

## **MINUTES – BOARD MEETING**

**Alamo Area Chapter of the Texas Master Naturalist  
8 November 2011**

### **Members present:**

Pamela Ball, Nancy Brown, Jamie Daily, Bryan Davis, Linda Gindler, Barbara Harder, Howard Homan, Susan Hunnicutt, Ling Yin Liu, Dwight Henderson, Evelyn Penrod, David Reichert, Jessica Leslie, Lissa Martinez, Anton Hajek, Liz Robbins, Judit Green, Billie Murrell, Sharon Kilmer, Linda Mitchell, Nancy Phillips, John Prentice, Wendy Thornton, Nancy Thoss, Ron Tullius, Joanne Wells, Bill Woller

### **The meeting was called to order by Liz Robbins at 5:22 p.m.**

October minutes were approved.

### **Treasurer's Report – Jamie Daily**

Jamie reported a beginning balance of \$6304.32, deposits in the amount of 500.15, debits in the amount of 455.03, and an outstanding check for 11.44, leaving a balance of 6337.53. Included in the balance is a deposit of \$177.15 collected for speakers, of which 66.27 has been used. The Treasurer's report stands as read.

### **Unfinished Business**

#### **Election and voting procedures – Anton Hajek and nominating committee**

- The first item at the general meeting will be a vote for approval of an honorary AAMN member. The next item discussed will concern the vote for assessing \$12.00 yearly dues, which will be a ballot item. The nominating committee will then review the ballots and procedures and voting for the Executive Board will take place. The ballots will be collected after voting, however, those arriving late but prior to 7:30 may still vote until that time.

### **New Business**

#### **December holiday party – Wendy Thornton**

The holiday party will be held Tuesday, December 13 at the Auld House at the San Antonio Botanical Garden. It will be pot luck and BYOB, from 5:30-8:00.

## **Current Standing Committee and Advisors Reports**

### **State Advisors – Bryan Davis and Judit Green**

Bryan mentioned that the International Farm and Ranch Show is being held this Thursday, Friday, and Saturday.

### **State Representative – Ron Tullius**

Ron reported that Michele Haggerty advised him of a member in another chapter whose employer participated in a matching grants program for volunteer service conducted by the chapter and suggested our members be made aware of this as other employers might also have this policy and AAMN chapter could be the beneficiary of such a grant. This information will be placed in the upcoming newsletter. A chapter must have its 501C3 status in order to be eligible.

Ron also discussed the different membership categories set forth in the bylaws. Based upon the definition of Honorary Membership, which is conferred upon someone who has made a substantial contribution to the furtherance of the activities of the chapter, Ron put forth a motion that the Board adopt a resolution bestowing Patty Leslie Pasztor, who has made a substantial contribution of time and talent to our chapter over the past 15 years, with this honor. The motion passed and this resolution will be brought before the general membership at the annual meeting for a vote.

### **Activities-Pam Ball**

Pam will take care of flyers for graduation.

### **Chapter Programs – Jessica Leslie**

Jessica reported that there is a proposed schedule for next year and committee members will provide feedback by this Friday and calls to the presenters will be divided among the group. She also reported that the new group is doing great.

### **Community Outreach – Lissa Martinez**

Arbor Day (11/12), Ft Sam Quadrangle Garden (11/17, 11/18, 11/19), and Texas Recycles Day (11/19), are upcoming events. Lissa mentioned an upcoming 2012 event, Get Outdoors (March), on which she will coordinate with Ron due to San Antonio River Authority's involvement. A suggestion was made by David Reichert that Outreach hours be broken down further to differentiate types of Outreach. This will be considered at a later time.

**Historian – Nancy Phillips**

Nothing to report

**Hospitality - Nancy Brown**

Nancy mentioned that Saturday is graduation and asked Pam to send out an email requesting that members come and bring a side dish. She also inquired about having another lasagna dinner at the January meeting and charging a \$5 donation. A motion was made regarding this and passed. Also, May 11 will be the date of the spring party at Eisenhower Park.

**Marketing and Technology – David Reichert**

David reported on web usage stating that there were spikes in the spring and fall. In December, comparison can be made between last year and this year. David invited members to visit the website as it is always evolving. There are several hundred new photographs under Natural History as well as a new home page.

**Membership & Pin Awards – Nancy Thoss**

Nancy reported that there are numerous pins to hand out at the general meeting.

**Training/Applications Update – Pam Ball**

Pam stated that graduation will be held Saturday at the Auld House at 11:00 and asked that members attend. She also suggested that members be given a Chapter decal in conjunction with their background checks. A motion was made regarding this and passed.

**Current Special Committee Reports – Ad hoc Committee Chairs****Alamo Forest Partnership – Lissa Martinez**

Arbor Day is Saturday which conflicts with graduation activities.

**Headwaters Coalition – Howard Homan**

Howard reported that there are two fairly steady volunteers and that Chinaberry removal continues.

**LHI/MLAC – Dwight Henderson**

Dwight thanked AAMN for their participation in a booth at Mitchell Lake.

**PHP – Wendy Thornton**

Wendy reported that things are going well at Phil Hardberger Park with the exception of a shortage of parking at the last 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday event. Liz reported that the bat presentation was outstanding.

**SARA-SABG – Ron Tullius**

Ron reported that the San Antonio River Authority has events planned for 2012 which will involve Master Naturalists leading hikes, bird walks, etc. He also reported that the San Antonio Botanical Garden's guide training class is currently underway with 19 members. Half are Master Naturalists and seven of those are particularly interested the Texas Native Trails (TNT). As a result, in 2012 three more TNT hikes will be added to the current six being offered.

**The meeting was adjourned at 6:09 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted

Approved

Barbara Harder, Secretary

Liz Robbins, President