

February 12, 2011

Flora of New Jersey Project

Yearly General Meeting Minutes

Meeting Time: 10AM; Location: Rutgers Chrysler Herbarium,
Douglas Campus, Biological Science Building

Members Present: Joe Arsenault, Wayne Ferren Jr., Ted Gordon, Stevens Heckscher, Russell Juelg, Bill Olson, Matt Palmer, Lena Struwe,

Open Meeting:

Joe welcomed everyone to the start of the 7th Year for FNJP

The Meeting Objectives were to:

- Provide our responsibility to hold an annual executive meeting
- Solicit nominations for Project positions
- Provide an overview of 2010
- Provide direction for the Year 2011

FNJ, Inc. Business

Annual General Meeting of Executive Board:

Discussion ensued on old and new board business and 2011 responsibilities. The committees were discussed retained in their existing form with the same leaders. A call for officer nominations was made. The existing board members are Joe Arsenault (Chair), Stevens Heckscher (Vice Chair), Bill Olson (Recording Secretary), and Wayne Ferren (Treasurer). Each agreed to serve a new term for each position. A request for nominations from the floor was made, none provided. A request was made of the nomination committee to solicit the general members and interested parties to Flora of New Jersey, Inc. for officer nominations via e-mail, with a vote to occur prior to the April 17th telephone conference call between executive staff, committee chairs and interested members.

The meeting shifted to regular business for all participants after the executive portion was completed.

Other important business issues

- Joe Arsenault announced the new Web page is up and running at www.njflora.org.
- Taxes for 2010:
 - NJ State Agent Certification: By 4/201
 - Federal Form 990: Pending
- Bank Status:
 - End of 2010 Balance as of 1/01/11: **\$246.20**
 - Deposits after 1/01/11: **\$120.00**
 - Current Balance: **\$366.20**
- New Bank Activities:
 - PayPal attached to account for donations

Committee reports

Today's meeting reports were nearly eliminated to provide a tour of the new web site. Joe Arsenault introduced the new version and Bill Olson provided the narrative to demonstrate the contents.

New Web Site Demonstration: Bill Olson showed the software (Word-Press) and how the format has easy to use tabs and menus. **Home, News, About, Project, Events, Downloads and Join Us** pages that are each clickable or provide menus.

The site now provides:

- *Ecological Rambles*, an occasional paper
- *Plant of the Month*, a species associated with each month of the year
- *Guess that Plant*, something to challenge the plant sleuths
- *Noteworthy Collections*, a web record of new finds and relocated species
- Updated Atlas Pages for Completed Families and Genera
- Project Menu Pages
 - Committee Pages
 - Contributors Page
- Interactive Calendar
- Member Photos
- Downloadable documents such as old minutes, newsletter, etc.
- A Donate Button of a Become a Member Page

Each Committee now has access to a full page to post blogs, photos, PDFs etc.

Members reviewed, commented, and made suggestions. A number of members made corrections that will make the site even better. Many suggestions focused on the location and placement of pages and text. With minor editing and text corrections/additions, these new page concepts will provide a better description of FNJP.

Other News:

Dr. Struwe brought the group up to date on the search for a new home for the herbarium. Now the search continues, with other venues not matching the needs or affordability. They need ~5000SF to fit with room to expand. Matt and Wayne discussed cooperating with the Rutgers BSA chapter to hold a symposium. Dr. Struwe's current work on "weeds" would provide a great way to join a variety of interests into a plant session. The idea may take fruit in 2012. Dr. Struwe also requested help deciphering a large quantity of old specimens from Long, Witte and many others. We agreed to dedicate a work session to sorting through some of the specimens.

Committee Reports:

Atlas Committee Matt Palmer: New assignments should be sent to Matt for the Atlas management.

Manual Wayne Ferren, Jr.: Wayne requested a second copy of the revised Santalaceae; re-informed the members present FNJP. Inc. has FNA approval to use their format, keys and text as necessary for our project.

Nomenclature Bill Olson: Two new submissions have been received for mono-specific families: Ruppiaceae and Zosteraceae. Bill also informed of the posted Families list from PAG. There are changes to that list already, like everything else, it is a moving target.

New Business:

2011 Main Goal: *Find Funding opportunities for FNJP:* The 2011 main executive goal is to obtain funding. Our position and current business setup would benefit the project by adding a way to pace the work and pay for the anticipated costs. Funding will be needed for:

- **Publication Costs:** Graphics, editing, Printing
- **Travel Costs:** Mileage, accommodations, honorariums
- **Web:** Maintenance, Web server / domain fees
- **Field Trips:** Mileage, refreshments

Additional 2011 Goals:

- i. Populate the Web
- ii. Finish Manual Introduction Submissions

Old business

Set Herbarium work days: **March 19, April 9, May14, 2011 10AM in the Chrysler**

A motion was made to adjourn by Stevens Heckscher and seconded by Matt Palmer.
The meeting ended at 1:00 PM

Minutes Provided By:

Joe Arsenault, Flora of NJ Project

NJPlants@aol.com; www.njflora.org/

856-697-6044, 6045

Facsimile: 856-697-6050