

Great Lakes Chapter, Michigan Botanical Club
Board Meeting Minutes – DRAFT
Shanty Creek Resort, Antrim County...May 27, 2018

1. Call to Order and Welcome, 5:00 p.m.
 - a. Board Members present: Irene Eiseman, Derek Shiels, Leslie Kuhn, Jim Hewitt, Phyllis Higman.
 - b. Others present: Bob Kahl, Sheridan Haack, Bob Haack, Sara Campbell, Patrick Fields, Gin Cāwood, Julie Medlin, Betty Rutila, Liana May, Linda Rehorst.
2. Agenda Review: Copies of the agenda had previously been distributed to Board members.
3. Future Forays: Irene Eiseman said that the State Board will organize the 2019 Foray; volunteers will be needed.
4. Treasurer's Report: Leslie Kuhn reported the current Chapter account balance is \$2,688. Known upcoming activity: 1) \$317 reimbursement for one of the foray scholarships from the Joan Robb Fund of MBF; 2) \$480 expenditure for *The Great Lakes Botanist* (Vol. 57, Nos. 1-2) for 80 members. Approximately \$2,500 will remain on hand with no significant expenses anticipated this calendar year.
5. Membership status: Irene Eiseman said that about 10 new members were added as a result of the Foray which brought the membership count to 80 making the Great Lakes Chapter the 2nd largest of the five Chapters. Irene said that as the *Great Lakes Botanist* moves toward open on-line access membership could decline somewhat as there are members who join only to receive that journal.
6. Ongoing Projects:
 - a. iNaturalist: Derek Shiels said that the reporting protocol for this online database of nature observations has changed such that it now is not practical to segregate a project just for the Great Lakes Chapter. All observations are grouped into one large project called "Botanists Big Year." Consequently other thoughts on member connectivity led to an idea from Leslie Kuhn of a list-serv which allows email observations to be shared within a group of subscribers. Irene thought Sheila Bourgoin might be able to help set up a list-serv.
 - b. Year-end newsletter: Phyllis Higman again volunteered to prepare the newsletter. Bob Kahl has already submitted a draft article about botanizing locations in the Marquette area.
 - c. Field trips: GLC has held field trips in Leelanau & Benzie counties, Albion, Haslett, and Grand Ledge. Since organizing field trips takes time and effort and the turnout, given the geographic scope of the Chapter, is uncertain no additional field trips were proposed at this time.
7. Election of Officers: Terms for president and secretary expire at the end of 2018. Derek Shiels, currently Vice President, agreed to serve as President for the 2-year term beginning January 1, 2019. Gin Cāwood agreed to serve as Secretary for a similar term. There were no other nominees and the two candidates were declared elected. (Phyllis Higman agreed to serve a second three-year term as Director-at-Large, Irene Eiseman said she would fill the open Director-at-Large position, and Liana May agreed to fill the remaining year of Derek Shiels's term as Vice President. These positions will be filled by Executive Committee appointment). Irene was thanked by the attendees for her service.
8. New projects and ideas: Given the unexpected budget surplus, Leslie Kuhn proposed using some of it for summer student research grants. This was viewed favorably and she will refine the idea and write it up for later consideration and action.
9. Adjournment: The meeting was declared over at 6:08 p.m.