

KAWO Executive Committee Minutes of January 20, 2021.

Present: Alysia Babcock, Jason Ballew, Jessie Davis, Ann Fraser, Ilse Gebhard, Mike Klug, Noel Ocen-Gorgone, Paul Olexia, Kim Patrie, Margo Rebar, David Riggs, Neil Sikora, and Dave Wendling.

1) Jessie called the meeting to order on Zoom at 6:03. We welcomed Jason Ballow to the Committee.

2) We accepted the December 26, 2020 election results for the Executive Committee members for 2021.

President: Jessie Davis; 45 votes

Secretary: David Riggs; 45 votes

Treasurer: Margo Rebar; 45 votes

At-Large:

Alysia Babcock; 44 votes

Jason Ballew; 44 votes

Ann Fraser; 45 votes

Noel Ocen-Gorgone; 45 votes

3) We approved the Minutes of December 16, 2020.

4) We approved the Treasurer's Report.

5) Standing Committee Reports

a) Community Projects. Paul had nothing to report.

b) Fundraising / Plant Sale. Dave is planning a zoom meeting, using National's zoom account (with Ann's help). Dave is planning to have an "order only" sale, with pickup taking place at the People's Food Coop. Ferns have been ordered, and Dave and Alysia will work with Chad to provide plants. Next year Aysia will be taking over the leadership role, so she is working closely with Dave. Mike and Ilse have put together plants list for a "Monarch Starter" kit. Mike and Ilse will join the first meeting.

c) Hospitality. No activity.

d) We had 143 paid-up members as of 1/16/2021. It was 138 on 11/8/2020 and 151 on 1/12/2020.

e) Dave's site visits will begin in April. Dave will write up something for Seedlings in the next month.

f) Outreach and Education. Noel emailed the committee her current working list of resources of information related to native plants, and requested that the committee members send Noel additional resources that should be added to the list.

g) Programs. Nothing new to report, but Paul invites anyone to tell the committee of any suggested speakers or videos. Mike reported on his visit to the Twin Cities meeting, which had a self-introduction time before the online meeting. It worked well and Mike suggested that we might consider doing something similar.

h) Publications. Kim plans to send out Seedlings this weekend. The bookmark and flier will be finalized this week. As we previously agreed, the flier will be digital only. The current version posted online will be updated to have a better image and include the names of speakers. Kim suggested that it would be a good idea to reformat the bookmark as a postcard to be mailed to members. Kim will work on this change and also on how to check on the correctness of the emails and addresses of our membership list.

i) Wild for Monarchs. Mike is getting seeds stratified, and is set to start scheduling activities as soon as the lifting of COVID restrictions allow it. Please get any milkweeds seeds you have to Mike.

6) Kalamazoo Environmental Council. Nothing to report.

## 7) Old Business

a) The contact list update is complete.

b) Neil is almost finished with the assembling of the updates to our Operating Guidelines and intends to distribute his summary to the committee next month.

c) We agreed to donate \$250 to Keep Kalamazoo Wild toward the purchase of the land parcel adjacent to the Kleinstuck Preserve. We noted that we have previously financially supported Kleinstuck in various ways, and that we have also supported other non-profit programs: Pierce Cedar Creek and Kellogg Biological Station, for example.

## 8) New Business

a) Neil has been monitoring KAWO's Gmail account, and he is willing to continue if no one else wants to take the responsibility. Jessie and Neil will discuss.

b) Neil currently takes care of cancellation notices on community services in the event of bad weather and so forth. He is willing to continue if no one else wants to take the responsibility. Jessie and Neil will discuss.

c) Jessie discussed how to handle corporate matching gifts programs with Janet Rothe at National. Janet agreed that National is willing to accept the gifts on behalf of the local chapter and then forwarded the funds to our local chapter. Jessie will make such a gift and we will see how it works before telling other members about this opportunity.

9) At next week's membership meeting Jessie will request that people be sure their information is up to date via the Mailchip mechanism. Kim will add a note about how to do this in the next communication to members.

Meeting adjourned at 7:04.

>>> Next Meeting: Wednesday February 17, 2021; 6 PM; Zoom Meeting