

Fall State Board Meeting October 12, 2013
Eddy Discovery Center, Chelsea, MI

Members Present: Irene Eiseman, Craig Elston, Richard Fowler, Aaron Fown, Ruth Hart, Michael Huft, Judy Kelly, Robert Kelly, Emily Nietering, Larry Nooden, Sarah Nooden, Tony Reznicek, Lynn Steil, Bev Walters, Alice Ward

Call to Order MBC President, Judy Kelly, called the meeting to order at 10:10 a.m.

Agenda approval Irene Eiseman moved to approve the May 25, 2013 MBC minutes/Treas. report. Bev Walters seconded, motion carried.

Robert's Rules of Order President Kelly reminded the Board of procedures.

Announcements

A. Updated president's email list: List was passed around for updating. President Kelly announced that her new email address is

Committee Reports

Web Master - Aaron Fown expressed his happiness with the website with very few glitches. He mentioned that the website is incompatible with the search engine Explorer 8 and to please update to a newer version of Explorer. Larry Nooden asked about security and Aaron said it was very good. He also said that he will teach 10 people how to edit their chapter information on the website. Richard Fowler asked about registering for the foray on the website. Aaron said that he can do this including a payment method if desired.

Nominations - Sarah Nooden explained the duties of the nominations committee which include telephoning/e-mailing to each chapter to see who is still interested in their Board position for the term beginning 2015. Sarah said that she was willing to continue to be chair but would need extra help this year due to her travels. The committee needs to be formed before 2/1/2014.

Judy K. said that she would send treasurer be authorized to expend funds to set up a out an e-mail to see if anyone would like to serve on this committee.

Corresponding Secretary - Mary Danforth was not present but spoke to Judy K. about when the Arisaema should be published this year due to the foray being in July. It was agreed that a June issue would be possible depending on the lodging reservation requirements. This prompted a discussion of the need of a spring Board meeting. It was decided that an April 12th Board meeting would be needed to certify the slate. Judy will contact the MEC office in Lansing for the winter and spring meeting.

The Michigan Botanist - Michael Huft (replacing Todd Barkman) had spoken to Todd who indicated that there were enough articles but does not know the details yet. Appreciation was expressed to Michael for taking on the position of editor. (introduction of Michael to follow)

Treasurer - Bob Kelly e-mailed the treasurer's report to everyone for reference. He expressed that the current balance is fine however \$1000 still needs to go to The Michigan Botanist and \$2000 to the business manager so he will have to withdraw money from money market funds to meet those needs. The trend is moderately increasing expenses with decreasing revenue so we will continue to experience shortfalls until we address this. Bob said there were questions regarding the initial investment amount of the Smith Fund and needed to calculate its value at the time it was invested along with funds from the MBC into the 2005 \$40,000 CD. Earnings from 2005 to date were calculated by the % contribution of the Smith and MBC funds at the

time the 2005 CD was established. He suggested that when the CD matures we separate it from the MBC funds.

New Business

Constitution & bylaws committee - Michael Huft offered to join the constitution committee as he had non-profit law experience. He was welcomed on board. Tony expressed how digital communication may not be considered in the constitution and will need to be expressed in the constitution. Michael agreed. Larry N. expressed a concern with our tax #. Bob K. said that a form & letter for the state expressing our status as a non-profit is now needed. Discussion followed on the state requirement for a permanent address such as a PO Box address or a drop-box. Bob K. moved that the PO Box address for the MBC and it be in Ann Arbor, Aaron Fown seconded. Discussion followed. It was agreed that we may want to investigate an actual address with Mailbox etc. or something similar. Bob K. revised his motion that he would investigate the type of Box to set up and have an on-line vote. Motion passed.

Old Business

Report on back issues of The Michigan Botanist - Judy K. announced that she has issues of The Michigan Botanist in the trunk of her car for anyone who wishes to have them. Discussion regarding the older Michigan Botanist being electronically available but for now hard copies are available. Archives are in the Herbarium Library. The Michigan Botanist was explicitly NOT copyrighted. Larry N. mentioned that not all PDF's are searchable.

Mission Statement - The mission statement/aims committee is comprised of Sarah & Larry Nooden, Ruth Hart and Tony Reznicek who worked on the proposals and passed copies including the rationale to everyone. Discussion regarding the great lakes region being addressed and the word "native" to distinguish ourselves from garden plants. Also, exotics/invasives are studied as they pertain to native plants. It was mentioned that the mission statement does not need to be part of the constitution but a separate entity which can be altered as necessary. Sarah Nooden said that she would write a final statement and we will have an e-mail vote. It was suggested that the term "wise use" in the aims could be revised to say "stewardship". Tony R. said that the constitution committee will take the Aims suggestions under advisement.

