

# CNPS SAN DIEGO CHAPTER

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

August 2, 2017

Audubon Offices, 4010 Morena Blvd. Suite 100 San Diego, CA

### AGENDA

**Call to Order: 6:30 p.m.** (Quorum = Six Board Members)

**Known absences:**

- I. **Quick personal reports & welcome visitors** (6:30-6:35)
- II. **Mini Grant Proposals** (6:35-7:15)
  - A. **Carleton Oaks Elementary School** (Attachment 1) – Kay Stewart and Leah Saunders. Board representative is Joseph Sochor.
  - B. **Escondido Creek Conservancy** (Attachment 2) – Ann Van Leer
    - 1. Mini-grant for butterfly garden at the Elfin Forest Recreational Reserve parking lot.
    - 2. Letter of support of an acquisition.
- III. **Additions or Changes to the Agenda** – 1 min (7:15-7:17)
  - A. Vote to approve.
- IV. **Review of Minutes** – 5 min (7:17-7:25)
  - A. July 2017 – vote to approve.
- V. **Treasurer’s Report** – 15 min (7:25-7:35)
  - A. July Report – vote to approve.
- VI. **Committee Reports**
  - A. **Programs** (Torrey for featured speakers and Sue for Natives for Novices)
  - B. **Conservation Committee (Frank)** – 10 min (7:35-7:45)
  - C. **Fall Plant Sale** (Attachment 3)
  - D. **Personnel Committee** (7:45 – 7:47)
    - 1. Contracts for the Fall Garden Sale Director and the Media Director have been sent to state - Brock out until August 7.
    - 2. In August working on Request for Proposal for 2018 Garden Tour Director.
  - E. **Workshop Update** (Attachment 4)
- VII. **Current Business:**
  - A. **Strategic Plan** – vote to approve
  - B. **Annual Report** (Bobbie – Still working on it. (Board members and committee chairs, please send me your volunteer hours if you haven’t done so.)
- VIII. **New Business** – 10 min (7:47-8:55)
  - A. **Funds for Natural History Museum Plant Atlas** (Tom)
    - 1. For cataloging and organizing of the plants that have been collected thus far.
    - 2. For working on a plant checklist for Imperial County since the wind and solar energy projects are affecting so much land.
  - B. **Coordinating with Other Organizations** (Joseph)

Creating maybe 5 strong affiliations with like-minded organizations, perhaps for a one year period, small but defined commitments to each other to spotlight each other’s events and related causes.
  - C. **“Best Use of California Natives in an Exhibit Award”** (Sue)

The Garden Committee would like to make an award to be given at the County Fair for the BEST USE OF CALIFORNIA NATIVES IN AN EXHIBIT. This could be a framed certificate and a prize of \$100 to the winner from CNPS-SD.

**D. Audio/visual** - Training 3-4 people in mic-ing and projectors (Joseph)

**IX. Chapter Meeting Welcoming Table Assignments** (Connie) - 1 min

**X. Chapter Council Mtg - Sep 8-10, Sonoma County**

**XI. Next Meeting Date: September 6, 2017**

Important agenda items?

Tasks to accomplish prior?

**XII. Wrap up and conclusions** (8:55-9:00)

## **ATTACHMENT 1 – Mini-Grant Application for Native Garden at Carlton Oaks School**

My name is Leah Saunders and I am the Vice Principal at Carlton Oaks School in Santee. This will be my second year at Oaks and over this summer we have begun our garden renovation project. We have 6 large “islands” of dirt that are in the inner circle of our school and we are working on turning them all in to working gardens for our students. This will be the beginning of our project in building a stronger and more caring community for our students. Of the 6 areas, we are working on one area for our 3rd grade students to build, maintain, and study the native plants of the Kumeyaay and San Diego county. Our district grounds workers have dug up the beds and are currently installing drip irrigation, river rocks to a drain in the center of the area for when it rains, and will be planting 2 oak trees at the end of summer. I found your information on line and would love to have your help with selecting plants, and helping us design the best garden for students to learn in. I would like to apply for a mini-grant through CNPS, and am especially excited at the prospect of having the support of your organization to make sure that this is the best possible learning environment for our students. Would you be interested in working with me or referring me to a Board member who would be interested in working with us? Thank you for any guidance you can provide.

