MSC – An action that was motioned, seconded and carried by (voice) vote.


1. Welcome– Patrick Plantenberg
   - Thank you to the Conservation Committee and their great work on Custer Gallatin NF Final Plan; Helena-Deer Lodge NF Final Plan. There was good statewide coverage of the lawsuit seeking ESA listing of the thick leaved bladderpod.
   - Shout out to Maria for her membership work and donations policy
   - Shout out to Beth Madden for a great MNPS Presents! season.
   - April 2022, National Native Plant Month. No response to query if we got articles in local newspapers.
   - MNPS Marketing–
     - MNPS was represented at the Master Gardener Conference at Carroll College by the Kelsey Chapter
     - Kenyon Noble Garden Center, by Karen Porter
     - Billings Public Library
     - Patrick had MNPS banners made that have been sent to all chapters.
     - Native Plant Now initiative

2. Secretary’s Report - Rachel Potter
   - Minutes of winter board meeting were approved.
   - Board member contact updates. Review Contact Rachel if corrections are needed.
   - No by-law changes needed

3. Treasurer’s Report - Laurie Kurth
   - Laurie was not in attendance, but she previously circulated 3 documents to the board: 2022 Budget balance sheet 9 19 2022.pdf, 2022 Budget 9 19 2022 with notes.pdf, and 2022 Budget 6 11 22 for board.xcl. Note that the Excel file has multiple sheets (tabs). Look these over and send budget questions to Laurie.
   - Bank balance as of 6-19-2022 was $56,547.18. Laurie noted that we budgeted for a loss this year.

4. Membership Report - Maria Mantas
   - See Maria’s written report in Appendix A page 4, including important red action items.
• Maria drew attention to the noted increase in Business Memberships, likely the result of Patrick’s outreach.

5. 2023 Annual Meeting – Karen Porter
• Karen and Catherine Cane with the Calypso Chapter are looking at a ranch on the Big Hole River as a possible venue. It has some accommodations available. Stay tuned.
• Rachel commented that the small Calypso Chapter should feel free to ask for meeting help from outside their chapter.

6. Standing Committee Reports
• Conservation - Elizabeth Bergstrom and Peter Lesica
  o The 2022 Montana Plant Conservation Conference Zoom program was successful. Thank you to Andrew Smith for moderating. There were 113 attendees on the 30th and 96 on the 31st. Proceedings are available.
  o Citizen Botany Program. A memorandum has been signed between the MNPS and MTNHP. Training Parts 1 and 2 have been offered a couple times. Twenty-one people have completed both trainings and their data security agreements. Workshops are offered both Friday and Sunday at this Annual Meeting. Chapter Coordinators have been assigned.
  o Plant Conservation Strategy – work is ongoing. Finalizing becomes increasingly important with the recent passage of the Recover America’s Wildlife Act in the House and expected passage in the Senate. The Act includes additional funding for states to implement their State Wildlife Action Plans (SWAP). Montana will be updating their SWAP. Completing the Plant Conservation Strategy is the first step in having plants included in Montana’s SWAP and thus qualifying for conservation dollars from the new act.
  o Lost Trail IPA Nomination – Lost Trail National Wildlife Refuge was nominated for an Important Plant Area designation, but the nomination was never acted on by the Board. An IPA committee consisting of reps from each land management agency has not met for some time. From feedback received by Peter, the nomination map needs to be revised to 1) include public lands outside the NWR boundaries that are worthy of inclusion and 2) updated with recent expansion of the Refuge itself and the new surrounding Lost Trail Conservation Area. Peter and Beverly will have a revised nomination for the November BOD meeting.
  o Goals for 2022-2023 – Find a co-chair and continue with the above.
  o Peter is still on the Conservation Committee, but no longer co-chair.

• Landscaping and Revegetation Committee – Patrick Plantenberg
  • Robert Pal is the Revegetation Co-chair. Patrick continues as the landscaping co-chair until a replacement can be found.
  • Progress since last meeting
    ▪ Updated Digital Source Guide
    ▪ We hosted a MNPS Presents! Native Plant Landscaping Panel on April 27 on Zoom.
    ▪ Talks were given in Billings and Helena.
  • Goals for 2022-2023
    ▪ Audubon is developing list of native species to plant in Billings area-someone from MNPS should work with them to help stimulate new Chapter in area. Rachel suggested Jenny as a contact as she lived there before Red Lodge.
- Update Source Guide
- Examine National Wildlife Federation’s project on Keystone Native Plant Species by ecoregion and determine how we can highlight these species for conservation and gardening, if warranted.
- Recruit more members.

