

# ***NPSOT: Pines and Prairies Chapter***

## **Meeting Minutes**

October 12, 2021

Location: Microsoft Teams Meeting

- 1) **Call to Order** – 7:02pm
- 2) **Roll call for establishing a board quorum** – David Lemons, Gail McConnell, Kathie Herrick, Abbie Ince-Hendrickson, Aram Derewetzky, Martin Simonton
- 3) **Additional Attendees Present** – Jessica Mauch (connection ended soon after joining the meeting)
- 4) **Presentation of the minutes of the last meeting** – Gail McConnell for Eric Walberg  
*Motion to Accept:* Aram, *Second:* Abbie. All in favor, motion carries.
- 5) **Report of the President** – Gail McConnell, President
  - a) Thank you to Aram, Abbie, Kathie, and Anita for great plant walk Sunday at George Mitchell Preserve. We had 12 persons on the walk.
  - b) Request for approval of Don Dubois as Botanical Advisor to the Chapter  
*Motion to approve:* Aram, *Second:* Abbie. All in favor, motion carries
  - c) Purchase Pro Zoom account from Native Plant Society Plan at \$100.  
*Motion to approve:* Kathie, *Second:* Abbie. All in favor, motion carries
  - d) Elections to stagger the Board. Martin, David, Abbie will stay on for a second year. Aram will let Gail know shortly. Open positions: President, Secretary, Director at Large.
- 6) **Report of the Treasurer** – David Lemons, Treasurer
  - a) Final Plant Sale Report to be circulated after the meeting
  - b) Quarterly Financial Report has been filed with the State
  - c) Gail to provide example of the four fund balance worksheets to be maintained
- 7) **Report of Chairs and Committees**
  - a) Report of Program Committee – Martin
    1. Restart Volunteer work days on Thursday mornings. Chapter members to care for plants for plant sales. New World will supplement Chapter inventory
    2. Seed collecting on Sunday yielded over 12 new species of plants to grow for the Spring Sale
    3. Martin has over 10,000 Gulf Coast Penstemon seeds and Texas bluebells
      - (1) Make seed packets to send to all Chapter members as a Thank you and encourage renewal of membership
      - (2) Kathie suggested a letter should go with each packet
      - (3) Will need to prepare envelopes, address labels, and stamps—Gail to ask Barbi Petty, Linda Roe, Patti Thompson for assistance
      - (4) Martin agreed to donate seeds for a seed bomb making class at Nature's Way Resources. A portion of the fees for that class may be donated to the Chapter.
  - b) Report of Membership Outreach Committee – Aram
    1. Native Plant week is October 17-23.
      - (1) No member has contacted Aram to assist with this
      - (2) Kathie noted that libraries have a calendared plan of displays and that we need to get on that calendar for next year

- (3) Kathie suggested that we could place our Level 1 Class flyer at public libraries.
  - (4) Aram will have flyers printed and will post at Magnolia and New Caney libraries; Kathie will post flyers at the Mitchell and South Central libraries in The Woodlands
- c) Report of NCLP Committee – Kathie
- 1. Technical review is Monday, October 18, Meg Inglis will join that meeting
  - 2. 20 currently enrolled
  - 3. Committee conducted a field trip at Mercer
  - 4. *Motion to waive Botanical Advisors Level 1 class fee if they commit to teaching future courses: Kathie, Second Abbie. All in favor, motion carries.*

## 8) Unfinished Business -

- a) General meeting November 10 (hybrid)
- 1. Adam Black will present, “The Rare, Lesser-known or Otherwise Noteworthy Plants of Montgomery County: Past and Present”
  - 2. Location: Agri-Life Building in Conroe
  - 3. Time: Speaker at 7:00 pm; mixer to meet other members at 6:30pm, “Scavenger Hunt” find a geologist, wildlife biologist, botanist for members present in-person. Brief appearances by members zooming in.
- b) Chapter Infrastructure:
- 1. Standing committees have not yet been, but need to be, formed
    - (1) Publicity—find members who have written and published in the media
    - (2) Membership
    - (3) Newsletter—Board discussed and agreed that our Facebook page and website sufficiently serve to communicate with our members; in light of email notice of Board meetings, weekly email from the Society on virtual events, etc.
    - (4) Martin and Gail will discuss and report back on whether separate committees are needed for Plant Sales, monthly field trips, NICE program, propagation/demo gardens

## 9) Planned New Business

- a) Next board meeting, Thursday, November 18, 2021 at 7:00pm. Kathie has a conflict, but will provide a report beforehand.

## 10) Unplanned New Business -

- a) First Anniversary Celebration in January. Gail suggested that it be held during the day with plant walks, etc.
- b) WG Jones Sign landscaping project
- 1. Abbie and David will be meeting with Heartwood Chapter members on Wednesday, October 13 to determine if it will be a collaborative effort
  - 2. Abbie will design landscaping around the sign on FM1488 in front of the classroom building

## 11)Adjournment – 8:00pm

Accepted by the Board on November 18, 2021.  
Electronically signed by Eric Walberg, Secretary