

Michigan Botanical Club - State Board Meeting
Upjohn House, Historic Charlton Park, Barry County
Minutes – Approved
Saturday, October 5, 2019

1. Call to order: The meeting was called to order by President Garrett Crow at 9:52 a.m.
 - Board members in attendance: Sheila Bourgoïn, Garrett Crow, Jim Hewitt, Bob Kelly, Judy Kelly, Lynn Kirkpatrick, Emily Nietering, Larry Noodén, Alice Ward, Dave Wendling, John Zimmerman, Renée Zimmerman. **(12)**
 - Guests in attendance: Ginger Cawood, Jean Lamoreaux, Sarah Noodén.
 - The quorum of 12 members was met. Robert's Rules of Order in effect.
2. Approvals
 - There were no changes to the agenda distributed earlier via email by Garrett Crow.
 - The minutes from the July 13, 2019 Board Meeting were approved on Aug. 15 via email.
3. Announcements
 - 2020 Spring Foray: Southeastern Chapter will host. Renée Zimmerman affirmed the Foray will be held at the UAW Black Lake Conference Center north of Onaway on May 22 - 25.
 - Fall 2020 Mini-foray: The State Board has responsibility and Garrett Crow said he is aiming for an early October event in Grand Rapids at Calvin University. This would be in conjunction with the annual conference of the Michigan Consortium of Botanists (MiCOB). Calvin has a 100 acre Ecosystem Preserve on the east side of their campus.
 - Garrett Crow announced that Jelanie Bush of the White Pine Chapter received the Michigan Governor's Service Award for her many hours of volunteer service in multiple capacities.
4. Reports
 - Treasurer – Bob Kelly reported that through September expenses exceeded income by \$69. No major expenses anticipated through the end of 2019. Separately, income from the July Foray exceeded expenses by approximately \$1,400.
 - *The Great Lakes Botanist* – Editor Michael Huft unable to attend but his latest issue received favorable notice from the Board, and Larry Noodén acclaimed Mike's achievement of improving the Journal and putting it back on schedule.
 - Searchability of *The Great Lakes Botanist*: Larry Noodén noted the inability to search previous volumes for content. This is because, he said, "keywords" and/or abstracts are often missing. These would need to be added and the articles would have to be converted to "searchable" PDFs. To accomplish this would take both expertise and some amount of dollars. Bob Kelly said that the "Smith Funds", a restricted account, could possibly be used for such a project. It was not clear how to proceed but it was thought that Michigan State Univ. librarian (Suzanne Teghtmeyer), who recently created a digital index file of *TGLB*, would be a good place to start. Garrett Crow said the Board would be supportive. (no action item noted)

- Awards – Dan Skean, who was unable to attend the meeting, emailed to the Board a letter in which he described the four awards given by MBC. He attached documents containing nominating criteria and forms. Awards will be given at next year's Spring Foray. The deadline for receiving nominations is March 1, 2020.
- Revenue Enhancement – Judy Kelly said she noticed that the upcoming annual conference of the Indiana Native Plant Society (November 9 in Fort Wayne) has support from sponsors. Judy suggested that a business or organization might be willing to sign on as a sponsor for our forays. She and Emily Nietering will look into this for the 2020 Spring Foray. Judy also encouraged the use of AmazonSmile when making on-line purchases.

5. Old Business

- *Isotria verticillata* – Judy Kelly, Bob Kelly, and Ginger Cawood delivered a two-page report to the Board following their meeting in August with Keith Kintigh, Forest Conservation Specialist with the Michigan Department of Natural Resources. Mr. Kintigh spoke at the July Foray in Marquette about the destruction of one of the few remaining habitats of the Whorled Pogonia, a state-threatened orchid, from a timber harvest authorized by MDNR in 2017. Their discussion looked at options for a possible reintroduction of the orchid to a suitable location near to where it was last known prior to the clear-cutting of the site which is in Kalkaska County. Additionally they proposed holding a BioBlitz on Monday, May 25, 2020 following the Spring Foray to search nearby wooded areas. Judy said they anticipated some expenses to promote the event which, it was decided, would be called a Botanical Inventory. Larry Noodén moved to authorize an amount up to \$200 for this purpose. Passed unanimously.
- Bylaws, Article X, Section 2 – This section of the draft Bylaws presented to the Board in February for approval contained a section which provided for a chapter to change its status and become an integral part of the Club pending approval by the Board. Time was not sufficient at the January meeting to fully discuss the language in this section and it was removed prior to the vote to approve. Since the approved Bylaws have not been adopted it was further discussed at this meeting with the conclusion of not to reinstate.
- Adoption of Bylaws – The new Bylaws were reviewed at the Feb. 9 Board meeting. They received minor revisions and were approved at that meeting. To go into effect the Bylaws must be voted on by the members. The Corresponding Secretary, Sheila Bourgoin, will send a copy of the Bylaws to all members of the Club with a returnable yes/no ballot.

6. New Business

- Big Trees Program – Garrett Crow reviewed guidelines prepared by Ted Reuschel which recommended limiting the number of species currently on the register. To keep the register to a manageable size most hybrids, ornamentals, non-natives, and shrubs would be moved to an inactive status. This would reduce the number of trees on the register from over 800 to around 600. Garrett moved to approve the guidelines. Passed unanimously.

- Foray Guidelines
 - Judy Kelly mentioned she has updated the Foray Planning Document following review of the July Foray in Marquette. Judy distributed the updated version prior to the meeting via email and would appreciate any feedback. There was discussion on liability insurance coverage for students attending a foray. Students are covered if registered as club members. It was thought that students received a one-year membership from the sponsoring chapter but this could not be confirmed for all chapters.
 - Reimbursement policy – Garrett Crow mentioned the situation involving Joseph and Evelyn Rohrer, members of the Great Lakes Chapter, who registered and paid for the Summer Foray but were unable to attend due to a death in the family. They cancelled after the refund deadline but the Board voted to refund all their registration fees. There is no actual policy here; each hosting chapter makes a determination in these situations.
 - 2021 Foray – Dave Wendling, President of the Southwestern Chapter, said they were considering holding the Foray in 2021 over Labor Day weekend at Indiana Dunes. The Board supported the venue and the timing. This moves the Mini-foray hosted by Southeastern Chapter to spring, 2021. The Foray was last held at Indiana Dunes in 2006 over Memorial Day weekend.
 - Fall Mini-foray format -- This item originated from the concerns of some that board members miss out on the morning field trips. The recent format of expanded field trips is the idea of Garrett Crow to encourage greater attendance at what had been the fall board meeting followed by a talk and often abbreviated field trip. Lynn Kirkpatrick suggested holding the board meeting over the lunch period. Renée Zimmerman suggested separating the fall board meeting from the Mini-foray. There was no objection to the notion that the format is determined by the hosting chapter.
 - Nomination Committee – Selecting candidates for officers of the Club is the work of the Nomination Committee, an ad hoc committee of three members appointed biennially by the president. Garrett Crow said the Committee needs to be in place by February 1, 2020. He solicited recommendations.
7. Next State Board Meeting: January 18, 2020 at Albion College. (Snow dates: Jan. 25 or Feb. 1)
 8. Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 11:58 a.m.

Minutes prepared by Jim Hewitt, Recording Secretary