



MONTANA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

MINUTES MONTANA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY SUMMER BOARD OF DIRECTORS IN-PERSON MEETING 7:00 PM to 8:00 PM; Friday, June 20, 2025 Camp Needmore, Ekalaka, MT

Attendees: Robert Pal (Co-President), Dave Hanna (Co-President), Kenda Herman (Vice President), Camie Westfall (Secretary), Gretchen Rupp (Valley of Flowers Chapter Representative), Betty Kuropat (Western At Large Representative), Libby Knotts (Maka Flora Chapter Representative), Karen Porter (Calypso Chapter Representative), Teagan Hayes (Clark Fork Chapter Representative), Rachel Potter (Flathead Chapter Representative), Elena Johnson (Kelsey Chapter Representative), Carol Goffe (Webmaster/maven), Patrick Plantenberg (Landscaping and Revegetation Committee Co-Chair), Peter Lesica (Conservation Committee), Lynda Saul (Conservation Committee Chair).

1. Welcome, Introductions, Review Agenda, Announcements – *Robert Pal*
2. Secretary's Report – *Camie Westfall*
 - Approve Winter Board meeting minutes.
 - **Motion:** Patrick Plantenberg moved that we approve the Winter 2025 Board meeting minutes. Karen Porter seconded. No discussion. All voted in favor. Motion carried.
 - Ballot: There was a total of 73 votes, both online (46) and mail (27). That is only about 8-9% of the membership.
 - All voted in favor of the incumbents for the Board positions and the minor updates to the MNPS Bylaws.
 - Calypso Chapter had the most votes overall, with Clark Fork coming in second and having the most mailed ballots with flower stamps.
 - There were about 4,000 false, duplicate votes online votes that all came from the same IP address, so those were removed from the dataset. There will be a couple edits to the online form next year to try to guard against this type of mass, duplicate online voting.
 - Board member contact updates - Please review and send corrections to Camie.
3. Treasurer's Report – *Robert Pal (for Laurie Kurth)*
 - The 2025 Budget is on track to what was proposed. The Operating Budget at \$8,125 and the Grants and Giving Fund at \$21,250, for a total of \$29,375 for all funds. See report in folder.
4. Newsletter Editors Report - *Robert Pal (for Scott Guse and Jen Hintz Guse)*
 - The Summer Kelsey Newsletter will go out near the end of June.
 - If you have ideas about items for the fall newsletter, please email Jen and Scott. Deadline is September 10 for the fall issue.
5. Membership Report – *Betty Kuropat (for Maria Mantas)*
 - Membership numbers and trends
 - Membership is currently at 862 as of March 5, 2025, which is the end of the renewal period.

- In 2024 at this time, we had 879 members.
- Donations Update: are at \$11,404.55 from 105 donations so far this year. We had \$6,680 from 105 donations in 2024.
 - Reminder that Chapters should be thanking donors when they get their monthly membership list.
- New brochures have been printed and are available to take home Chapter Representatives and Board Members.
- No updates on the possibility on starting a chapter near Hot Springs, MT. Maria reached out one time, but hasn't made contact.
- Update on researching for a new membership database platform: they are still looking into options and will be doing more research in the fall.
- If you need to send out an email to the entire membership or a portion of the membership using the MNPS membership email address, Maria and Leah need some lead time to prepare the email and recipient list.
- Update on Development Committee: A new committee for outreach, fundraising, and increasing membership is still being discussed. People are interested, and it would be useful to see what outreach Chapters are doing. Connect with Maria if you want to volunteer or have ideas.

6. Webmaven Report – *Carol Goffe*

- There is one PayPal account not for all MNPS transactions to funnel through. Laurie hasn't had issues with tracking and making sure the funds get into the correct place (memberships vs annual meeting sign-up, etc.).
- Website updates: Carol, with the help of Leah, is moving toward a new face of the website. People are reporting that they like the look of the website updates so far, and are saying it's more straightforward and easier to use.
- Google for Nonprofit account: Carol would like the Board members to use it. Connect with Carol for information on getting started.
- Carol is looking into a website called, TechSoup, which can provide discounted rates for charities and nonprofits for Zoom accounts and other useful business software.
- For the next Annual Meeting or Conservation Conference, Carol needs more lead time to set up the online sign-up form.

