

Minutes

TNPS Board Meeting

May 23, 2023

Zoom Meeting

Present

Karen Ripple Hill, President

Allan Trently, Vice President

Bettina Ault, Secretary

Kim Sadler, Treasurer

Louise Gregory (East)

Larry Pounds (East)

Dennis Horn (Middle)

Sue Bible (Middle)

Shelley King (Education Outreach – East TN)

Mitchell Kent (Education Outreach – Middle TN)

Donna Bollenbach (newsletter editor)

Aprele Griffin (Middle TN, assisting Sue Bible with Education Outreach)

Absent

Bart Jones (West; Membership Chair)

Suzy Askew (West)

Johanna Brichetto (Communications)

Jennifer Trently (Communications)

Guest

Harland Alpaugh

Minutes

Bettina Ault

Minutes from the TNPS board meeting on 1/24/2023 and the annual meeting on 5/6.2023 were reviewed and approved.

Treasurer's Report

Kim Sadler

Our total income 1/1/23-3/31/23 is \$9059.70. Total expenses were \$3581.18. Net income for this period is \$5478.52.

Account balances:

Checking: \$22,586.35

Book Money Market: \$19,185.31

Savings Money Market: \$10,483.79

PayPal: \$7722.11

Education Outreach

The Education Outreach Committee has had 15 table events so far this year!

Knoxville area: Shelley King will be participating in the Jackson Square Lavender Festival in Oak Ridge on June 17, 2023.

Chattanooga area: Mitchell Kent is active in Wild Ones of Hamilton County. The theme of this year's Wild Ones annual meeting on March 18, 2023 was Plant Native. The Wild Ones Annual Native Plant Sale was on March 23.

Nashville area: Sue Bible and Aprele Griffin participated in the Nashville Lawn and Garden Show. They will participate in a native plant hike and talk at Shelby Bottoms in Nashville on June 10.

Field Trips

This has been a busy spring for field trips:

March 25, 2023: Early Spring at Soak Ash Creek, Sevier Co., TN (led by Shelby Lyn Sanders)

March 26, 2023: Taylor Hollow Outing (led by Allen Sweetser, Larry Pounds, and Margie Hunter)

April 8, 2023: Prairie Grove Glade, Lawrence Co., AL (led by Dennis Horn, Bart Jones, and David Webb)

April 15, 2023: Frozen Head Wildflower Walk (TCWP/TNPS hike led by Larry Pounds and Jimmy Groton)

April 22, 2023: Little Cedar Mountain (TCWP/TNPS hike led by Larry Pounds)

April 29, 2023: Haw Ridge Park (TCWP/TNPS hike led by Larry Pounds)

May 13, 2023: Peavine Rd to Devil's Breakfast Table (TCWP/TNPS hike led by Larry Pounds)

May 20, 2023: Center Hill Dam (led by Louise Gregory and Dennis Horn)

Upcoming trips:

May 27, 2023: Oak Ridge Greenway – Paved Section (TCWP/TNPS hike led by Larry Pounds)

June 3-4, 2023: 2-day trip to Ketona Glades of Bibb County, AL (led by Bart Jones with guest appearance by Jim Allison)

June 17, 2023: Andrews Bald (TCWP/TNPS hike led by Larry Pounds and Allen Sweetser)

September 2, 2023: Big South Fork (TCWP/TNPS hike led by Larry Pounds)

September 23, 2023: Exploring the Sands of Ghost River State Natural Area (led by Allan Trently and Caitlin Elam)

Native Plant Seminars

In February Allan Trently spoke on *Native Plant Highlights from West Tennessee: 2008 to Present*. Todd Crabtree spoke on *Rare Plants and Plant Communities of Southeast Tennessee* in March. Erin Tripp, author of *Field Guide to the Lichens of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park*, gave a very nice talk on *Tennessee: A Global Hotspot for Lichen Diversity* in April. Last week Rita Venable spoke on *Bumble Bees of TN and What They Do*. Our next seminar, on June 20, will be given by Dennis Whigham, *Native Orchids in Tennessee – Ecology and Conservation Needs*.

Newsletter

Donna Bollenbeck is collecting articles for the June 2023 edition.

2023 Annual Meeting

Our 2023 annual meeting was held at Cedars of Lebanon State Park, in conjunction with the Elsie Quarterman Cedar Glade Festival, from May 5-7, 2023. A total of 55 participants registered. We had catered meals, which were well attended, on Friday and Saturday nights. We plan to hold our 2024 annual meeting at Roan Mountain; we will likely schedule this for the week after the Rhododendron Festival because of traffic issues.

Grant for financial support for Cumberland Trails Conference and their Alternative Spring Break

There was discussion whether to fund individual scholarships for students or make a lump sum grant. The board made a motion to make a lump sum grant of \$1000; this was passed.

Grants4Plants

We have been discussing an application for a formal grant program for donating native plants/seeds to schools and nonprofits like Owls Hill. Sue, Kim, Karen, and Bettina volunteered to serve on this committee.

Grant to Brett Lambert

Brett Lambert is an Ohio State ecology graduate student who will be working in Tennessee this summer. He recently contacted the board with a request for funds. Because of the tight time frame the board voted not to fund him this summer, but to encourage him to send us a proposal in the future if needed.

Book supply

We currently have 63 wildflower books, 14 twig books, and 1 TN flora book. We decided that we need more twig books.

The board also voted to purchase more TNPS logo stickers for members to distribute (motion: Bettina Ault; second: Louise Gregory); these have been selling for \$1.00.

Name badges

Karen brought up the possibility of printing permanent name badges for Outreach members; this was felt to be a good idea and the motion passed (motion: Sue Bible; second: Dennis Horn). All board members will be receiving name badges with the TNPS logo.

Membership

A motion was made to ratify the appointment of Jennifer Trently as assistant secretary; this was passed by the board (motion: Louise Gregory; second: Larry Pounds).

Status of legal defense of native plants in yards

A motion to support this issue was made and passed by the board at our last meeting in January. Sally Winsell, Chattanooga Wild Ones, was brought up as a valuable contact.

Next Board Meeting

Tuesday, September 26, 2023 at 6:00 PM CST, 7:00 PM EST.

Bettina Ault