



Board Meeting Minutes, September 29, 2020

The meeting was held via Zoom. Board Members participated from their homes.

Call to order 5:00 pm

Present: Don Graves, Wendy Graves, Bill Norris, Elroy Limmer, Joan Limmer, Keller Suberkropp, Betty Spence, Les Brandt, Beth Leuck, Emily Pollom, Jane Spinti

Minutes: Minutes from the August 21, 2020 meeting were approved.

Board Reports:

Treasurer's Report: Estimated balance in the GNPS account is 9195.67. The Silva Creek Garden Account has an estimated balance of \$4483.98.

President's Report: Election of new Board Members occurs in November. Bill Norris will be stepping down from his position as Vice-President. Jane Spinti will be stepping down as Secretary. Betty Spence has expressed an interest in filling the position of Secretary. The Board is still searching for someone to fill the position of Vice President.

Don reported that the newest edition of Trees and Shrubs of New Mexico (the 3rd. edition) is in progress. The book is now property of GNPS and GNPS is paying all costs for editing, printing and shipping of the new edition. See additional information under Old Business.

Vice President's Report: Bill reported programs for spring have been set up. See report under New Business.

NPS State Chapter Representative's Report: Keller reported that each Chapter of the NPSNM now pays for its own liability insurance. The current cost is \$28.00 per year. Board Members were in agreement that liability insurance is needed and would be purchased.

Newsletter/Bulletin Report: Betsy Kaido is publishing the GNPS Bulletin. The next bulletin will come out October 1st. The Bulletin is emailed to each GNPS member and is also available on the GNPS website.

Membership Report: Joan reports membership is holding steady at about 140 members.

Education Report: Don reports GNPS would like to work collaboratively with the Silver City Audubon Society. Audubon is currently working with students from Jose Barrio grade school on science projects. Don would like to work with Audubon and the students from Jose Barrio to involve them in science studies at the Silva Creek Botanical Garden which is adjacent to the

School. Science projects could include learning native plant species, a study of plants and their pollinators, etc.

GNPS Facebook page: Betty continues to add information and activities of GNPS to the GNPS Facebook page

Silva Creek Botanical Garden: Elroy reports there is a new fence being constructed around the storage area at the back of the garden thanks to a generous donation from Betsy Kaido. There is a plan to build additional storage space for garden tools. Elroy is waiting to hear from the contractor about construction of the roof over the amphitheater. Removal of elm trees continues.

Dr. William (Bill) Norris reported that since field trips have become impossible during the Covid virus WNMU Dendrology students have been gathering at the SCBG to observe native trees. Bill reports this is much preferable to looking at pictures on the Internet and he and his students are most grateful.

Bill also suggested that the SCBG be added to the list of places to see on the Silver City Map published by the city. The SCBG is not currently listed on the city map.

Public Relations: Betty reports help is needed with Facebook posts to give information about where native plants can be seen in the wild - a useful site since field trips were not possible due to Covid virus. Betty also questioned how widely upcoming Zoom meetings should be publicized. Don reports that Zoom can accommodate up to 100 participants so meetings can continue to be publicized as usual.

Old Business:

Publication of Trees and Shrubs of New Mexico: Dr. William (Bill) Norris reported that editorial work on "Trees and Shrubs of New Mexico" by Dr. Jack L. Carter is well under way. Colorado State Horticulture and Landscape Architecture professor Dr. Jennifer Bousset, who is overseeing the process, invited NM botanists Bob Sivinski, Russ Kleinman and William (Bill) R. Norris to review and comment on the content of the 2nd edition of Jack's book (published in 2012), with many of their suggestions to be incorporated in the upcoming 3rd edition of this book. A major goal of this editorial effort is to reconcile scientific names in latest version of "Trees and Shrubs of New Mexico" with those presented in the just published (2020) standard reference to the New Mexico flora: Flora Neomexicana, 2nd ed. by Kelly Allred, Gene Jercinovic and Robert DeWitt Ivey. After the above editorial work is complete, the final page proofs will be sent to the printer. Hopefully, Trees and Shrubs of New Mexico, 3rd edition by Dr. Jack L. Carter will be printed and ready for distribution by early 2021.

GNPS On-line Book Sales: Don reported that Ron Groves is revising the number of the books sold by GNPS. Ron would like to keep about 5 of the most popular sellers. Other less popular titles will no longer be available for purchase on the GNPS Website.

GNPS Holiday Gathering: Don is interested in GNPS Members ideas for a virtual Holiday Party. Please send ideas to Don.

New Business:

Proposed Program Calendar: Bill Norris noted that the Vice President is responsible for setting up the slate of speakers for GNPS meetings. Zoom has made it possible to engage speakers from locations far from Silver City increasing the availability of possible speakers. Bill additionally noted that a number of speakers have already been engaged to speak starting in January with a presentation by Dr. Kelly Allred via Zoom.

Potential Officer Candidates: A slate of Candidates will be announced at the October meeting. Election of new Board Members occurs in November. Bill Norris will be stepping down from his position as Vice-President. Jane Spinti will be stepping down as Secretary. Betty Spence has expressed an interest in filling the position of Secretary. The Board is still searching for someone to fill the position of Vice President.

Motion to Adjourn at 6:01 PM.

Jane Spinti, Secretary