

KAWO Executive Committee Minutes
April 17th at 7:00 pm on ZOOM

Present: Noel Ocen, Quyen Edwards, Ellie Shenker, Kathy McGoff, Cameron Lockwood, Mike Klug, Beth Bradburn, Ilse Gebhard, Ann Klobucar, Paul Leferriere and Tom Small.

Absent: Jessie Narda Davis, Jessica Hagen, Haim Kenig, Carol Klug, Mel Luna, Carole Offerman, Mike Weis and Dave Wendling.

1. Call to order by President Noel Ocen at 7:04.

2. Tom Small joined the meeting to pay tribute to Dr. Paul Olexia, one of our most devoted and admired members, who passed away unexpectedly on April 1, 2025.

Tom mentioned at Spring Plant Exchange will have a special ceremony for Paul. Spring Plant Exchange is June 1st from 1:00 to 4:00 pm.

Tom has been talking to Karen Larson about a memorial bench in Paul's honor at Glen Park. Details to follow.

Tom mentioned Paul's Memorial at Kalamazoo Nature Center on June 21st from 2:00 to 5:00 pm in the Glen Vista Gallery.

3. No changes to the Agenda.

4. Approval for the minutes from March 19, 2025 was moved by Cameron and seconded by Beth. The motion passed.

5. Ellie reported she would like to use ach payments for speaker fees and reimbursements. Approval for the Treasurer's Report for March 31, 2025 was moved by Beth and seconded by Noel. The motion passed. Noel announced KAWO received \$10,000.00 grant from the Carol J. Haas Foundation.

6. Educational Scholarship Program was tabled.

7. Talks with City of Kalamazoo have finalized Native Plant Demonstration Garden in Bronson Park. Mike Weis' design has been approved. Work will start in Fall.

8. Quinn reported the Program Committee has finalized Summer Hikes, Field Trips and Garden Tours. Information will be available on Seedlings, KAWO website and KAWO Facebook page. Ann reported 15 Site Visits were scheduled. Ann mentioned the need for volunteers for Site Visits.

9. Remember our next program featuring Roger Levin is in two weeks on April 30th.

Pints and Native Plants at Brewery Outré on April 17th at 7:00 pm.