Highlands Biological Station
Botanical Gardens & Grounds Planning and Advisory Committee
Update for HBS Board of Directors
June 25, 2022

Ken Conover, Chair

The Botanical Gardens & Grounds Planning and Advisory Committee continues to focus on our Roadmap priorities. Committee members are Bryding Adams, Lynda Anderson, Margie Bauer, Ken Conover, Jim Costa, Jason Love, Paul Manos, Rachel Martin, Kathy Mathews, Charlotte Muir, Helen Regnery, Liz Sargent, Dollie Swanson, and Glenda Zahner.

Roadmap Implementation
During the past three months, the Committee has been focused on assisting the HBS with the following two priority actions items.

1. **Native Plant Symposium (P4)**
   A working group continues to assist the HBS staff in planning the Highlands Biological Station, Native Plant Symposium, *60 Years of Conservation Gardening* scheduled for September 16 & 17, 2022. The mission is to educate the public about native plants and the importance of conserving them while celebrating the 60th anniversary of the Highlands Botanical Garden and those who had the foresight to develop a conservation garden. We are very excited to have a stellar lineup of speakers: Jim Costa, Patrick McMillan, Larry Mellichamp, Justin Robinson, and Doug Tallamy. We invite all HBS Board of Directors to participate in this special event. Registration will open on July 1st.

2. **Wayfinding and interpretation signage (P2)**
   Equinox Environmental will begin work on designing a comprehensive wayfinding and interpretation plan for the gardens and grounds with the first stakeholder meeting, in the form of a charrette, scheduled for June 29th. The Committee agreed on changes to trail and gardens names to facilitate both the wayfinding project and the interactive map project. The term “Highlands Botanical Gardens” will be used to refer to all of the management zones as described in the HBS Campus Appropriate Use Policy dated 1 November 2020. This includes the Core (Historical) Botanical Garden Zone, the Research Zones, and the Landscaped/Demonstration Zone. The three research zones will not be given garden names.