7. 2025 Annual Meeting Update – *Maka Flora Chapter Representative – Libby Knotts*

- The Annual meeting is going great so far. Libby is grateful for everyone's help.
- There have been four new members in the last month join Maka Flora Chapter.

8. Standing Committee Reports

- Conservation - *Lynda Saul*
 - The Conservation Chapter will be held in late winter/early spring of 2026. They are discussing the idea of a hybrid (in-person and on Zoom) conference to accommodate Federal and State professionals who have more difficulty travelling now due to cuts and changes at agencies.
 - Monitoring Projects of Conservation Concern: There is a document that will be circulated to the Chapters regarding how to monitor federal, state, and local projects of conservation interest. This document is a useful resource for how to get involved and track issues impacting native plants.
 - Citizen Botany Update: Kenda Herman and Dave Hanna, and Andrea Pipp were able to secure and Ag Corps members to help with coordinating this season, but the national program was terminated during the first quarter of this year. Montana Natural Heritage Program is ok with Kenda continuing to help in the coordinator role for the 2025 season. The plan is to continue exploring options and to push the funding for the Citizen Botany Coordinator position to the MNPS 2026 budget.

- Elizabeth Bergstrom and Lynda Saul both wrote letters this spring in support of habitat protections for native plants.
 - The Board would like the letters posted on the website.
- Landscaping and Revegetation Committee – *Patrick Plantenberg*
 - There are two people at the annual meeting from the DNRC nursery who are promoting the DNRC seed collecting project. They have a species list and need help collecting seed from certain populations. There is a sign-up sheet for getting involved.
 - The committee will be working on updating the Native Plant Source Guide. They will have a template for businesses.
- Grants and Giving Committee - *Betty Kuropat*
 - There may be a report that was added by Leah in the Google Drive.
 - Academic Scholarships: The Grants and Giving Committee awarded academic scholarships to five individuals and Clark Fork Chapter gave scholarships to the four runners up. They are working with the financial aid offices at the schools to disperse the funds.
 - Grants: no updates at this time.
 - The Committee needs a leader and needs some more members for reviewing applications. Some Committee members will need to review both, scholarships and grant applications.

9. Ad Hoc Committees

- MNPS Presents! - *Alex Brown (not in attendance)*
 - Had a great 2024/2025 season of presentations with high attendance.
 - If you have suggestions about speakers or presentations for the 2025/2026 season, please contact Alex.
- Awards Committee for 2025 Annual Meeting – Presented by Karen Porter *at General Membership Meeting*
- 2026 Annual Meeting – *Valley of Flowers – Gretchen Rupp*
 - Dates will be June 26, 27, 28, 2026 at Homestake Lodge.
 - They couldn't find anything close to Bozeman was available and wasn't cost prohibitive.
 - Gretchen and other from the Chapter are doing a scouting trip to check out the venue on July 8, 2025

10. Areas-at-Large and Chapter Reports

- Chapter Reps presented updates at General Membership Meeting

11. Fall meeting date will be set via email survey of availability.

Adjourn at 8:00 PM.

Montana Native Plant Society
Treasurer's Report
June 18, 2025

Our current funds available are:

General Operating Fund: \$8125
Grants and Giving Fund: \$21250
Total: \$29375

We are on track to exceed our income in memberships. Currently we are \$170 below projected and in November and December we see a number of memberships. In donations we are less than \$3000 from our projected income and we will likely surpass that with our fall income. Interest income realized is just over \$300 and there is more than \$500 interest accrued on our CD that will mature in August, so we are on track to earn more than \$1000 in interest for the year. To put that in perspective, that is 20 family memberships or 33 individual memberships.

Expenditures are currently within budget. Just a note that our expenses to date (50 % of the year) for our contract (admin assistant) are at 64% of programmed funds, with just under \$2600 remaining for the year.

We have the ACH bank transfers working well and have been using those to pay our contractors and move funds to chapters. Not only do people get their funds faster, each transaction saves us about \$1.00 due to postage, envelope, and check fee. Clearwater Credit Union does not charge non-profit organizations for making ACH transactions.

During the spring meeting, after I left the call there was discussion on removing the donation category from the general fund. I am leaving that line as there may be times to either hold donations that are going to chapters, as has happened in the past, or someone may opt to make a donation for a specific function that is within the GF. Beyond a reporting tool for the board and members, the budget is also the working spreadsheet for the treasury.