- Small Grants - Betty Kuropat
  - Goals for 2022-2023
    - Betty would like to find a replacement Chair. There is an enthusiastic committee, but none are interested to stepping up to Chair. Maria suggested an executive assistant might fill this role, or part of it, along with membership and other duties.
    - The Committee will explore focusing on a particular type of grant one or more years, e.g., education.
    - Betty is working with Maria to explore creating a larger umbrella “Grants and Giving Program” that would include Small Grants but would also cover many other places we distribute money. They will present initial ideas at the November BOD meeting.

7. Other Business
   - Teagan presented beautiful drawings of Montana native plants that could be used as stickers. The Board was very enthusiastic and approved $600 for Teagan to have stickers produced.
   - Photos of the board were taken, and Maria sent the photos to Camie Westfall.

8. Ad Hoc Committees
   - MNPS Presents! – Please send your ideas to Beth Madden for 2022-2023 season.

9. Wrap-up – all
   - An email will be circulated to set Fall Board Meeting date. Later- Scheduled Saturday November 5th at 10 am at Westech in Helena. Mark your calendars.

Adjourn

Continued…
Appendix A  MNPS Membership Report for Summer (June) 2022 Board Meeting

Report Submitted by Maria Mantas, Membership Chair

Membership update – This report was prepared on June 20 for the summer 2022 MNPS board meeting (June 25, 2022).

Membership statistics – New memberships and some renewals continue to come in after the renewal season.

Table A. Number of MNPS MEMBERS by chapter and membership type

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chapters</th>
<th>Individual</th>
<th>Family</th>
<th>Lifetime</th>
<th>Business</th>
<th>Lifetime-Business*</th>
<th>Grand Total</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Calypso</td>
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<td>16</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>53</td>
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<tr>
<td>Clark Fork</td>
<td>132</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>251</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flathead</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>134</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kelsey</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>136</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maka Flora</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Eastern-at-large</td>
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<td>18</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>71</td>
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<tr>
<td>Western-at-large</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Valley of Flowers</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>176</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Grand Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>443</strong></td>
<td><strong>275</strong></td>
<td><strong>135</strong></td>
<td><strong>13</strong></td>
<td><strong>11</strong></td>
<td><strong>877</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Exchange ** | 47

* We have added a new membership category: Lifetime Business Membership. This will make it easier to target businesses as members. Overall, there was a substantial increase in business memberships (13 in February to 24 this month), no doubt a result of Patrick’s outreach efforts.

** We track Exchange Member stats separately (exchange memberships are other native plant societies, libraries, herbaria, arboreta, and the like).

Table B. Annual membership for the Montana Native Plant Society over time showing the number of members for each chapter and exchange memberships.

This table only reflects the count of members at the end of each calendar year. As our membership fluctuates throughout the year, this is the number that should be used to represent our membership as it is close to when our numbers are the highest and it’s a consistent point in time from which to compare year to year.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Cal</th>
<th>CF</th>
<th>F</th>
<th>K</th>
<th>MF</th>
<th>E</th>
<th>W</th>
<th>VoF</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Exch</th>
<th>Date</th>
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</thead>
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<td>57</td>
<td>265</td>
<td>122</td>
<td>139</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>69</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>192</td>
<td>901</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>12/31/2021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>226</td>
<td>98</td>
<td>115</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>157</td>
<td>767</td>
<td>44</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>207</td>
<td>89</td>
<td>102</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>124</td>
<td>687</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>12/26/2019</td>
</tr>
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<td>200</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>102</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>31</td>
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<td>195</td>
<td>91</td>
<td>92</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>98</td>
<td>619</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>12/14/2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
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<td>79</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>102</td>
<td>648</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>12/14/2016</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Membership Discussion
Volunteer Check Box: As of June 20, there are 113 people who have checked the box saying they would like to be contacted about volunteer opportunities. Check your quarterly membership lists to see who these people are. I realize that just because someone says they would like to volunteer doesn’t mean they would be able to provide meaningful help.

Membership Budget: On track. Mainly postage and office supplies (labels).

Membership Brochures: I am almost out. I plan to reprint after we revisit chapter service areas in case there are any changes. Please send me any edits you have for the latest brochure so I can incorporate them into the next version. I will likely wait until next FY as we didn’t budget for printing this FY.

New Fee Structure: I will wait until the fall board meeting to reassess the effect of our dues increase on both membership and income.

Donations: As of June 20th, my records show we have received $4,395 this calendar year (Laurie’s numbers may be a bit different). Less than I had hoped with the new model of soliciting for donations in our materials, but we still have the rest of the year to go. Unlike memberships, we see more donations at the end of the year, so I am hopeful we will equal or exceed last year. It’s much too early to tell how the donation categories will influence yearly donations.

Chapter Areas: There have been some slight changes to the chapter affiliation areas. Please review this old map for the fall board meeting and be prepared to discuss changes that should be made.