Thank you,

Leah Saunders

Vice Principal, Carlton Oaks School (K-8th grade)





Current Photo

## ATTACHMENT 2 – Mini-Grant Application from Escondido Creek Conservancy



### CNPS San Diego Mini-Grant Application

May 25, 2017

**Project Title:** Pollinator Gardens in the Escondido Creek Watershed

**Contact Name:** Ann Van Leer, executive director, [ann@landconserve.com](mailto:ann@landconserve.com), 858-442-0937

**Type of Project:** X Conservation X Education

**Amount Requested:** \$500.00 (Total Project Cost \$ 1,500+)

**Other Funds Sources (Group/\$1,000):** Grant from Escondido Shines, Donations

**Volunteer Hours Planning to Date:** 5 planning hours

**Type(s) of Volunteers:** Students at the Roger Rowe school, TECC, CNPS, Butterfly Farms

**CNPS Board Liaison:** Mike Gonzales

### Describe the purpose of the project garden:

TECC has initiated a project to establish Monarch (and other pollinators) gardens in at least three locations in the Escondido Creek watershed to increase pollinator habitat, and educate the public about the importance of pollinators. The locations will include, but not be limited to: R. Roger Rowe Elementary School (K-8), the Elfin Forest Recreational Reserve Interpretive Center in Elfin Forest, and Plaza De Arroyo in Escondido along the Escondido Creek Trail. TECC chose sites with a high amount of pedestrian and/or cyclist traffic where concentrated numbers of Monarchs would be noticed by passersby and thus make the greatest impact. TECC has received a grant from Escondido Shines which will be applied to the garden at Plaza De Arroyo. CNPS funds will be used primarily at Roger Rowe school but a smaller number of plants will be added at the Elfin Forest Interpretive Center.

Funds from CNPS will pay for: (1) purchase of primarily narrow-leaved milkweed, *Asclepias fascicularis*, from the Moosa Creek Native plant nursery, (2) digging of holes by Habitat West to facilitate the planting, (3) irrigation adjustments, as needed, to support the plants, and (4) art supplies/materials for

interpretive signs, to be created by the students and volunteers. Milkweed will be planted alongside existing plantings at the school, where irrigation already exists or is easily installed, to both support biodiversity and minimize costs. TECC staff and volunteers, students from Roger Rowe plus volunteers from CNPS and the Butterfly Farms, will help facilitate the planting and care of the milkweed. Roger Rowe maintenance staff will oversee the planting locations and care for the plants long term.

We chose the Roger Rowe school for this project as TECC is developing a partnership with Roger Rowe to regularly engage their students in learning about nature while outdoors at the Elfin Forest Recreational Reserve. Many residents of Rancho Santa Fe don't know that they live in the Escondido Creek watershed and what happens upstream and downstream of Rancho Santa Fe affects their community. As part of this growing partnership, in the winter of 2016 and 2017, Roger Rowe kindergarteners visited the Reserve to experience TECC's *Adaptations* program. In this highly interactive curriculum, students get outdoors and discover how different native plants and animals adapt and survive in their native habitats. Additionally, TECC recently presented a program at the school during Ocean Science week in February. Ocean Science coordinator Roberta Dean is our primary contact at Roger Rowe but we have also been in contact with Sandi Nissel, assistant to the superintendent, the maintenance staff and the kindergarten teachers. It was Ms. Nissel who indicated the school would like work with TECC to add milkweed to their campus.

Two site visits have been held at Roger Rowe with school administrators and landscape maintenance staff. When the grant is awarded, the project team, including TECC staff, California Native Plant Society (CNPS)/ Butterfly Garden volunteer Michael Gonzales, TECC volunteer/Elfin Forest Recreational Reserve Docent/Master Gardener Nancy Samp, and GiGi Hurst, president of Habitat West, will confer to: (1) discuss availability of plants and timing of planting; (2) identify and mark suitable planting locations at each site; (3) review and identify irrigation needs/repairs; (4) coordinate volunteer availability, matching volunteers with sites; and (5) schedule/order interpretive sign materials. Landscape staff, teachers and administrators at the Roger Rowe school will be consulted to determine how best to incorporate planting and sign creation at Roger Rowe into the school curriculum such that it can be an enhanced education and art experience for the students, and they can directly participate in the planting and caring of the plants. Planting will likely occur in the fall.