Feel free to contact me with any questions, IDEAS, or concerns you have regarding the budget. Note that I use my personal email mostly and prefer contacts there:
lkquilts@hotmail.com

	<u>Proposed Inc.</u>	<u>Income</u>	<u>Proposed Exp.</u>	<u>Expenses</u>	<u>Variance</u>	<u>Notes</u>
MNPS BUDGET SUMMARY						
General Fund	27660.00	21674.21	(38500.00)	(18549.57)	3124.64	
Grants and Giving Fund	14100.00	11552.06	(21550.00)	(166.72)	11385.34	
TOTALS	41760.00	33226.27	(60050.00)	(18716.29)	14509.98	

GENERAL FUND

GENERAL OPERATING INCOME AND EXPENSES	<u>Proposed Inc.</u>	<u>Income</u>	<u>Proposed Exp.</u>	<u>Expenses</u>	<u>Variance</u>	
Membership	21000.00	20830.07	(5900.00)	(1114.73)	19715.34	
Dues and Fees	21000.00	20830.07	(1200.00)	(1114.73)	19715.34	
Chapter Portion	0.00	0.00	(4200.00)	0.00	0.00	equals 20 percent of membership dues
Membership database system	0.00	0.00	(500.00)	0.00	0.00	
Newsletter	660.00	620.00	(10400.00)	(5753.20)	(5133.20)	newsletter is 1100 per issue for Biographic Design
Operating Budget	1000.00	224.14	(13000.00)	(6281.64)	(6057.50)	
Awards	0.00	0.00	(600.00)	0.00	0.00	
Committees	0.00	0.00	(1000.00)	0.00	0.00	Beartooth Highway Signs - conservation committee
Contracts	0.00	0.00	(7200.00)	(4629.00)	(4629.00)	AA contract
Board Expenses	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Interest	1000.00	224.14	0.00	0.00	224.14	
Website	0.00	0.00	(1000.00)	(510.25)	(510.25)	
Zoom	0.00	0.00	(1000.00)	(311.28)	(311.28)	continuing zoom and trying google
Donations	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Publications	0.00	0.00	(1400.00)	(583.55)	(583.55)	\$800 membership brochure, \$600 Landscape and revegetation brochure
Operating Expenses	0.00	0.00	(300.00)	(247.56)	(247.56)	
At-Large Expenses	0.00	0.00	(500.00)	0.00	0.00	
Transfer between GF and G&G funds	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
GOE TOTALS	22660.00	21674.21	(29300.00)	(13149.57)	8524.64	
SPECIAL PROJECTS						
Annual Meeting	5000.00	0.00	(5000.00)	(5000.00)	(5000.00)	loan to Maka Flora to be returned following meeting
Plant Conservation Conference	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Citizen Botany Project	0.00	0.00	(3000.00)	0.00	0.00	
MNPS Presents!	0.00	0.00	(1200.00)	(400.00)	(400.00)	
SPECIAL PROJECTS TOTALS	5000.00	0.00	(9200.00)	(5400.00)	(5400.00)	
GENERAL FUND TOTALS	27660.00	21674.21	(38500.00)	(18549.57)	3124.64	

GRANTS AND GIVING FUND

	<u>Proposed Inc.</u>	<u>Income</u>	<u>Proposed Exp.</u>	<u>Expenses</u>	<u>Variance</u>	
INCOME	14100.00	11552.06	(300.00)	(166.72)	11385.34	
Donation	14000.00	11459.55	(300.00)	(166.72)	11292.83	expenses for thank you mailings, etc.
Other	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Interest	100.00	92.51	0.00	0.00	92.51	
Transfer between GF and G&G funds	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
GRANTS AND GIVING	0.00	0.00	(21250.00)	0.00	0.00	
Scholarships	0.00	0.00	(7500.00)	0.00	0.00	
Grants (Solicited)	0.00	0.00	(10000.00)	0.00	0.00	
Gifts (Unsolicited)						
MT Herbaria Donation	0.00	0.00	(2000.00)	0.00	0.00	
MT Audubon Donation	0.00	0.00	(1000.00)	0.00	0.00	
Other	0.00	0.00	(750.00)	0.00	0.00	
Chapter Projects	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
GRANTS AND GIVING FUND 2024 TOTALS	14100.00	11552.06	(21550.00)	(166.72)	11385.34	
Carryover from previous year		9865.29				
GRANTS AND GIVING FUND PROPOSED FUNDS		23965.29				
GRANTS AND GIVING FUND AVAILABLE FUNDS		27250.63				

this is carryover from previous year plus proposed income
actual funds available, includes carryover plus income received minus expenses

MNPS Annual Balance Statement as of 6/18/2025

Prepared by: Laurie Kurth

*reflects bank account balances on date above. The total income and total expenses will include transactions that have not cleared the bank accounts.

