

KAWO Executive Committee Meeting Notes

Wednesday, May 18, 2022 – 7:00 PM on Zoom

Register for meetings on the KAWO website at:

<http://www.kalamazoowildones.org/business/> The link will be the same for all EC meetings in 2022.

Present: Gail, Quyen, Kathy, Ruth, Noel, Jessie, Ilse, Kim, Mike, Margo, Mel, Paul, and Ann

Absent: Jason, Dave

1. Call to order; Changes to the agenda. 7:01 PM
add to new business National Garden Club invitation at Wedels in July
2. Approval of minutes of April 20, 2022 (Quyen) –
Quyen will be sure to sign minutes in the future.
Motion to approve Kathy, second Gail. Motion passed.
3. Treasurers Report & Approval (Margo) – Report Attached
The biggest expense this past month was Karen Oberhouser's travel and hotel expenses at \$683. Karen asked for her honorarium in the form of a donation to the arboretum.

New quarterly budget, thank you!

Can you please make it clear to Margo what line the money should come from?

Motion to approve Kathy, second Mel. Motion passed.

Old Business

- a.) Discussion about KAWO signs. The original ones were ordered in 2016 and were \$5 each. There are 4 left. Ordering more will cost \$21 each. What do we want to do if members want yard signs going forward? Continue to do research into the end goal. Quyen will look into options to bring forward to the next meeting.
<https://www.smartsign.com/customized-sign-template/sku-S-3743-7x10>
- b.) Discussion regarding KAWO EC Meetings in-person or on Zoom.
Continued discussion about Zoom meeting preference – There was general consensus that the preference is for Zoom meetings, but the group would be interested in in-person get togethers. Kim and Jason will plan a date and let everyone know.

New Business

- a.) Discussion about who should have the second key to the KAWO mailbox. Mel Luna has volunteered. Does the EC need to approve?
Margo has two keys. Mel volunteered to pick it up and communicate what is needed. Motion was made by Kathy for Mel to have a key in 2022, second by Gail. Motion approved.

b.) Garden Event

KAWO has been invited to host a table at the National Garden Clubs Standard Flower Show at Wedel's Nursery on July 22-23 by the Kalamazoo Garden Council. We should discuss the pros and cons of having an educational display about native plants and pollinators there. Noel's comments "While I would love to give a presentation to the Garden Council, I have concerns about doing it at Wedels because I cannot recommend any of their plants. Mike said we did this years ago and one of the requirements was that we could not emphasize native plants and that cultivars were perfectly ok. There have been other issues over the years. Ilse added that she gave talks years ago and wanted her to promote their plants and she stopped doing that.

In the past, Wenke's was interested in adding native plants to their offering but they had to keep them separate because they were spraying pesticides.

Mel said could we consider the past experiences water under the bridge and consider that it may reach one person in the crowd and is willing to participate in that. Ilse said reach out to the Garden Club was to promote plants and not Wedel's plants. Wedel's is hosting, it is not their events. Getting different thoughts on planting.

Motion by Mel to be at Wedel's hosted event, second by Ann. Motion passed.

0. Committee Reports / Ad Hoc

a. **Programs (Ruth) –**

The general meeting on Wednesday, May 25 "Birds and Berries: The Importance of Native Fruit-Bearing Shrubs for Migrating Landbirds" is being held at People's Church. The Audubon Society of Kalamazoo is co-sponsoring the meeting. Ruth Caputo will make the introduction.

The Program Committee continues to work on next year's programs.

Kathy McGoff is managing the A/V set-up when we have general meetings at First United Methodist Church. (Thanks, Kathy, for taking this on.)

Ruth is stepping down from her position of chair of the Committee at the end of this term. Hopefully this will allow time to recruit a new chair.

--- We need a host for the next meeting. There were about 35 in a room that holds 150. Ilse added that this is a joint meeting with the Audubon Society of 35... could be 70ish people there. Ruth will host and make the speaker introduction. Kathy what time is the program 7PM. Building will be open at 6:30 with Jen Owen. The plan is to have the talk recorded for YouTube and live on Zoom.

a. **Community Projects (Paul) –**

Our next work day will be at Northglade Elementary school on Thursday, May 24 (2-4pm). We already have cleaned up the site and we will be putting in several new plants. The workday following that will be at Tom's house on Waite Ave. on Thursday, June 2 (2-4pm) to prepare the

grounds for the Annual Spring Plant Exchange.

Paul has made arrangements with Hidden Savanna for the plants needed for the Northglade. Kathy could bring two tables and a canopy. Margo, Noel, Mike, Ilse and Quyen will be there talk and host at the table at the Plant Exchange.

b. Outreach and Education (Noel) –

A big “thank you” to Gail Simmons who tabled at the City of Portage Green-a-thon on May 1st. She had a very successful afternoon, and distributed a number of Plant Sale flyers and Homegrown National Park brochures. She also collected an impressive \$39 in donations.

We have 3 tabling events coming up: the joint meeting with ASK on May 25th, the plant exchange on June 5th, and the Plant Sale on June 18th. Volunteers are needed for both June events. If you would be available for either of those days, please let me know.

We’ll be reaching out to the members for volunteers for future tabling events. Since we respond to tabling requests as they come in, it would be helpful if there are several volunteers who might be able to table on short notice, and so the workload can be spread out.

c. Publications (Kim)

d. Site Visits/Mentorship (Dave) - There were 17 requests for site visits so far this year. About half of them have been completed and the others are scheduled.

e. Wild for Monarchs (Mike and Carol) –

WILD FOR MONARCH GROUP: The Gilmore Garden-Way Station group (Laura, Cindy, Carol, Margo, Joyce) have been busy with spring clean up and weeding on the gardens. The retention basis garden was successfully burned and looks great.

We tabled and distributed 3 flats of Butterfly Milkweed to participants at the March Membership meeting.

We will table and distribute plants at the KAWO Plant exchange, Sarett Nature Center plant sale, and the KAWO plant sale.

More Milkweed will be available for late summer and fall events.

f. Hospitality (Kathy) – None

g. Membership (Jason) - None

h. Plant Sale (Jason) Sing-up.com to volunteer set up, tagging plants, checkout, circulating to give shoppers information (28) slots 2-3 hour commitment will include link EC and members to help. We are not requiring masking at the outdoor event. <https://signup.com/go/JLzBLiO>

Kim added that she is working on an email that highlights all our plant events. Will come out next week.

Noel and Quyen will table WildOnes and Ilse and Mike will do Monarch stuff
Kim will call Dave and previous years volunteers to ask if they are interested in helping again.

- i. **Kalamazoo Environmental Council (Sharon)**
- j. **Newsletter (Mel)**
- k. **Website (Ann)**
- l. **Facebook (Jennifer)**
- m. **Monarch Watch and Monarch Joint Venture (Ilse)**

0. Adjournments

Meeting was adjourned at 7:57 PM.

>>> The next meeting: Wednesday, June 15, 2022 – 7:00 PM – Zoom

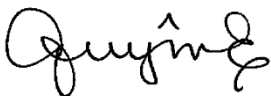
WildOnes Natural Landscapers, Ltd Mission:

WildOnes: Native Plants, Natural Landscapes promotes environmentally sound landscaping practices to preserve biodiversity through the preservation, restoration, and establishment of native plant communities.

KAWO Vision:

To restore and sustain biodiversity through education and the practice of landscaping with native plants.

Recorded and Transcribed by,



Quyen Edwards, KAWO Secretary
5-18-2022