Kankakee Torrent Chapter

September 23, 2018

Sather Residence

Minutes

The meeting was called to order about 1:00 pm. A morning field trip was held prior to meeting at Limestone Park at 10:00 am.

**Attending:** Mike & Carol Sather, Marc and Sally Wieclaw, Don & Espie Nelson, Marianne Hahn, Georganne & Neil Higgins, Victoria Crosley, Scott Saffer, Don Gardner, Sandy, Tom, Rita, Debra, Shirley, Julia, Karen (Garden Club guests)

**Minutes**

Minutes were read and corrected to include Georganne as attending. Marianne Hahn moved to approve as corrected, Carol seconded, motion passed.

**Correspondence**

Janine read a note from Julie Arvia that her *Clematis virginiana* bought at plant sale doing well.

**Treasurer Report**

As John Sullivan could not make it, Floyd read John’s report. The Chapter has $4730.25 in bank account as of August 17, 2018

**Committee reports**

* Fall Symposium
  + Word from Trevor is that the symposium is off.

**Old Business**

* Flora of Chicago Region sales, 2 copies left for sale.
* Janine gave report on Iliamna t-shirts left for sale. Several sold at picnic.
* Report on Hummingbird Festival. Saturday August 18 1-5 p.m., Keith Nowakowski, tabled until next meeting.
* Kankakee Soil and Water Conservation District Native Plant Sale, tabled until next meeting
  + Emilie Janes, Resource Conservationist
* INPS booth at Wild Things
  + Group agreed this is in Northeast Chapter hands. We can supply business cards.
* Partnerships with groups, redux, tabled until next meeting.

**New Business**

* Plant Sale opportunity at Hummingbird Festival or a different location on same day
  + Janine, Keith Espie, Sally & Carol can discuss has a committee and also work with Emilie Janes from KCS&WCD
* Presentation by Georganne Higgins on her problems with the city regarding her prairie garden.
  + Georganne described her ordeal with the Kankakee County Health Department after being cited for letting weeds and grass grow un-mowed on her property. She lives in unincorporated Bourbonnaise Township. She contacted a lawyer and spiritual advisor and proceeded to tidy yard along fence line. She also researched Patricia Armstrong’s work in defense of native plants in the home landscape. She had at hand all her receipts and labels for purchased plant materials. Her yard was certified by The Conservation Foundation as a Conservation at Home site. (She also learned other groups can certify properties for the Foundation and it might be something our Chapter could do.)The County found that while the yard was unconventional it was not a problem.
  + The chapter encouraged her to get this statement in writing from the County
* Speakers and programs
  + Janine reported that Kathleen Garness can present a botanical drawing class either Nov. 17 or 18, location to be determined. She will do class for gas money. Janine asked for go ahead from chapter to pursue this. Chapter members agreed. Victoria, Janine and Sally will look into this.
  + Materials suggestions from Kathy: A set of decent colored pencils is about $20 (Prismacolor or equivalent), vinyl erasers, a clickie pencil, a soft (6B) and hard (4H) graphite pencil, a variety of sketchbook paper, and cardboard for insides of books (I use recycled cereal, etc. boxes). Supplies if I bought them would run about $30 each person but some people may have this stuff on hand. If I purchase, Dick Blick often offers quantity discounts.
  + Stephanie Dobbs, IDOT Operation Habitat
    - Janine suggested we have her as a speaker and will try to get date arranged.

**Announcements:**

Trevor will be leading a workday at the Indian Caves October 13, 8:00 to 12:30, Perry Farm Park, Bourbonnais. He will have 30 students from Olivet. RSVP to Trevor at 309-351-8813

Janine presented a talk at the Monarch Habitat Technical Training For Public Lands put on by the Pollinator Partnership at the Sand Ridge Nature Center, South Holland, IL

**Adjournment:** After a hearty round of thanks to Mike and Carol Sather for hosting a wonderful picnic luncheon the meeting was degreed over by Floyd at 1:48 and a field trip of the Sather property ensued.

**Calendar**

* October 1, no meeting
* October field trip, Midewin suggested
* November 5, Monday, there was discussion about Midewin or Brickstone
* December no meeting