

KAWO Executive Committee Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, September 21, 2022 – 7:00 PM on Zoom, started at 7:03 PM

Present:

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| Jessie Davis, Pres. | Kim Patrie |
| Jason Ballew, VP | Kathy McGoff |
| Margo Rebar, Treasurer | Mel Luna |
| Quyen Edwards, Secretary | Ann Fraser |
| Ruth Caputo | Noel Ocen |
| Gail Simmons | Ilse Gebhard |
| | Paul Olexia |

Absent:

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| Mike Klug | Dave Wendling |
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1. Call to order; Changes to the agenda.

Add new business Elections and Discussion about food for in-person meetings

2. Approval of minutes of August 17, 2022 (Noel) –Minutes Attached
Motion Kathy, second Gail. Motion passed.

3. Treasurer's Report & Approval (Margo) – Report Attached

Not much activity between the two meetings this month. National dues reimbursement for 3rd quarter has been received. Current balance \$16,612.87. Upcoming report will reflect \$89 for plant exchange donations, honorarium fee of \$200 paid.

Motion Kathy, second Noel. Motion passed.

4. Old Business

a.) Motion for the exec team approve the change for the CP budget. No additional discussion.

5. New Business

a) Follow-up discussion about educating regarding

Noel's preference was not to send letters to local nurseries which may be seen as too aggressive. Gail said she did like the idea of developing talking points that WildOnes members could use to let nurseries know that there are customers looking for natives and not interested in invasive species. Does Paul have literature of this nature? MNFI, includes invasive alien species, but it is not comprehensive. Paul could send that out to everyone. Michigan Invasive Plant species includes the worst of the worst. It is also not comprehensive. Kim - maybe the approach is more positive to encourage nurseries to sell native plants instead of chiding them for selling invasive plants. Kathy said that any retailers found to be selling plants of the Michigan Invasive Plant Species list should be reported to Dept. of Agriculture.

Educating the members regarding this information.

<https://www.michigan.gov/invasives/id-report/plants>

Gail agreed to write occasional articles for Seedlings and Facebook in a “Please don’t plant (this), try (this) native instead.”. Include the comprehensive list every time.

b) Acknowledgement of spicebush plants from John and Judy Dirks - Paul publicly acknowledged their contributions of spicebushes and numerous plants to the exchange.

c) Victorian Bakery plant donation –

Discussion about the site which has poor soil and is very dry. Discussion about other places that plants could potentially be donated to: Northglade Elementary or Comstock STEM.

Jessie will keep them watered. Paul, Ilse, Mel to determine which plants would be best for which sites. Motion to make donations as designated by Kathy, second Gail. Motion passed.

d) Children’s Nature Playscape –

Donate two books and a membership which includes a site visit to the “Foragers Feast” fundraiser for the Children’s Nature Playscape.

Motion made by Margo, second Kim. Motion passed.

e) Fall Plant Exchange - The exchange served 53 households, Jessie felt it was successful. We missed having our experts to talk about and suggest plants to participants. Mel made people welcome. Thanks Noel. Thanks Margo. Thanks Kathy for all the supplies. Thanks to everyone who helped. We have decided that next year, we will cut the event time by an hour and make it 1-4 PM, as participants really tapered off at the end.

f) Discuss food at meetings - Kathy wanted to know the committees opinion about serving prepackaged food versus donated homemade foods as in the past. Ruth contacted the church to see what their policy is. At this point, they don’t want food prepared in the kitchen, but they are ok with us bringing things in. Some people will not feel comfortable with eating ‘open’ items. Kathy will bring what was left over from the exchange. Margo and Kim will bring baked goods. The church does not have a mask requirement.

g) Elections - Reminder that we need to mention it at the September meeting and put information in Seedlings. All positions and descriptions. Please let the EC know if you are not going to run again. Mention all the committees as well and what they do. Mel asked for a reminder of how the committees work. Jessie said committee heads are appointed. Some have to be on the Executive Committee. Ann will not be a member at large, but has agreed to chair the programming committee for 2023. See “Get involved” for more information here:

<https://kalamazoo.wildones.org/volunteer-opportunities/>

6. Committee Reports / Ad Hoc

No additional questions or comments regarding committees.

Mel is adding Jason and Gail on to editing Seedlings each month.

Jessie - will be discussing licensing fee for a native plant Zine next month.

Next Wednesday, September 28. Who will do the announcements at the in-person meeting: Ann is introducing the speaker. Gail will read the announcements. Kathy will bring the backup technology.

Adjournments >>> The next meeting: Wednesday, October 19, 2022 – 7PM – Zoom

Motion to adjourn by Paul and second by Kathy. The meeting was adjourned at 8:02 PM
Submitted by Quyen Edwards, KAWO Secretary