



## Board Meeting Minutes Sept 11, 2017

The meeting was held in Harlan Hall at WNMU.

### **Call to order at 2:15 pm.**

**Present:** Elroy Limmer, Joan Limmer, Jeff Boyd, Pam Bryant, Ron Groves, Keller Suberkropp, Bill Norris, Betty Spence

**Absent:** Helen Shoup

The minutes from May 17th were approved as amended.

**Treasurers Report:** Approximate balances: Regular checking: \$4265.69; Garden acct: \$2470.07. \$3553.37 has been spent ytd for the garden.

**Presidents Report:** The Grant County Bee Keepers wants to discuss how they might coordinate efforts on the Sylva Creek Garden. The board unanimously agreed on no bee hive. But an info board or planting of bee-attracting plants would be ok. Elroy to discuss further with them.

**Presentations:** The September program was completed on the 8<sup>th</sup> by Patrice Mutchnick. Future programs are scheduled through Feb 2018. Possibilities for March, April, and May 2018 are: Native Plant Propagation and care, Native Bees, and Cooking with Native Plants.

**Youth Education:** Ron will contact Trish Hurley to discuss how she may have been representing GNPS in the summer events. The Children's Water Festival is coming up on Sept 27, 30<sup>th</sup>, and if needed, Oct 3. Carol Fugagli of UGWA asked GNPS for volunteer Guides for Festival. She has not asked for GNPS to provide a 'station' as in prior years. Jeff will contact her to clarify the needs.

**Membership:** Joan stated there were 137 members at this time.

**Newsletter:** The quarterly GNPS newsletter is due at the end of the month. Elroy will provide garden pictures and Keller will provide info on the spotlighted plant for Helen. Helen needs pictures of presenters, Elroy will contact Patrice to get her picture, as no picture was taken during the presentation.

**Publicity:** Betty has sent a press release about Nathan Newcomer's October presentation to the Desert Exposure. She hopes it is included in the October issue. This month's Desert Exposure has an article about the Sylva Creek Garden, by Lisa Jimenez. Betty submits calendar notices to the Health Community Council Calendar, the Gila Community.net, KRWG, and the Silver City Bureau of Tourism, press releases

to the Silver City Daily Press, Grant County Beat, and online version of Silver City Sun-News.

**Book Sales:** Ron reported sales of about \$165 in individual copies of Carter's book, and about \$208 sold to the Bosque del Apache Wildlife Refuge. Ron will continue to provide two free copies of Carter's book to the 'Teacher of the Year'. But GNPS intends to keep ownership and control of the remaining 146 copies of the book.

**GNPS Brochures:** Keller volunteered to recreate the GNPS brochure, as a useable file does not exist and we are out of them.

**Silva Creek Garden:** The board discussed the need to display the garden brochure at campgrounds and at motels. When the current batch runs out, Elroy has a few changes to make for the next version, including pictures and a revised mission statement.

There have been 10 work days this year, with 170 volunteer hours. There are large piles of soil and mulch to be spread, and an agave to transplant from the Flanders' yard, so much work is still to be done. Next work day is proposed to be Friday, Sept 22<sup>nd</sup>.

Elroy talked with the Town Manager (Alex Brown) about putting up a sign on US180 pointing to the garden. The right-of-way is owned by the state, so that is not simple.

Elroy also asked for a sign on Alabama, owned by the town, and Alex did not respond. Elroy will re-connect with Alex.

Richard Felger suggested we create a Silva Creek Garden bookmark. The board tabled that for future consideration.

Elroy has the minutes for the last Garden sub-committee meeting. The board agreed that they did not need to be posted on the web site.

**Field Trips:** The last field trip was cancelled due to the weather. Betty indicated that there are many field trips which change location at the last minute. A minimum of 8 days in advance is needed for publicizing a change. The board advised that the trip announcements should include 'subject to change', but this is not a new issue, and most people are understanding.

**Give Grandly:** The final total donated to GNPS was \$1315.

**GNPS Plant Sale:** The total profit was reported by Keller as \$976.27. Elroy suggested a couple future offerings could be bundled 'bird plants' and 'butterfly plants'. That concept was successful for the Wisconsin Native Plant Society. The board was supportive of the idea.

**State Conference 2018:** An announcement flyer was prepared, with 100 copies printed, to distribute at the Taos conference next week. At the conference, Elroy plans to ask how the State NPS can help with the 2018 conference, specifically with info on a web page and online registration. When back from the conference, Elroy will start putting together a committee to work on the 2018 Conference. The speakers and programs need to be in place by Feb, 2018. Bill confirmed that the Global Resource Center at WNMU is reserved for the event.

**Web Site:** Ron and Jeff are waiting on Chloe to complete requested work before training and turnover. They have not heard from her. Bill will contact her to set up a meeting.

**Holiday Party:** Set for Dec 17<sup>th</sup> noon to 4pm at the Volunteer Center.

**Gila River Festival, GNPS Table:** Ron, Pam, and Jeff will take responsibility for the table at the Festival.

**Outreach Coordinator Recommendations:** There has been no communication with Sara Digby since the meeting months back at the Little Toad Creek Brewery. Elroy will talk to her at the State Conference in Taos.

**Next Board Meetings:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday at 2pm. So next is Oct 9<sup>th</sup>.

**Meeting adjourned at 3:40 pm.**

J. Boyd, sec