<u>Year</u>	<u>CDs</u>	<u>Savings*</u>	<u>Checking*</u>	<u>Grants and Giving Fund*</u>	<u>Total Assets*</u>	<u>Total Income</u>	<u>Total Expenses</u>	<u>Net Gain/Loss</u>
2025	\$35,482.31	\$27,535.98	\$18,773.38	\$21,250.63	\$81,791.67	\$33,226.27	(18,716.29)	14,509.98
2024	n/a	\$65,541.14	\$11,376.71	\$7,935.29	\$76,917.85	\$44,850.83	(34,560.08)	10,290.75
2023	n/a	\$54,356.81	\$17,367.36		\$71,724.17	\$42,806.02	(35,645.30)	7,160.72
2022	n/a	\$18,836.47	\$35,853.91		\$54,690.38	\$39,873.34	(23,898.15)	15,975.19
2021	n/a	\$18,821.56	\$32,679.34		\$51,500.90	\$26,441.31	(17,992.93)	8,448.38
2020	n/a	\$18,817.67	\$21,901.32		\$40,718.99	\$36,523.89	(33,421.84)	3,102.05
2019	n/a	\$18,805.84	\$18,845.53		\$37,651.37	\$15,424.54	(19,186.60)	(3,762.06)
2018	n/a	\$18,796.44	\$26,445.16		\$45,241.60	\$21,169.53	(19,098.80)	2,070.73
2017	n/a	\$18,789.41	\$20,057.51		\$38,846.92	\$27,488.37	(27,486.99)	1.38
2016	n/a	\$18,776.35	\$21,588.14		\$40,364.49	\$16,755.12	(15,448.07)	1,307.05
2015	n/a	\$18,770.70	\$20,842.02		\$39,612.72	\$21,734.63	(26,898.58)	(5,163.95)
2014	n/a	\$18,765.55	\$32,408.02		\$51,173.57	\$28,025.84	(34,261.59)	(6,235.75)
2013	n/a	\$18,759.02	\$24,782.59		\$43,541.61	\$34,679.92	(13,391.48)	21,288.44
2012	n/a	\$18,746.10	\$15,767.06		\$34,513.16	\$35,293.27	(42,239.19)	(6,945.92)
2011	n/a	\$33,647.55	\$7,640.20		\$41,287.75	\$17,127.48	(17,547.35)	(419.87)
2010	n/a	\$33,550.71	\$8,361.70		\$41,912.41	\$17,816.41	(18,414.32)	(597.91)
2009	\$20,146.52	\$13,197.62	\$4,886.07		\$38,230.21	\$22,337.87	(14,250.28)	8,087.59
2008	\$20,000.00	\$4,695.49	\$9,178.00		\$33,873.49	\$18,288.96	(18,110.16)	178.80
2007	\$16,172.00	\$4,186.00	\$16,498.00		\$36,856.00	\$17,835.00	(13,149.00)	4,686.00
2006	\$15,605.00	\$3,679.00	\$5,544.00		\$24,828.00	\$17,677.00	(11,297.00)	6,380.00
2005	\$10,605.00	\$3,806.00	\$3,338.00		\$17,749.00	\$11,111.00	(9,609.00)	1,502.00
2004	\$10,400.00	\$3,663.00	\$7,986.00		\$22,049.00	\$12,429.00	(15,487.00)	(3,058.00)
2003	\$10,319.00	\$6,125.00	\$4,125.00		\$20,569.00	\$12,744.00	(12,791.00)	(47.00)
2002	\$10,000.00	\$4,138.00	\$6,269.00		\$20,407.00	\$12,382.00	(11,353.00)	1,029.00
2001	\$10,000.00	\$11,564.00	\$301.00		\$21,865.00	\$9,170.00	(8,686.00)	484.00
2000	\$10,000.00	\$11,244.00	\$307.00		\$21,551.00	\$7,816.00	(6,410.00)	1,406.00
1999	\$10,000.00	\$8,865.00	\$891.00		\$19,756.00	\$9,039.00	(4,762.00)	4,277.00
1998					\$14,576.00	\$11,978.00	(10,912.00)	1,066.00
1997	\$4,050.00	\$10,600.00	\$1,300.00		\$15,950.00	\$6,019.00	(6,948.00)	(929.00)

