

MINUTES – BOARD MEETING

Alamo Area Chapter of the Texas Master Naturalist

09 August 2011

Members present:

Wendy Thornton, Jamie Daily, Nancy Phillips, Barbara Harder, Nancy Thoss, Ling Yin Liu, Linda Gindler, David Reichert, Jessica Leslie, Ron Tullius, Pam Ball, Susan Hunnicutt, Lissa Martinez

The meeting was called to order by Linda Gindler at 5:32

July minutes were approved.

Treasurer's Report – Jamie Daily

Jamie reported a balance of \$3,621.20. There is also a CD at Broadway bank which renews every 6 months (Oct). The Treasurer's report stands as read.

Unfinished Business:

- Time frame for background checks/liability insurance – In John Wolcott's absence Linda stated that per TPWD, as a chapter we need to keep records of waivers of liability signed by members, cleanup our member roster since the liability insurance is based upon active members, and have Master Naturalist volunteers undergo background checks every 3 years. After discussion, David submitted a motion to collect \$12/year (or \$1/month) dues to begin within 90 days. The motion carried.
- Update of activity codes - Linda stated that Sonny Arnold is retiring which will leave one state coordinator, Michelle Haggarty. As a result, the activity codes project will be taken over by Richard Heilbrun. Linda stated that her submitted proposal of activity coding (still requiring further breakdown of some activities, such as training) may work for the entire state. The history of activities for the previous two years is also requested but may be broken down more simply. Linda has 2009 history and Ling stated she may have 2010 and will forward the information to Linda. Changes will also be made to the existing Google Docs system to allow for entering activity codes and an electronic signature for security.
- AT speaker donation – The collection of donations for the AT speaker and other expenses associated with AT will begin at tonight's meeting and will be in place for the remainder of the year to see how it is received. There will be a receipt in the donation basket for tax purposes.

- Ways and means report – A meeting was held to gather ideas for fund raising. Jamie stated that in order to receive grants, the membership roster needs to be current. Other means discussed were silent auctions, raffles, seminars, seed packet sales, program presentations at Botanical Garden, and speaking with neighborhood groups. It is estimated that we need to make about 4k per year to cover expenses. Nancy Thoss has offered to prepare a budget so committees know how much money they have to spend. The committee welcomes ideas and suggestions from other members.

New Business

- John Garland of the San Antonio River Foundation was added by unanimous vote to the Ad Hoc Committee Chairs as a partner with AAMN.
- SABG – Ron discussed the opportunity for AAMN to earn funds for the chapter at the SABG through presentations for which the chapter would split the fees with SABG. A letter is required from the AAMN president to Sasha Kodet stating that we wish to participate in the fee-sharing program. AAMN would receive the funds and, in turn, pay SABG half. Ron volunteered to compose the letter for Liz Robbins' signature and moved that we participate in this opportunity. The motion unanimously passed.

Special Committee Reports

Training – Pam Ball

Pam discussed the effort and cost put forth to hold a training class and proposed that a minimum number be required in order to proceed with a class. After discussion, a motion was put forth by David to set 20 as the minimum number of applications required by the application deadline for a class to be held and the motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted

Approved

Barbara Harder, Secretary

Liz Robbins, President