- ✓ **Timeline:** Plants will be planted Fall of 2017, depending on optimal weather conditions.
- ✓ **Completion:** Project will be completed no later than Fall 2018
- ✓ **TECC Staff responsible:** Ann Van Leer and Simon Breen
- ✓ **Qualifications, Background, Mission, and History:** Founded in 1991, TECC is a non-profit land trust with a mission to protect and restore the Escondido Creek watershed. The watershed begins in Bear Valley above Lake Wohlford, includes the central city of Escondido, the communities of Harmony Grove and Elfin Forest, parts of Rancho Santa Fe, Olivenhain, Encinitas and Solana Beach before draining into the San Elijo Lagoon. With a four-person staff and a ten-member volunteer board, TECC manages over 1,800 acres of natural lands and provides educational trips in the outdoors to thousands of youth and adults every year. Working with partners, TECC has helped preserve over 3,000 acres of wild lands and is currently working to preserve an additional 1,000 acres within the watershed.
- ✓ **CNPS Budget: \$500**
  - 50 plants @ \$4.95/each = \$247.50
  - Digging of holes for plants @ \$1.50/hole plus irrigation adjustments = \$102.50
  - Materials for students to create interpretive signage, 12 signs @ \$25/sign = \$150

***Our contact with CNPS is Michael Gonzales, 1-858-614-5087***



### **ATTACHMENT 3 – Plant Sale Report from Carolyn Martus**

The plant sale will be Saturday, October 14, 2017 at 9 am for members, 10 am for the public, closes at 3. We have a flyer for the plant sale too that I will send along or attach to this message. Nancy Levine is going to be helping out with most of the volunteer coordination, she will be filling in where Connie D. will be stepping back. Preorders will be done slightly differently this year. The three main nurseries (Recon, TOLN and Moosa) will provide an availability list that customers will be able to order directly from. Customers will be able to choose which nursery they want to buy from or they can purchase from all three. There should be a greater variety of plants available for preorder, customers will be able to choose the nursery and I'm hoping this will streamline the preordering process and be easier/fewer man-hours for me. We'll see how it goes. I am still working out the details with the nurseries but I hope that we can open the preordering earlier this year but it will start no later than September 1st and it will close the day after the September general meeting.

### **ATTACHMENT 4 – UPDATE FOR GN WORKSHOP 2017**

Below is the background information for the upcoming workshop:

**Title: Create Beauty with California Native Plants-Learn from the Best!**

**8:15-8:45 Registration, Muffins & coffee,**

**Workshop 9:00-3:30 pm,**

**Lunch 12:30-1:15**

**Keynote Speaker-Greg Rubin 9am-10:20am**

**Address for GPS/Google Maps:**

**First Unitarian Universalist Church of SD, 298 WEST Arbor Drive, San Diego, CA 92103**

**Free Parking available for all attendees**

Pricing-Early Bird \$35, \$40 regular, Tickets at the door \$45. Includes Muffins & Coffee, Lunch- (meat/veggie/vegan sandwiches) (Sandwiches, fruit, cookie and water)

**Ticket sales began on Friday, July 28th. Tickets sold as of July 31: 64**

- Speakers have been scheduled and we will have 3 General Sessions and 2 Sessions with concurrent workshops.
- Joseph and Connie have sent, via email marketing, an invite to Early Bird registration to approximately 2100 email addresses (members, guests and others interested in Native Gardening). Early Bird was also announced on Facebook on Monday.
- I am in the process of working with a volunteer on creating a flyer.
- Expected attendance: 200-265 including volunteer staff and sponsor seats.
- Ticket sales online will close at 225 as capacity with remaining spots for volunteers and attendees.
- There will be tables set up for Book, Seed and Plant Sales throughout the day.
- Most speakers plan to be available throughout the day to attend sessions and join the group for lunch.
- I will be looking for 20 volunteers. Volunteers who help out for 2 hours get to attend the workshop including muffins, coffee and lunch.

Please let me know if you would like any other information.

Thank you,  
Judie

**Judie Lincer, M.S. Ed**  
**CNPS-SD Garden Native Workshop 2017 Director**  
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