



**Illinois  
Native  
Plant  
Society**

*Illinois Native Plant Society*

P.O. Box 60694, Chicago, IL 60660

**Minutes  
State Governing Board Meeting  
September 9, 2024**

**Call to order**

Board President Emily Dangremond called the meeting to order at 6:02 PM.

**Board Members and Guests Present**

Board Members: Emily Dangremond, Becky Croteau, Susanne Masi, Eric Ulaszek, Trish Quintenz, Carolyn Villa, Daniel Pohl, Floyd Catchpole, Kelsay Shaw, Nick Seaton, Samantha Chavez, Nancy Smith

Guests: None

**Minutes**

**Board Member Eric Ulaszek moved to approve the minutes of the IPNS Governing Board for August 12, 2024. Board Member Carolyn Villa seconded the motion. The motion passed with Board Member Samantha Chavez abstaining.**

**Treasurer's report**

Board Treasurer Becky Croteau summarized current balances, income and expenditures for INPS.

Checking Balance = \$44,356.12  
Certificate of Deposit = \$25,297.49

Income since last report:

\$389.60      Into Square Account / Memberships  
\$ 36.78      Check / Membership

Expenditures since last report:

\$ 11.00      IL Secretary of State Not For Profit Annual Report  
\$ 602.00      Susanne Masi travel expenses for conference  
\$1,000.00      Donation to Heartland Conservancy for Hill Prairie Fund

Board Treasurer Becky Croteau expressed concern about the lack of specificity in the website and square regarding the money coming in, which makes her job and kelsay's more difficult. She also mentioned the need to determine how much money to give the chapters for last year's dues and this year's.

- Board President Emily Dangremond to follow up with Board Member Kate Ahrens for the Square fields to be added so the Chapters for new members, when present, are more clear.
- Exec Committee to resolve membership data / reconciliation questions
- Exec Committee to provide guidance about how much to provide the chapters, esp. Ones hosting the annual event

### **Website**

No report from Board member Kate Ahrens, webmaster.

Board member Floyd Catchpole volunteered to lead a committee to add native garden resources on the website, including features of INPS members' gardens.. Board members Becky Croteau, Eric Ulaszek, Trish Quintenz, Carolyn Villa also volunteered to serve on the committee.

**Board Member Catchpole is to organize a meeting of the Native Gardens Resources Committee.**

### **Annual Meeting**

Board member Nick Seaton reported that Southern chapter members are excited about combining the Native Plant Symposium and annual gathering

Board Member Seaton shared minutes from their meeting that set up a planning committee and brainstorming venues and field trips, which included the following details:

- Event should be composed of presentations + hikes
- Previously held at Camp Ondessonk
- Merge symposium & annual gathering
- Timing: mid-May into early June after semester ends, but not Memorial Day (May 26) weekend. Early June after the ISU semester concludes would be ideal
- Keynote speaker needed
- Symposium could be < 1 day
- Giant City Lodge or AirBNBs could provide comfortable places to stay
- Include Cape Girardeau & Paducah conservation orgs for networking
- Mighty Rivers Nursery will commit plants to event

Board member Seaton shared his and the committee's next steps:

- **Set up dates for committee meetings (at board meeting and separately)**
- **Identify plenary speakers**
- **Recruit additional members to the planning committee**

The following notes pertain to committed or potential recruits for the planning Committee -

- Central Chapter - Board Member Trish Quintenz

- North Chapter
- Northeast - Kat Thomas - **Board Member Trish Quintenz to contact Kath**
- South Central Chapter - Board Member Nick Seaton, et. al.
- West Central Chapter

Additional action items are as follows:

- **Board Member Nick Seaton to organize meetings for the Annual Meeting Committee**
- **Board Members Trish Quintenz and Emily Dangremond to recruit chapter reps for the Annual Meeting Planning Committee**

### **Wild Things Conference**

The team discussed INPS participation in the Wild Things conference, which is set to take place on March 1, 2025. (Samantha Chavez is on the planning committee.)

The board agreed on the importance of having a table at the event to promote the organization and engage with attendees. The team also discussed the potential for offering giveaways and encouraging people to sign up for membership at the event.

**Board member Carolyn Villa moved to sign IPNS up for Wild Ones as a non-profit exhibitor for \$250. Board member Kelsay Shaw second. Motion carried.**

**Board President Dangremond to submit the non-profit exhibitor application to Wild ones, assigning Board Member Carolyn Villa as the point of contact.**

### **Membership**

Board Member Kelsey Shaw reported eleven new members in the last month.

### **Old Business**

**Contract underway for Rubus specimens for Dr. Mark Widriechner**

Board President Emily Dangremond moved to provide an increased honoraria for Dr. Mark Widriechner to give a symposium.

Board President Emily reminded Board member Kelsay to upload the signed contract with Dr. Mark Widriechner to the Google drive for record-keeping.

The team discussed inviting Dr Widriechner to give a talk about his findings in the Quad Cities after his planned visit to the herbarium after Thanksgiving. Samantha suggested offering an honorarium, and the team considered whether Rubis' schedule would allow for a talk during his visit or on a subsequent trip. The team agreed to explore the possibility of organizing a talk.

### **Heartlands Conservancy**

Thanks in part to the contribution from IPNS, the Heartlands Conservancy met their fundraising goal and succeeded in buying the property to conserve.

### **Code of conduct committee**

Board Members Trish Quintenz, Susanne Masi, and Floyd Catchpole as well as Ellen, will finalize the INPS code of conduct.

Board President Dangremond to set up a Code of Conduct committee meeting and finalize a code of conduct.

### **Additional Actions for the Good of the Order**

The actions reviewed at the end of the meeting, that were not mentioned earlier, include the following:

- Board President Dangermond to send survey for new meeting time
- Emily to check on bylaws to see if online elections can be continued (rather than at the annual meetings)
- Board Member Kelsay Shaw will report on who signed up to help [with what?]
- Board member Trish Quintenz will send brochures to Sam, Carolyn, and Nancy as requested
- Chapter presidents will report on quarterly activities.

### **Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned 7:34 PM by Board President Emily Dangremond.