Williamson County Chapter Native Plant Society Meeting Minutes 08-14-14

Welcome: Kathy Henderson called the meeting to order welcoming 28 members and 2 guests. A moment of silence was observed honoring member Sterlin Barton who passed away Aug. 11.

Reports:
Treasurer’s Report: Cindy Stone provided the report in absentia: Checking, $4331.50; Savings, $8958.07; Total, $13,289.57. $782.39 was paid to Kathy Henderson for library books and the Wildflower DVD; this amount included the $500.00 gift from the Bamberger Foundation. $399.99 was paid to Bob Kamper, webmaster, for the separate computer dedicated for NPSOT purposes. The budget will be discussed at the Sept. 28 board meeting; Cindy Stone may be contacted regarding this budget.

Field Trips: Vicky Husband announced the Sat., Aug. 16, 9 a.m. field trip to SW Wilco Regional Park; 2.5 mi mulched Jim Rogers Trail. This is the first in a series of plant surveys. The Berry Springs plant survey is wrapping up. See website for info and sign-up; the September field trip will soon be posted also.

Membership: Four new members joined in the past month.

Volunteers: The Library Garden needs acorn pullers, 5 stepping stones, and someone to design a plaque; contact Kathy Henderson if interested. Charles Newsom will donate the stepping stones.

OLOTR: Photos were shown of the nature trail plaque and volunteers’ appreciation breakfast provided by the owners of Our Lady of the Rosary Cemetery.

New Business:
State Symposium: Kathy Henderson received a request from the state NPSOT office requesting financial assistance for the October symposium in Texarkana. Also, in the past our chapter has provided purchased items for the silent auction which funds scholarships. Motion: Kathy Comer moved that we give $300 to the symposium and use $200 for the silent auction items. 2nd, Kathy McCormack. Discussion. Motion passed. Volunteers for the shopping for the silent auction are Kathy Galloway, Kathy Comer, and Kathy Henderson.

Checking Account Signature Change: The Treasurer does not sign NPSOT checks. As of 1 September 2014, the following will be able to sign checks: Cindy Stone, President; Kathy Henderson, Past President; and Kathy Galloway, Past Past President. Motion: Kathy Galloway made a motion that Cindy Stone be added as President and Dennis Perz’ name will be removed as of 1 September 2014. 2nd Dick Galloway. No discussion. Motion passed.

Announcements:
NPSOT 101: This new activity at 6:30 before monthly meetings will be started by Kathy Henderson. This is for people new to native plants; relevant topics will be presented each month.

Speakers’ Bureau: People who are ready and able to talk to other organizations are needed. Contact Kathy Henderson if interested.

Hold on Garden Grants: This program will be on hold for one year. The several sites that are currently ready will be finished. The human resources for these grants are overwhelming and volunteers will be needed for other activities coming up within the next year. After one year, the program will be reviewed.

Board Change: Kathy Galloway provided new job descriptions for the incoming board members. Kathy Henderson recognized members of both boards, thanking the outgoing members for their service and welcoming the incoming members: Pres – Cindy Stone; Vice-Pres – Christie Gardner; Secretary – Pat Donica; Treasurer – Lori Merlino; Directors – Jim Abreu and Kathy Comer.

Standing Committee Positions: Still needed are a new Program Chairperson and a new webmaster. Contact Kathy Henderson if interested.

Program Chairperson: Current chairperson Stephen Brueggerhoff will plan the programs through December 2014. Webmaster: See Bob Kamper for more information.

Benny Simpson Award: Members are asked to vote by the end of August at NPSOT.org. Wilco chapter member Sue Wiseman is a candidate for this award, which is given at the October symposium. Candidates must have 10 years of membership and exceptional service.

Taxonomy Class: Flo Oxley will present a class Aug. 23, 9-12, Wells Branch Library. Fee: $15. One more class will be presented Sept. 27. Kathy McCormack announced that the class files will be placed on the chapter’s laptop and members can bring a thumb drive to copy the files.

Program: PBS Video: Wildflowers: Seeds of History