNPS participated in the 'Give Grandly' event on May 5th, setting up a table. Contributions totaled \$340 to GNPS. This was not discussed at the board meeting, but was added to the minutes to document this important item.

Youth Education: Andy reported that Tricia Hurley has created a key book for plant identification, has met with 20 children and has sent a report of her activities to Andy. Tricia would like a letter of introduction to the School District from the GNPS. Ron said he would sign the letter as President of GNPS. Tricia is also considering meeting with the Boy and Girl Scouts and area home-school children.

Adult Education: Bill Norris, Russ Kleinman, and Richard Felger will be presenting a Grass ID Workshop, starting Aug 26 and running thru Sept 30. Jeff will write up an announcement and add to community calendars

State Meeting at Durango: Ron and Pam attended the state meeting last month. They report it was a great success and suggested more GNPS members should be attending the annual meeting. Next year it will be much closer: Las Cruces, Sept 22-25 2016.

Albertson Cards: Susan has received a box of Albertsons donation keychain cards for the GNPS. She distributed some to each board member. These need to be made available at all GNPS functions.

Gila River Festival: The GNPS is an announced sponsor of the 2015 Gila River Festival.

NM Native Plant Day: Saturday Aug 15th has been designated New Mexico Native Plant Day. GNPS will have a table at the Farmers Market that day. Ron and Pam and Keller and possibly others will work the table.

Red Hot Chili Festival: Saturday Sept 26th. Mark and Tricia are planning to organize activities with children for the festival. Ron will talk to them about GNPS involvement.

Glenwood District, Gila National Forest: Anne Casey, Acting District Ranger, has contacted the GNPS about involvement in a project consisting of a series of plantings to enhance sustainability and to promote growth of traditional Native American use plants. Ron will contact Richard Felger to discuss how GNPS might get involved.

Gila National Forest Plan Revision Meeting: Next meeting is scheduled for Aug 5th in Silver City. Keller reported the USFS was looking for input from the public. Several board members said they planned to attend.

Endangered Species Act: A letter is being circulated to organizations around the country to request that plants be given equal protection with animals under the Endangered Species Act. The board voted to sign the letter.

GMCR Radio Station: The board discussed becoming an underwriter to GMCR, the community radio station. The cost for seventeen 40 second ads would be about \$115. Susan will contact GMCR to find out if they can help with the ad content and if we can focus the ad timing for the “Earth Matters” radio program. Pending their response, the board agreed to commit to doing this. The board discussed the preference for getting the ads started quickly, to promote the Grass Id Workshop and other GNPS events.

NM Wilderness Society: Nathan Newcomer asked if GNPS could help him with creating a plant list for the Gila River riparian area in the Upper Box. Jeff suggested scheduling a field trip in which participants would list plants found. This would need to be scheduled in August, timed for the flower season. Ron will discuss this with Kevin, the Field Trips Coordinator. If that is not feasible, Jeff will contact Donna Stevens, Bill Norris, Russ Kleinman, and/or Richard Felger to conduct a quick survey.

PRC decision regarding PNM Plan: Andy suggested that the GNPS contact the PRC to oppose the PNM Power Replacement Plan that is heavily weighted towards power generation from coal, and to support use of renewable sources instead. Ron said that he will contact the State NPS conservation committee to get their input, as it is in their sphere of activity.

Meeting adjourned at 4:30 pm.

J. Boyd, sec