Re-publication of Winter Wildflowers - Larry N. said there is a need for updating the publication of Winter Wildflowers. The committee proposed to use the Smith fund (as the family indicated). It was discussed how the booklet would engage amateur botanists with an interest. The Michigan Botanical Club name will be prominent. Judy K. asked if it could be a special supplement or special issue to/of The Michigan Botanist. This was supported by Larry N. and Tony R. as this could help cover costs. The question of copyrighting or open-access of the new supplement was asked. Michael Huft pointed out that there are selective copyrights. Aaron Fown said that there are other avenues that could be researched as well. Larry and Aaron suggested that the original be digitally formatted. Questions and comments were made regarding scientific names and appropriateness. Judy Kelly asked Larry Nooden to write an article in the spring Arisaema regarding ideas/ photos, etc. on The Winter Wildflower publication. He agreed.

Status of Red Cedar Chapter — Irene Eiseman said that everyone who was a member in 2012 will get copies of The Michigan Botanist. Irene felt that historical documents could be found and archived in the Bentley Library. Larry N. suggested asking the Wesselmans and Peebles. Search for new editor for The Michigan Botanist Michael Huft — Judy K. referred to the bylaws regarding the Editor-in-Chief to be a 3yr term and the need to fill this post. Judy Kelly welcomed Michael Huft and asked him to tell us about himself. He said that he received a Ph.D. in Botany from the University of Michigan in 1979 and spent the next 13 years working as a tropical botanist, mostly at the Missouri Botanical Garden and the Field Museum. He went to law school in 1992 and practiced most of the time since then in a large Chicago firm in the area of non-profit law. He has been working part time for the last four years and has gradually renewed his activities in botany. He went on to say that when he read that the Club was looking for a new editor, he first contacted Judy K. by email, then spoke with her over the phone. After that he had a conversation with Todd Barkman. He is a member of the Indiana Native Plant & Wildflower Society, and at the beginning of this year rejoined the Michigan Botanical Club as a member of the Southwestern Chapter (He had been a member of the Huron Valley Chapter in the 70s, 80s, and early 90s). Larry N. moved that Michael Huft be brought on board as the Editor of The Michigan Botanist as soon as possible. Tony R. seconded. Discussion followed as Michael expressed his thoughts on the possibility of broadening the appeal of The Michigan Botanist by including articles on the greater Great Lakes area. Tony R. said that Ed Voss had that idea in mind also as an educational component. Sarah N. expressed that biographies also may be of interest. Larry N. mentioned that the Smiths' legacy be recognized in the journal as well. Richard F. also supported the idea of broadening the appeal without diluting the journal's professional stature. Motion carried.

Foray 2014 planning

Date - July 10-14

Events

Thursday, July 10 - no meals, start of room reservations

Friday, July 11 - no meals, evening program, snacks, room

Saturday, July 12 - 3 meals, evening program, snacks, rooms, field trips

Sunday, July 13 - 3 meals, evening program snacks, rooms, field trips

Monday, July 14 - breakfast & boxed lunch. Possible special events for Monday include eastbound travelers, Grand Island (Munising) tour available, westbound travelers, Porcupine Mountains/ Nature Center Make own room reservations.

Committees

Field trip leaders & evening speakers - Lynn Steil, Larry Nooden, Tony Reznicek

Transportation - Judy & Bob Kelly, Irene Eiseman

Registration - Bev Walters, Aaron Fown, Richard Fowler

Booklet - Mary Danforth, Craig Elston, Sarah Nooden, Richard Fowler

On-site Logistics - Pam Lauretto, Sarah Nooden

Lodging & Meals - Alice Ward, Emily Nietering

Committees broke out and met individually. Committee reports were given on progress/contacts/ plans/etc. Announcements were made that non-board members are welcome to help. It was noted by the field trip leader/speaker committee that a budget needs

to be made soon regarding speaker/ leader stipends and/or coverage of expenses as soon as possible.

Future State Board Meeting - Winter meeting of the Board on Saturday, Jan 25, 2014. Snow date, Feb. 1, 2014. Spring meeting on April 12.

Adjournment - Tony R. moved to adjourn, Aaron F. seconded
Meeting adjourned 1:11pm.