1996	\$2,500.00	\$9,272.00	\$411.00	\$12,183.00	\$6,147.00	(\$4,746.00)	1,401.00
1995	\$3,000.00	\$6,320.00	\$277.00	\$9,597.00	\$6,172.00	(\$6,037.00)	135.00

Monitoring Projects of Conservation Interest

Summer 2025

Members of the MNPS Conservation Committee, or other members of the organization, may wish to monitor plans and projects of public agencies for their potential to impact communities of native plants. Here are tips for how to do that.

The **Montana Department of Transportation** conducts many ground-disturbing projects each year. An interactive map, with linked project basics, [can be found here](#).

You can learn about upcoming timber sales on land managed by the **Montana Department of Natural Resources & Conservation** [at this site](#). The project postings are current. To look at the big picture, where there are “priority areas,” consult the maps in the [Montana Forest Action Plan](#).

You can subscribe to receive notices of **Forest Service** plans and projects [at this link](#). This site lists agency actions through the entire U.S., and so requires patience and care to scroll and select the specific forest and plan or project type that’s of interest. If you’re interested in one specific forest, it might be easier to find project descriptions and comment guidance via the website of that forest. [Here are links to all of the forest websites](#).

You can see announcements of **Bureau of Land Management** projects in Montana and the Dakotas [at this site](#), and post comments. At the national level, planning and NEPA information can be found here: [Planning and NEPA | Bureau of Land Management](#) . From here you select the state you are interested in. You can choose the office, the type of NEPA (Planning, EIS, EA, etc.) Program, Year, and then you can have it search (default) only active projects, and/or open comment periods. If you’re looking for a document that has already been published, like a Resource Management Plan, make sure the 2 boxes are not checked, then you will see all information. If you know the name of the project or the NEPA number you can search by that information also. If you’d like to visit a BLM office, [here are the ones in Montana](#).

It’s also handy to belong to other conservation not-for-profits such as MEIC and Northern Plains Resource Council, because they send out messages asking members to comment and take other actions in relation to specific projects.





MONTANA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

MINUTES MONTANA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY GENERAL MEMBERSHIP IN-PERSON MEETING 7:00 pm to 8:00 pm; Saturday, June 21, 2025 Camp Needmore, Ekalaka, MT

Attendees: Board of Directors and General Membership.

1. Introductions – *Robert Pal and Dave Hanna*

- Discussion of how incredible the field trips were today.

2. Election results – *Camie Westfall*

- Ballot results: unanimous votes (no write-ins) for the incumbents: Robert Pal for President, Laurie Kurth for Treasurer, and Jon Reny for Western At Large Director. Additionally, all voted in favor of the minor updates to the MNPS Bylaws.
 - There was a total of 73 votes, both online (46) and mail (27). That is only about 8-9% of the membership.
 - Calypso Chapter had the most votes overall, with Clark Fork coming in second and having the most mailed ballots with flower stamps.
 - There were about 4,000 false, duplicate votes online votes that all came from the same IP address, so those were removed from the dataset. There will be a couple edits to the online form next year to try to guard against this type of mass, duplicate online voting.
- Special appreciation to the MNPS Board of Directors (Board) who volunteer their time and agree to put their names in the hat for election/re-election. Also thank you to the membership for participation in the elections as well as attending this meeting and other MNPS events all over Montana. Thank you to Dave Hanna for his leadership as the outgoing Co-President.

3. Awards Committee – *Karen Porter*

- Outstanding Service Award goes to Beth Madden for her incredible service to MNPS and the membership with her historic leadership of the Maka Flora Chapter, and then the Valley of Flowers Chapter, as well as starting MNPS Presents! during the Covid-19 pandemic which was very well enjoyed by the membership and continues to draw MNPS membership and bring awareness and education about native plants. Thank you to Beth Madden for her incredible service.
 - She was awarded a lovely, original painting of the Montana short grass prairie.

