

Amended &  
Passed  
10/6/79

September, 1979

NATURAL AREAS ASSOCIATION

NEWSLETTER

Natural Areas workers and supporters in attendance at the Fifth Midwest Natural Areas Workshop in Chesterfield, Missouri, September 29 to October 1, 1978 voted to create an organization for professional affiliation of natural areas workers. A President, Vice President, Secretary-Treasurer and five Directors at large were elected with the directive to finalize bylaws of the organization and communicate back to the potential membership prior to the 1979 Midwest Workshop.

The Officers and Board are: President, John Schwegman, Illinois; Vice President, John Humke, Minnesota; Secretary-Treasurer, George Fell, Illinois.

Board Members: James Keith, Indiana; Dean Roosa, Iowa; William Shepherd, Arkansas; William Tans, Wisconsin; Richard Thom, Missouri.

The Officers were authorized to appoint additional Board members from outside the midwest, but this has not occurred.

Following a very brief initial meeting at the Chesterfield, Missouri workshop, the Officers and Board met November 14, 1978 in Springfield, Illinois. We agreed to a name, objectives and bylaws for the new organization (see attached bylaws). We agreed that although the midwest workshops are not directly associated with the new organization, we would hold our 1979 annual meeting in conjunction with the workshop. We accepted an invitation for representatives of the Board to meet with staff of the Nature Conservancy to discuss interrelationships between the new organization and The Nature Conservancy's various programs. Rick Thom (Chairman), Dean Roosa and John Karel were appointed to a policy formulation committee to develop general policies and definitions for the natural heritage profession.

The Board had its third meeting April 17 in the Chicago area. Schwegman and Thom reported on their meeting on April 3 with staff of the Nature Conservancy. It was agreed that the two organizations are not duplicative in their objectives and that there will be a lot of opportunity for cooperation between the two. Final amendments to the bylaws were agreed to and pending federal legislation was discussed. Bill Shepherd (Chairman), Fell and Keith were appointed to a committee to develop a position on national legislation. Humke (Chairman), Ramey and Bacone were appointed to the nominating committee with responsibility to develop a slate for officers and Board members for the 1979 annual meeting. They were instructed to nominate four potential board members from outside the midwest. A committee report by Thom on the definition of "natural area" was accepted and adopted (copy attached).

Due to delays in O.M.B. clearance of the legislation, no committee activity has occurred on federal legislation. The Board will consider action on it at the annual meeting after the HCRS presentation.

As your President, I urged Audubon Magazine to include an article on state natural area programs in a future issue. They have agreed, and an article is being prepared this fall by John Madson. It will emphasize the Illinois program but John is presently planning on attending the workshop to get a feel for the many state programs.

Professional and business associations

A 501(c)(6) organization is a professional or business association. It is an association of persons having some common professional or business interest, the purpose of which is to promote such common interest.

A 501(c)(6) organization may engage in legislative activity to promote its purposes.

Contributions to a 501(c)(6) organization are not deductible as charitable contributions for income tax purposes, but they may be deductible as professional expenses. A 501(c)(3) charity would not be able to make grants or provide support to a 501(c)(6) organization.

A 501(c)(6) is ordinarily exempt from paying tax on its own income.

Please consider the above and be prepared to voice your opinion as to which way we should go.

George B. Fell  
Secretary - Treasurer

MEMBERSHIP IN THE NATURAL AREAS ASSOCIATION

As a worker in the natural area preservation field, you now have the golden opportunity to become a *charter member* of the Natural Areas Association.

What's in it for you? A lot of satisfaction and benefit in future years as you watch and participate in the growth of our Association and see it take an important place in the movement to preserve natural areas. For your \$10.00 you won't get much of any material return this year, but you will share with us in the rewarding experience of creating a needed institution that will become one of the pillars of support for a cause that we know to be among the noblest there is.

Please send in your dues today and be ready to participate in the annual meeting on October 6. Make your check payable to Natural Land Institute. It will be held in a separate fund of the Institute for use and benefit of the Association under an interim agreement between the Board of Directors of the Association and the Natural Land Institute.

George B. Fell  
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BYLAWS  
OF THE  
NATURAL AREAS ASSOCIATION

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ARTICLE I: NAME

The name of this organization shall be the Natural Areas Association.

ARTICLE II: GOAL AND PURPOSES

Section 1: Goal

The goal of the Natural Areas Association is to foster the identification, preservation, protection, and management of natural areas and other elements of natural diversity through the application of techniques consistent with sound biological and ecological principles.

Section 2: Objectives

The objectives of the Natural Areas Association are:

- Amended  
passed  
10/6/29*
1. ~~To provide natural areas workers with a professional identity and a vehicle for professional affiliation.~~ *To advance the profession of natural areas preservation for the benefit of society*
  2. To provide a medium of exchange and coordination for natural areas information.
  3. ~~To provide a voice for the natural areas profession.~~ *To formulate independent statements of policy on matters relating to natural areas*
  4. To promote public understanding and appreciation of natural areas.
  5. To encourage and support research relating to natural areas.

ARTICLE III: MEMBERSHIP

Section 1: Eligibility

Any person professionally employed or otherwise actively involved

Section 3. Quorum

The members present at a duly called meeting constitute a quorum.

Section 4. Voting

Voting upon all matters required or permitted to be voted upon by the members is by a majority vote of those members present at a properly called meeting or by a majority of members responding to a mail ballot.

ARTICLE V: BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

Section 1. Functions

The Board of Directors has general responsibility for the management of property, finances, policies and affairs of the Association. The Board shall insure that a full report concerning the affairs of the association be rendered at each annual meeting of members. It has general charge of all meetings of members. It may fill any vacancy in an office until the next annual meeting of members.

Section 2. Composition

The Board of Directors consists of the elected officers and <sup>twelve</sup>~~nine~~ members elected at large for terms of three years in three equal classes. In so far as possible, Directors shall represent varied interests and geographical areas of the members. A director that has served consecutively for six years is not eligible for reelection until one year has passed. Election is at the annual meeting from a slate presented by a three person nominating committee appointed by the President with additional nominations open from the floor. A Director who is absent without cause from two consecutive Board meetings shall be deemed to have resigned and may be replaced by action of the Board.

Section 3. Meetings

Meetings of the Board of Directors are held no less frequently than twice annually. Special meetings may be held at any time upon call of the President, or any five Directors.

Treasurer is also responsible for maintaining the financial records and managing the funds of the Association.

Section 5. Delegation of Authority and Duties

The Board of Directors is authorized to delegate the authority and duties of any officer to any other officers and generally control the actions of officers and to require performance of duties in addition to those included in the bylaws.

Section 6.

The Board of Directors is authorized to formulate and advocate positions representing the interests of the Association.

ARTICLE VII: COMMITTEES

Section 1. Nominating Committee

A three-person nominating committee is appointed by the President from the membership with approval of the Board.

The nominating committee shall actively seek nominations from among the members of the Association and shall prepare a slate of candidates for officers and Directors for presentation to the membership at the annual meeting. The Chairman of the nominating committee shall give a brief description of the qualifications and contributions of each candidate at the time of presentation of the slate.

Section 2. Other Committees

The Board of Directors determines what committees are needed for the effective functioning of the organization, and committee members are appointed by the President.

ARTICLE VIII: AMENDMENTS

The bylaws may be amended by an affirmative vote of two-thirds of the members present and voting at a duly called membership meeting providing that the proposed amendments, endorsed in writing by the Board of Directors or at least 10% of the

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