

KAWO Executive Committee Agenda

Wednesday, March 15, 2023 – 7:00 PM on Zoom

Present:

Jessie Davis, President

Jason Ballew, Vice President

Margo Rebar, Treasurer

Gail Simmons, Secretary

Paul Olexia (Past President, Community Projects Chair)

Ilse Gebhard (Monarch Watch)

Kathy McGoff (Hospitality Chair)

Dave Wendling (Site Visit Chair)

Beth Bradburn (At-large)

Jessica Hagen (At-large)

Ruth Caputo (substituting for Ann Fraser, Program Chair)

Absent:

Ann Fraser (Program Chair)

Mel Luna (Publications Chair, At-large)

Noel Ocen (Outreach and Education Chair, At-large)

Mike Klug (Past President, Wild for Monarchs Chair)

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:06 p.m. by President Jessie Davis.
2. Minutes of February 15, 2023 meeting were presented by Gail. Motion to approve by Margo; second by Kathy. Motion passed unanimously.
3. Margo presented the March monthly Treasurer's report. Motion to approve by Kathy; second by Gail. Motion passed unanimously. Report for 1st Quarter 2023 was presented for information only.

4. Old Business

- a. Contact Sheet for 2023 is now final and has been distributed.
- b. Gail is now alternate signatory on the KAWO checking account at 5/3 Bank.
- c. Ruth and Tom Small Books will be distributed to new members from the member drive at the April program meeting; Jason will notify new members. Dave Wendling will also distribute to new members at site visits if they have not already received books. The Grand Rapids chapter may wish to purchase a number of the books from us.

5. New Business

- a. Based on recommendation of the Program Committee, a motion was made as follows: *The Kalamazoo Area Wild Ones (KAWO) chapter will modify its Conflict of Interest statement in conformance with National Office policy to allow us to pay honoraria to speakers or field trip leaders who are members of KAWO.*
Moved by Margo; seconded by Kathy. Motion passed.

6. Committee Reports/Ad Hoc

- a. Membership (Jason) -- Current membership: 212 (up from 197 last month)
- b. Program Committee (Ann, Ruth Caputo) -- Our January and February online presentations were very successful. The January program featuring Kim Chapman had 115 Zoom participants and the YouTube recording has racked up 267 views. The February program featuring Mike Weis had 215 Zoom participants and the recording has received 1476 views on YouTube! About half the registrants for the Feb Zoom meeting were Wild Ones members and most were from Michigan, with 6-12 for IL, IN, WI, and NY. Altogether registrants were from 22 states, suggesting our posting on the National Wild Ones event calendar was getting noticed. Our March speakers are Noel Ocen and Mel Luna, promoting the Homegrown National Park initiative in our local area. Paul Olexia will introduce the speakers. It will be interesting to see what our first in-person meeting of the year brings out at our new location, Portage District Library. We plan to record the program for later viewing and are investigating simultaneous live streaming.
- c. Outreach and Education (Noel) -- Jessica and Beth tabled for the KBS-sponsored Conservation Conversation program on Mar. 8th. Most attendees were already Wild Ones members, but it was good for us to show our support. There are several more events scheduled between now and May 20th. Kim will provide us with Plant Sale flyers for those events.
- d. Plant Sale (Jason) –
 - Sponsors —Our current sponsors are:

- i. - Native Connections (\$1,000)
- ii. - The Ballew Family (\$250)
- iii. - Susan Bruce (\$100)
- iv. - SWMLC (\$100)
- v. - Pierce Cedar Creek Institute (\$100)**
- vi. - Kalamazoo Nature Center (\$100)**
- vii. - Bell's Brewery (in-kind items to be donated)
- viii. - Brakeman Design (in-kind donation of design work)
- ix. ** we have not yet received their checks
 - Flyers — Newly designed and fresh-from-the-printer. We will be distributing them at the monthly programming meeting next week.
 - Volunteer sign-up — Ann Klobucar is leading volunteerism for the plant sale. She will have a volunteer sign-up sheet/form at next week's meeting.
 - Plans and logistics are moving ahead nicely for the sale. We're setting ourselves up for a successful sale!
 - Deadline for sponsors is April 1st.

7. **Adjournment.** The next meeting: Wednesday, April 19, 2023 – 7 PM on Zoom

Respectfully Submitted,

Gail Simmons

KAWO Secretary

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.