4. Current Annual Meeting Hosting Chapter – Maka Flora Chapter, *Libby Knotts*

- Thank you to the Carter County Museum for your flexibility and generosity for MNPS annual meeting attendees! The Carter County Museum opened early on Sunday, June 22 to accommodate extra interest for visitors and a tour before attendees headed back home.
- Reminder about the Variety Show later in the evening (which was well attended and had many participants with talents ranging from poetry, rapping, music, and a comedy skit.)
- Special thank you to the caterer, Wagon Wheel Café, for the delicious food and service.
- Thank you to Amanda Williams, the local MSU extension agent for leading a field trip as well as being on the board for Camp Needmore and providing some facilitation for this meeting.

- Thank you to all field trip leaders and all the locals who volunteered and helped with the meeting.
 - Maka Flora only has 17 paid members.
5. Next Annual Meeting Hosting Chapter, 2026 – Valley of the Flowers, *Gretchen Rupp*
- Next year’s annual meeting will be June 26, 27, 28, 2026 at Homestake Lodge on the Continental Divide off of Interstate 90, near Butte. (Everywhere around Bozeman is highly expensive or booked several years in advance.)
6. Membership – *Betty Kuropat (for Maria Mantas)*
- There are 862 paid members. At the end of the 2024 calendar year, there were 946. There has been an increase in membership since 2021, largely due to the start of MNPS Presents!
 - There has been over \$11,000 in donations this year which all goes into the Grants and Giving Fund to be used for academic and professional development scholarships, grants, and monetary gifts.
7. Webmaven Report – *Carol Goffe*
- There have been some great recent updates to the website.
 - If you have questions or suggestions, bring them up to Carol.
8. Standing Committee Reports
- Conservation - *Lynda Saul*
 - The Conservation Conference, which is held on even years, will be hosted in Missoula in late winter/early spring of 2026. The theme will be fire.
 - There is a document that will be circulated to the Chapters regarding how to monitor federal, state, and local projects of conservation interest. This document is a useful resource for how to get involved and track issues impacting native plants.
 - Landscaping and Revegetation Committee – *Patrick Plantenberg*
 - DNRC seed collecting project for the DNRC nursery has a signup sheet and more information will be posted on the MNPS website about how to get involved.
 - The committee will update the Montana Native Plant Source Guide and make it available on the MNPS website.
 - Grants and Giving Committee - *Betty Kuropat*
 - There was recent restructuring of the Grants and Giving Program. We need a leader (more members) for reviewing grant and scholarship applications.
 - From donations received, the committee was about to award nine academic scholarships to students so far this year.
9. MNPS Presents! - *Alex Brown (not in attendance)*
- Had a great 2024/2025 season of presentations.
 - If you have suggestions about speakers or presentations for the 2025/2026 season, please contact a Board member or reach out to Alex directly.
10. Areas-at-Large and Chapter Reports - *Chapter Reps at General Membership Meeting*
1. Eastern at large – (No Report. Representative not in attendance)
 2. Western at Large – *Betty Kuropat*
 - Lots of field trips planned this year.
 - Next year they are planning a few field trips in Sanders County.
 3. Calypso Chapter – *Karen Porter*
 - She reminded everyone that Calypso Chapter does not have a formal executive board, they just have passionate, dedicated, active members who plan things and keep the ball rolling. They also now have an active sub-group in the Whitehall area.
 - They have field trips, potlucks, and workshops planned and all are welcome to attend.

4. Clark Fork Chapter – *Teagan Hayes*
 - They have many field trips all summer.
 - Their annual native plant sale was a success, as usual.
 - They also sponsor their own scholarships and giving program.
5. Flathead Chapter – *Rachel Potter*
 - Similar to Calypso Chapter, the Flathead Chapter doesn't have formal officers, they just have active members who volunteer to plant things.
 - Many field trips planned. Mushroom workshops and events typical draw a larger crowd.
6. Kelsey Chapter – *Elena Johnson*
 - There is one workshop or event planned per season.
 - They have an excellent and well attended seed starting workshop during the winter with seeds donated by Wayne Phillips and several other members.
7. Maka Flora – *Libby Knotts*
 - After hosting this annual meeting, there will likely be no additional updates for the remainder of the year.
8. Valley of the Flowers Chapter – *Gretchen Rupp*
 - Over the winter, they had a well-attended plant trivia night at a Bozeman brewery.
 - They have lots of field trips and events planned this year including a native plant garden that they are maintaining on the Gallagator Trail as well as a weed maintenance project on an ugly road cut near Bozeman.
 - They are working on planning for next year's annual meeting.
9. Artemisia Chapter – (No Report. Representative not in attendance)

Adjourn at 8:00 PM.

