

Annual Great Plains Society of American Foresters Meeting Minutes
Baldwin City, Kansas
October 20, 2016

The Annual GPSAF business meeting opened at 10:50 at the Baldwin City Lodge in Baldwin Kansas. Those in attendance were: Bob Atchison, Charles Barden, Rich Straight, Ryan Armbrust, Dennis Carlson, Dennis Adams, Steve Rasmussen, John Barber, Pam Bergstrom, Jim Strine, Keith Lynch, Thad Rhodes, Katy Dhungel, John Strickler, David Bruton, Dennis Adams, Kim Slezak, Rachel Allison, Brent Olson and Ryan Rastok.

An agenda was passed out to all those in attendance.

Kudos was given to Ryan Armbrust for setting up the meeting and educational stops in the Lawrence area.

Treasury Report: Dennis Carlson provided a summary of the GPSAF treasury. It is below.

Beginning balance as of 1/1/2016: \$4498.10.

The main payments from January 2016 to December 2016 include:

The Lodge (Baldwin city annual meeting room registration): \$100.00

Steve Rasmussen for the Nebraska Walk in the Woods: \$47.00

Dennis Carlson for the Kansas Walk in the Woods: \$100.00

Baldwin city lodge for the GPSAF annual meeting room: \$117.25

KACEE Dues: \$50.00

The major income included:

Dues: \$111.00

KNRC meeting income: \$666.00

Annual Meeting registration and Silent Auction: \$511.00 (\$260.00 for registration \$251.00 for silent auction items)

The balance as of 12/31/2016 was \$5281.76.

REPORTS:

Membership: Katy Dhungel:

Katy passed out GPSAF milestone pins to: Bob Atchison; 20 years, Scott Josia, 20 years (not present but Rich Straight will get the pin to him) and Kim Slezak 30 years.

Katy reported there is 39 members in the GPSAF chapter.

Communications: Kim Slezak: Kim asked those in attendance if GPSAF wanted to keep the GPSAF site hosted by PC nuts. A motion was made (and seconded) and all were in favor of

keeping the GPSAF web site hosted by PC nuts. Some discussion about communication and the potential to start a GPSAF Facebook page was discussed. Those in attendance thought it was a good idea to have a GPSAF Facebook page. Kim also stated if anyone has comments, thoughts about the web site, CFE credits, posting information / publications to let her know.

Habitat for Humanity: Pam Bergstrom: No Habitat plantings was done in either KS or NE. There is \$100.00 for each State available through GPSAF to help support these plantings. It was also noted GPSAF had previously approved spending the Habitat funds on other public tree plantings if a Habitat for Humanity planting is not scheduled for the year.

Education: Jim Strine: Jim deferred his report to those hosting the Walk in the Woods events in Kansas and NE. Dennis Carlson reported on the Kansas Walk in the Woods while Steve Rasmussen reported on the NE Walk in the Woods. Pam Bergstrom also handed out an informational sheet on EAB and a "Fundana" that can be used for education events.

History: Les Pinkerton: Unable to attend, nothing reported.

District Fellows Committee: Bob Atchison: Bob reported 23 people were being reviewed for SAF fellow with four of those from District 9. There was discussion about trying to nominate individuals from GPSAF yearly. The individuals thought of: Dave Bruton for 2017 and Steve Rasmussen for 2018.

Awards and Nominations: Rich Straight: There was a good amount of discussion about putting forth a Field Forester nomination each year. Pam Bergstrom also stated HSD was really pushing each chapter to put forth a young forester's award nominee each year. As for the young forester's award, there are not real set rules. Typically this would be a person less than 45 years old and showing good interest / work in forestry. Rich Straight also indicated it would be good to have a person from Kansas to help with nominations. Charles Barden volunteered to help Rich.

GPSAF Bylaws: At some point, GPSAF will need to update the bylaws. However, it is best to wait until National SAF has fully updated their bylaws before we update the GPSAF bylaws.

Science and Technology: Rachel Allison volunteered to take over this position due to the passing of Wayne Geyer.

Upcoming dates to remember:

Kansas Natural Resources Conference: January 26 and 27th.

2017 Annual GPSAF meeting: -Likely in the NE part of Nebraska. The Kansas members need to discuss this with the Kansas State Forester to make sure travel is not an issue.

2018 KNRC meeting will be in Manhattan with the dates of February 8th and 9th.

Missouri River Foresters meeting: Kansas Hosting? -Typically in the 3rd week in September.

The meeting adjourned at 12:25.