



Illinois Native Plant Society

P.O. Box 60694, Chicago, IL 60660

**Minutes
Governing Board Meeting, Zoom
January 8, 2024**

Call to Order: Call to order 6:02PM by Emily

Board Members Present: Lailah Reich, Daniel Pohl, Susanne Masi, Emily Dangremond, Eric Ulaszek, Samantha Chavez, Courtney Cartney, Floyd Catchpole, Anna Braum, Trish Quintenz, Nick Seaton

Quorum present, yes/no? Yes.

- Review draft [minutes](#) from December governing board meeting. Minor edits made.
 - Susanne motioned to approve the minutes. Floyd seconded. All were in favor. Samantha Chavez abstained Minutes approved.

Old Business:

- 2024 Elections Update:
 - Timeline for official election? Week of January 15th send out and close by January 27th to announce by January 31st?
 - Discussion of existing candidates and potential roles:
 - Brian Charles (at-large member) – Two time INPS grant winner. Emily to let Brian know we plan to put him on the ballot.
 - Carolyn Villa (at-large member) – Emily to reach out to let Carolyn know we plan to put her on the ballot.
 - Karen Larson (at-large member or membership?) – Anna reached out to her to coordinate to answer a few questions. Anna will reach back out.
 - Webmaster (non-elected position) - Kate Ahrens update (Floyd); Floyd said Kate is ready to take over once trained. Gretel to update us on training and how quickly the transition goes.
 - Treasurer - Trish has a potential candidate. She has a conflict on Monday nights, but would be available between 6PM and 6:30PM. Not available last portion of June. Trish will coordinate with Courtney. Her name is Becky Croteau. If she decides to move forward to be on the ballot, Becky to provide a short bio and photo for the election.
 - Emily to be on ballot as President. Emily will provide a bio for this that includes a discussion about the limitations of her role per out of state.

New Business:

- 2024 draft [Budget](#) review. Lost internet connection. No notes for this discussion.
 - Courtney said she has to adjust the budget for the Wilhelm symposium and Annual Gathering contributions that are owed to the Central Chapter, so we have to vote next month on the budget, not this month.

- Wilhelm Symposium ([Ask Letter](#)) - Donations and sponsors.
 - August 5-8, 2024, at the Potawatomi Inn & Conference Center, Pokagon State Park, in extreme NE Indiana. The format will be similar to the Rothrock Sedge Symposium (see themadbotanist.com).
 - Assume \$500 will be the admission fee.
 - Sponsorship levels, discussion of the levels and what level the INPS donates too.
 - Emily mentioned that it may be a smaller group, so something to consider for our level of donation.
 - Who would we send as our person who has the covered registration?
 - Courtney mentioned that we should fund the travel for the person we send; hotel, travel, and food.
 - Floyd said if we send someone at the 5K level, assume they will also man the booth. Emily also said if we have multiple people, we could share in the responsibility of working the booth.
 - Expensive, but all meals are covered and open bar.
 - We may not get a lot out of it, but great opportunity to support.
 - Emily said the state board is interested in supporting at a level of 2.5K, with an option to contribute more, if Chapter's would like to also contribute. Emily will email the NE Chapter to ask if they have an interest. We will vote on this formally at the next board meeting and Courtney will add to our 2024 proposed budget.
 - Announce open registration for the event no later than early March.

- 2024 agenda setting meeting/retreat.
 - When would we hold a meeting to set the agenda for this year.
 - March would be ideal for our agenda setting meeting.
 - Add a note to discuss with new board members next meeting.
 - Emily will reach out to new board members to check prior to our next board meeting.
 - One day retreat with dinner the evening before.
 - Springfield and Bloomington/Normal are good options.
 - Let's discuss pros and cons of in-person vs. online. Travel costs and options for travel.

Next Meeting: February 12, 2024, 6PM.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:15PM by Emily.