Minutes of October 18, 2017, Mount Lassen Chapter - CNPS Executive Board Meeting  
By Christian Smit, Secretary

Motions in bold. AN: indicates Action Needed

1. Called to order at 7 pm (Elliott’s home). Quorum present: (6/8): Cindy Weiner CW; Meryl Bond MB; Woody Elliott WE; Catie Bishop CB; Jim Bishop JB; Christian Smit CS. Also in attendance: Ann Elliott AE, Janna Lathrop JL, and Marjorie McNairn MM.


3. Treasurer’s Report:

In Treasurer Nancy Praizler’s absence, WE assured the Board of the Chapter’s good financial situation. The only cost since the previous report was $15.00 for hospitality.

4. Old Business:
   a. a Fall Fund Raising Appeal – WE/JL

The goal of sending out the letter in October was accomplished! JB drafted a fundraising letter for WE’s signature and printing. WE printed out envelopes via Mail Merge and return envelopes, and JL stuffed and distributed the letter via bulk mail. NP arranged for a Chapter PayPal account that allows donors to donate by clicking a “button” on the website. WE will follow-up with a Constant Contact email broadcast to nearly 1,200 addresses.

   b. 2018 CNPS Conservation Conference, Feb. 1-3, 2018 at LAX Marriott, Los Angeles
      i. Chapter Poster – JB

The deadline for submitting a poster to be presented at the conference is October 31. JB displayed the current poster, which was created by April Grossberger (a former Chapter Education Chair) approximately 10 years ago. AE will reformulate the Chapter’s poster on MS Publisher. CW suggested that the poster represent what makes our Chapter unique. Members agreed that focusing on Chapter activities and not merely pictures of plants would help represent the Chapter.

      ii. Sponsor Students / Chapter Representatives (CS & JD) – WE

The Chapter executed the motion it passed in September to sponsor students at the 2018 CNPS conference at LAX Marriott! **Motion to allocate $600.00 (each) for CS and JD to serve as Chapter representatives at the conference, provided that they volunteer under the guidelines of the CNPS Conservation Conference and that they submit all of their receipts.** JB moved. CB seconded. Unanimously approved. AN: WE will direct NP to write a $600.00 check to state CNPS.

      iii. Volunteer at Conference

If CS and JD attend, they will volunteer.

      iv. CNPS Store for Chapter Merchandise – WE

In the absence of Treasurer, NP, WE informed the Chapter that NP is inclined to offer sale items.
c. Nominating Committee for Chapter Officers in year 2018 – JB
Nominations: Paul Moore for President, CW for Vice President, CS for Secretary. MB, Tom Resk, Dody Domish, and Paula Shapiro for Members-at-Large.

5. New Business:
   a. Designate Complementary 1-year CNPS Memberships for 2018 year – MB
   Shane Romain (Chico Parks Volunteer Coordinator), Natalie Carter (Director, Butte Environmental Council), Chris Devine (Planning Manager, Butte County Association of Governments), Ritchie Bamlet (Chico Urban Forester), and Linda Herman (Chico Parks & Resource Manager) were all selected to receive 1-year complementary CNPS Memberships. AN: MB will so inform state CNPS.

   b. Review & Approve: CNPS - Native Landscape Planting Guide: Mount Lassen Chapter
   The Native Landscape Planting Guide is a state initiative. AE used CW’s plant list, and also consulted Calscape. The plant list was reviewed and approved. AN: AE will so inform state CNPS and request copies for distribution at Chapter events.

6. Standing Committee Reports
   a. Alice Hecker Native Plant Garden – AE
   The garden is doing well. Some spots are empty. CW suggested listing seasonal info (e.g., “Spring Only” for a bulb that only blooms in spring). Kathy LaShure has volunteer to help maintain the garden.

   b. Conservation – WE
      i. Peregrine Pt. Disc Golf Course: Mitigation and Monitoring
      WE is waiting on the 2016 Annual Report to be released by the City’s Park & Natural Resource Manager to the Bidwell Park & Playground Commission at their upcoming meeting.

      ii. Salvation Army Community Center Development in Chico’s Chapman Town: Landscape Plan.
      Three heritage valley oaks are proposed for removal; however, WE convinced Brian Firth, consulting Landscape Architect, to incorporate valley oaks in the design (Nine valley oaks will be planted in the parking lot). WE also prompted City Staff to submit minutes of the Architectural Review and Historic Preservation Board for the Board’s review and approval in a timely manner.

   c. Education – JD
   In the absence of JD, CS advocated for JD’s children’s book, and stated that getting the book in schools at the start of the 2018 semester seemed like a reasonable goal that JD would probably support. CW, a former teacher, provided insight into tailoring the book to current education standards. Each grade has clear educational objectives (e.g. local habitat, lifecycles). JB drew attention to the Nature Journaling Curriculum adopted by CNPS.

   d. Events – JL
      i. Chico Fall Home & Garden Show Oct. 28th & 29th. Silver Dollar Fair Grounds
      JL is in contact with Paula Shapiro. Plants are needed for sale. JL drew attention to creating a Memorandum of Understanding with nurseries for sale of their plants. This MOU would establish how the proceeds are distributed (e.g. 40/60%).
ii. Farm City Celebration – Harvest Festival: Sat. Nov. 4. Bidwell Mansion
JL needs someone to set up the Chapter's stand at 7:30 am. JB and CB volunteered.

e. Field Trips – MM

On November 2, a Calflora workshop will be held in Bidwell Park from 9am-12pm. On November 5, John Aull and Dick Corey will lead a field trip at local wetland, Teichert Ponds. The Chapter will also visit the Upper Ridge Nature Preserve in Magalia in November.

f. Membership – MB
Membership is at 237.

g. Programs – JB
Cynthia Powell from Calflora is presenting in November. Lawrence is presenting on his plant collecting forays in December. JB has wildland fire as a backup.

h. Publicity – CW
Publicity efforts are going well.

i. Social Media – AW
Social media efforts are going well.

j. Yahi Trail Maintenance – CS
This weekend trail maintenance is scheduled. **AN: AE will give CS administrative powers on the Chapter's meetup.com site to recruit volunteers.**

n. Invasive Plants

**Motion to reimburse CB $29.99 for the CNPS Fridge magnets that she independently purchased.** Passed with unanimous approval.

7. Future Ex. Bd. Meeting locations:

The November 15, 2017 meeting will be held at Christian’s home. The January location is to be decided at the November meeting.