MNPS Membership Report
 Submitted by Maria Mantas, Membership Chair

Membership update – This report was prepared on June 7, 2025 for the summer annual 2025 MNPS board meeting (June 20, 2025).

Membership statistics –As of today (June 7) our current membership total is 862. Last year at about this time we had 879 members so we are basically on track.

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

Number of Members – March 5, 2025						
<i>Chapters</i>	<i>Individual</i>	<i>Family</i>	<i>Lifetime</i>	<i>Business</i>	<i>Lifetime-Business</i>	<i>Grand Total</i>
Artemisia	28	18	3	1	0	50
Calypso	29	14	5	1	1	50
Clark Fork	148	62	34	2	2	248
Flathead	60	32	21	1	2	116
Kelsey	66	44	22	3	1	136
Maka Flora	12	8	2	0	0	22
Eastern-at-large	16	4	10	2	1	33
Western-at-large	16	10	8	1	0	35
Valley of Flowers	80	54	30	6	2	172
Grand Total	455	246	135	17	9	862
Exchange *	46					

*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.

	<i>Art</i>	<i>Cal</i>	<i>CF</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>K</i>	<i>MF</i>	<i>E</i>	<i>W</i>	<i>VoF</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Exch</i>	<i>Date</i>
2024	52	57	268	132	142	25	37	33	200	946	46	12/31/2024
2023	44	59	266	150	135	24	55	31	179	943	47	12/31/2023
2022		58	271	149	147	27	76	36	190	954	47	12/31/2022
2021		57	265	122	139	24	69	33	192	901	46	12/31/2021
2020		51	226	98	115	22	66	32	157	767	44	12/30/2020
2019		56	207	89	102	22	59	28	124	687	44	12/26/2019
2018		46	200	95	102	19	54	31	113	660	43	12/14/2018
2017		38	195	91	92	24	54	27	98	619	43	
2016		65	204	79	90	20	59	29	102	648	43	



Membership Discussion

Volunteer Check Box: Check your monthly membership lists to see who has checked the volunteer box. 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.

Membership Brochures: New brochures have been printed and are available. Betty Kuropat is bringing a large stack to the annual meeting for distribution. Please take what you think you will need from her as they are expensive to ship.

New Membership Database Platform: Leah, Carol, Laurie and I had a good Zoom meeting to discuss getting started with the transition. Unfortunately, I couldn't get my act together before spring, and now, well, the flowers are blooming, so this large computer project will just have to wait until fall! But we are on-track with what we want and eager to get started on the transition this fall.

Mass Emails to Membership: Until we get the new platform set up, membership wide mailings often falls on Leah and me, which is an addition to all the membership duties. To make this less painful, I ask that if you anticipate a member wide mailing you contact me well in advance and we can make a plan. Please don't expect me to send out a mailing if I only have a few days' notice.

Possible New Chapter in Hot Springs?: I wrote the person who contact me about this a couple of times and never heard back. So I feel the ball is in her court. If she reaches out to me again I will let you know.

DONATIONS

2025 Update:

As of this report (6-7-2025) we have received **\$11,404.55** from **105** donations this fiscal year. Last year at about this time we had \$6,680 from 105 donations. My numbers may be a bit different than Laurie's. The huge jump from this time last year is due to a very large gift (\$5,000) from Vanguard Charitable, a donor advised fund. The direction came from Douglas Reynolds, a donor to that fund, in memory of Robert N. Reynolds. It was stipulated that this amount is to go towards scholarships. I continue to be awed by the generosity of our membership. Please refer to your monthly membership list for the list of donors. It's always good practice to reach out and thank these people when you have the opportunity.

Development Committee – No progress yet on the formation of a Development Committee. Stay tuned.