

Nebraska Master Naturalist Program Executive Board Meeting

11 November 2018 8:30 am-12:30 pm UN-L Hardin Hall, Lincoln, NE

Welcome and Call to Order—Faas

The Nebraska Master Naturalist Executive Board Meeting was called to order by acting chair, Andrea Faas at 8:32am.

Roll Call—Dublinske

Faas-present	Guests—Sandy Douglas, Bob Wells, Vicki Von Loh—
Schrad-present	NMN Foundation Representatives, Ali Mayes—
Ferraro-present	NGP Watchable Wildlife, Doug Wells, Program Assistant
Krohn-present	
Stone, D.-present	
Klein-present	
Jones, A.—absent	
Dublinske-present	
Robie-present	
Stoner-absent	
Jones, M.-absent	
Hayes-absent	

Review of Minutes from August 9, 2018 Executive Board Meeting—Dublinske

Suggestion to correct the name of Bob Wells on p. 2 was made. Moved by Ferraro and seconded by Schrad to accept the minutes. Motion carried.

Executive Session—Faas

Executive Board went into executive session at 8:37 am. Executive Session ended at 9:10am

Reports:

Report on the breakdown of volunteer members and hours provided by Matt Jones appear on the agenda for November 16, 2018.

Foundation—Memorandum of Understanding with the NMN Foundation and NMN Executive Board is still in draft form as reported by Brice Krohn. Future funding for the Gala is to be through the NMN Foundation. There will not be a Gala in February 2019, as there is no committee to take on this event at this time. There was the suggestion of having a NMN Members/ NMN Foundation form an events committee to look at how planning and implementation of the Gala, NMN Reunion and Conference could be handled in the future. The Gala is the main fundraiser currently for the NMN Foundation. Kris Chaves and Sandy Douglas of the River City Chapter offered to be on the events steering committee. Andrea Faas also volunteered.

Look for announcements and changes to the NMN Website. Bob Wells rcwells@cox.net and Vicki Von Loh vvonloh@gmail.com are contacts for the website and comments from members.

Chapter Updates:

River City Chapter representative Karen Klein reported that the chapter has continued to sponsor continuing educational hours and volunteer opportunities such as a film viewing, kayak trip and lake clean up in Wahoo, and a trip to Ashfall.

Proposed Salt Valley chapter represented by Midge Dublinske reported continued stream clean up, seed collection and social with many members obtaining their continuing educational hours and volunteer hours through the opportunities in the Lincoln area.

Proposed Greater Nebraska Chapter is a work in progress with 14 NMN with quarterly activities.

Strategic Planning Committee—Schrade

Mike Schrade reported that members of the Strategic Planning Committee are Brice Krohn, Andrea Faas, Krystal Stoner, Karen Klein and himself. Mike presented a draft document that included information on volunteers, diversity of volunteers across the state, focus on chapters and Partner satisfaction with volunteers. Also included in the draft document was the impact the NMN program has on natural resources and acres per project, the number of hours of volunteerism and its equivalent value, the funding and sustainability of the NMN Program. The intent is to have the final draft available for approval at the next NMN executive board meeting in January, 2019.

Chapter By-laws Template—Klein

Karen Klein reported that there was a minor change to be made in the template; otherwise the template is ready as approved.

Elections—Dublinske and Jones

The election process will begin with a call for nominees and others wishing to run for executive board positions which include Chair, Treasurer, Secretary, NMN Program Partner General Representative, and NMN Program General Representative. Nominations and Elections will take place by electronic ballot in December. Matt Jones will assist in constructing the ballot and monitor results.

Also on a separate ballot will be an opportunity to vote on changes to the NMN Program Bylaws, as follows:

Moved by Dublinske and seconded by Stone to change Article III, Section 2 regarding term limits. Motion carried.

Moved by Schrad and seconded by Klein to change Article VII, Section 5 for Advisors to the executive Board. Motion carried.

Moved by Schrad and seconded by Dublinske to change Article IV, Section 8 by addition to include Chapter Representative with voting privileges. Motion carried.

Moved by Schrad and seconded by Dublinske to change Article IV, Section 9 by addition to include NMN Foundation Representative with no voting privileges. Motion carried.

Other business:

Future NMN Core Trainings are tentatively set, as follows:

June 2-9, 2019 at Niobrara Valley Preserve

July 7-13, 2019 at Cedar Point

April—dates to be arranged with possible training at Fontanelle Forest of Heron Haven in Omaha. Look on website for further updates.

Chris Robie, Andrea Faas, and Sandy Douglas offered comments on the NMN Conference held at the Crane Trust in October and member feedback.

Upcoming Nebraska Christmas Bird Count from Dec. 15, 2018-Jan. 3, 2019 refer to www.NOOU.org.

Employee Update—Ferraro

Depending on future funding by grants and the Foundation, Ethan Anderson will no longer be a program assistant as of Nov. 30, 2018, and Doug Wells continued employment is tentative through June 30, 2019. Both individuals have served the program well. Program Coordinator will continue to be housed in the Buffalo County Extension office in Kearney.

Proposed meeting dates for 2019 will be in January, April, August and November. Next NMN Executive Board Meeting will be on January 17th from noon-4:00pm at Hero Haven in Omaha.

Meeting adjourned at 12:30pm.

Minutes submitted by,

Midge Dublinske, Acting Secretary

