



## **Board Meeting Minutes, August 21, 2020**

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

### **Call to order 7:01 pm**

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

**Absent:** Joan Limmer

**Minutes** from the January 15, 2020 meeting were approved.

### **Board Reports:**

**Treasurer's Report:** Since there has not been a meeting since January the Treasurer's Report included balances in the GNPS account from April (\$7942.29) May (\$7362.65) June (\$8655.95) and July (\$9099.26).

The Silva Creek Garden Account has a balance of \$14,181.60.

**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, so those two positions will need to be filled.

In person events such as the joint Audubon/Gila Native Plant Society picnic and the Holiday Party will not take place because of the COVID Virus.

**Vice President's Report:** October and November GNPS meetings will be held via Zoom due to meeting restrictions during the current covid virus.

The new Allred books have been published. There are five different books: Guide to Dicotyledonous Plants; Guide to Spore Plants, Gymnosperms and Monocotyledonous Plants; Glossary; Annotated Checklist; and Field Keys.

**NPS State Chapter Representative's Report:** Keller reported the latest State Meeting of NPSNM occurred via Zoom. Here is his brief summary: 1) The treasurer's report indicated that we are in good shape and similar to last year. I have specifics if you want them. 2) The membership is also about the same. 3) Tom indicated that he would appreciate it if people would look at the website and let him know if there are problems, etc. 4) Currently, if our chapter wants liability insurance for an event, e.g. plant sale or other e.g. garden, it costs \$28 per year.

**Newsletter/Bulletin Report:** Newsletter/Bulletin Report: Betsy Kaido will put out the 4th Quarter GNPS Bulletin at the end of September. Betty reported she has passed on information about GNPS activities to the editor of the state newsletter.

**Publicity Report:** Publicity Betty reported she has been using Mail Chimp emails and Facebook to announce GNPS events

**Membership Report:** No report from Joan. Don reports he has met with several new members.

**Education Report:** A Landscaping with Native Plants class was created through the efforts of Betsy Kaido, Jeff Boyd, Elroy Limmer, and others. Four modules were created. One on Plants that were useful for landscaping Southwestern gardens, a second module on basic principles of landscape design, a third module on how to plant, prune and care for native plants, and a fourth module which was a virtual tour of environments that were landscaped with native plants in the Silver City area.

**GNPS Website:** Jeff Boyd is managing the website. Betty adds material to the programs and Field Trip pages. Don and Wendy have created a virtual Meadow Creek Field Trip, the link is posted on the Website.

**GNPS Facebook Page:** Emily has set up a Facebook page with activities of the GNPS and Betty is managing it, with contributions from other members.

**Book Sales:** No report.

**Silva Creek Botanical Garden:** Elroy reports decorative native grasses have been planted. Elm removal is in progress. Work continues to improve walk-ways and amend soils in the garden. Work continues in the Healing/Medicinal garden especially the addition of new plants.

**Field Trips:** Discontinued for the summer due to COVID concerns.

**Public Relations and Holiday Cheer:** Field trips, the joint picnic, and the Holiday Party have been cancelled due to COVID concerns.

## **Old Business:**

### **GNPS Plant Sale:**

The plant sale scheduled for Fall has been cancelled.

### **Roof/Canopy over seating area at Silva Creek Botanical Garden:**

Elroy has created a roof plan. It has been approved by an engineer and meets State requirements. Design calls for a mostly metal structure of a modern design to be graced by a very large dragonfly metal structure upon completion of the roof. Other projects at the garden include landscaping around the old tank and looking at water retention and distribution.

## **New Business:**

**Clean and Beautiful Grant:** The Clean and Beautiful Grant is a grant from the State that the City of SC will manage. There will be money for various additions to the new Healing Garden, tree removal and trellis addition at SCBG.

**October and November Programs:** The programs will be presented via Zoom.

Friday, October, 16, 2020 at 7:00 pm: "Reflections on a Plant Inventory of Gila Cliff Dwellings National Monument (2013-2020)." Presented by William (Bill) Norris, Kelly Kindscher, Russ Kleinman, Richard Felger and Patrice Mutchnick.

Friday, November 20, 2020 at 7:00 pm: "Ferns of the Gila." Presented by Russ Kleinman.

**Gila River Festival:** GNPS is sponsoring (\$500) the Gila River Festival again this year. In addition, GNPS has donated items with our GNPS logo for the "SWAG BAG" promotion. Items included are GNPS thumb drives and copies of the Beginner's Guide to Planting Native Perennials of the Gila Region.

**Volunteer Recognition:** Usually occurs at the Holiday Party in December which has been cancelled. Please send ideas for how to recognize outstanding volunteers to Don.

**Holiday Cheer:** Don would like to create a virtual house party with decorations, and singing to be sent as a video during the holiday season in December. Ideas would be appreciated. Send ideas or offers of help to Don.

**Motion to Adjourn** at 7:56 PM.

Jane Spinti, Secretary