

ALAMO AREA CHAPTER
TEXAS MASTER NATURALIST
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
August 9, 2016

[With a quorum present, President Matt Carley called the meeting to order.]

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Directors was held on Tuesday, August 9, 2016 at 5:30 p.m. at the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service Classroom. The President and the Secretary were present. The Minutes of the previous meeting were approved as corrected.

REPORTS (Officers, Advisors, Standing Committees)

Judit Green, TPWD Urban Biologist, commented that she has signage stakes for use at the Butterfly Learning Center.

Liz Robbins, Past President, stated that the ad hoc Nominating Committee is recruiting candidates for officers in 2017; Aubrey George is replacing Ron Tullius on the Nominating Committee.

Stan Drezek, State Representative, requested that the Directors of the Board review the Chapter Operating Handbook for possible changes in their areas as part of the required annual review of the COH; he reminded the Board of the dates for the TMN Annual Meeting and Advanced Training: October 21-23, 2016.

Tom Brotherman, Director of the Programs Committee, reported that the advanced training programs for August and September are movies.

Jeanette Geiman, Director of Community Outreach, stated that the spring class training brochures are ready for pick up and distribution.

Nancy Thoss, Director of Membership, reported that the Alamo Area Chapter did well in a recent audit of the chapter's Volunteer Management System.

Liz Robbins, New Class Training Director, reported that more than 40 applicants are being evaluated for placement in the fall 2016 class; the training committee is making a change in the training schedule to allow for more time to be spent on the Volunteer Management System.

REPORTS (ad hoc Committees and Chapter Liaisons)

Drake White, liaison to Phil Hardberger Park, reported that the Butterfly House is completed; also the Children's Vegetable Garden still has slots open for families to join; the 4th Saturday program in August is a presentation on plant adaptations to dry conditions by Mary Irish.

Penelope Boyer, liaison to Land Heritage Institute, reported that the final talk in the Ethnobotany Explorations series will be held on Saturday, August 13th. The topic is "Curanderismo." The first formal meeting of the groups Mitchell Lake Audubon Center, Medina River Natural Area and Land Heritage Institute will be held in September. A high priority for this coalition is increased Master Naturalist activity on the city's south side.

Ron Tullius, liaison to Green Spaces of Alliance of South Texas, reported that GSA has received a grant from Texas Parks and Wildlife Department for construction of a 1.5 mile trail at Bulverde Oaks Nature Preserve; also, 1st Saturday tours at Bulverde Oaks resume in September.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- Keeley Porter, chair of the committee to plan the 20-year retreat celebration in 2017, suggested the event be held at Joshua Springs, a site that offers all the appropriate amenities; a motion by Martha Cray to approve the site was seconded and approved by hand vote.

NEW BUSINESS

- President Matt Carley announced that he is moving out of town next spring or summer and will not stand for re-election as chapter president.
- Peter Ravdin, representing the Friends of San Antonio Parks and Recreation Natural Areas, requested permission to conduct a survey of Alamo Area Master Naturalists to establish a list of volunteers in specific areas for the benefit of Friedrich Wilderness Park. Participants will give their approval to be included in the data base and may unsubscribe at any time. The Board will review the proposed survey before making a decision.
- Drake White and Liz Robbins led a discussion of the Project ACORN grants to the Alamo Area Chapter. The need exists to set budget priorities for the next budget period. ACORN and AAMN representatives will meet to discuss the matter.

The meeting adjourned at 6:43 p.m.

Ron Tullius, Secretary

Matt Carley, President