

ALAMO AREA CHAPTER
TEXAS MASTER NATURALIST
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
June 14, 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, June 14, 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)

Stan Drezek, State Representative, reported that the state office has extended the deadline for proposals for presentations at the upcoming Texas Master Naturalist State Meeting and Advanced Training; also, several contests at the state meet are open to all Master Naturalists, including art, photo and video contests; also, the state office is seeking vendors and sponsors for the meeting;

Stan also reported a recommended change to the Chapter Operating Handbook regarding the duties of the Class Representative(s) and the Board voted unanimously to approve; the general membership will vote on the proposed change at the July meeting;

Tom Brotheman, Director of Programs, reported that tonight's AT program is a presentation by Molly Keck on the topic: Wasps; the July AT program will be Donald Ewers presenting on the topic: Medina River Natural Area; the August program is undetermined; the September program is a movie called "The Messenger";

Jeanette Geiman, Director of the Outreach Committee, reported that Outreach events will be held this month at Phil Hardberger Park on fireflies (evening event) and the Fit Family Challenge, which includes a plant walk;

Evelyn Penrod, Director of the Media and Technology Committee, reported that the chapter website will soon have a new section describing the chapter's own projects, including the Wildscape Demonstration Garden on the Riverwalk and the Butterfly House at Phil Hardberger Park;

Liz Robbins, Director of the New Class Committee, made a motion to change the training committee director's title from New Class Director to New Class Training Director; the motion passed.

REPORTS (ad hoc Committees and Chapter Liaisons)

Lissa Martinez, Chapter Liaison to ACORN, announced an upcoming meeting with a contact person at Northside Independent School District to discuss new trainees for Master Naturalist training; that she will present a water quality research training at the summer teacher workshop in June; that state approval for professional education credits for teachers continues to be pursued;

Tom Brotheman, Chapter Liaison to Alamo Forest Partnership, stated that although the city and county continue to address the topic of oak wilt, the presence of the Emerald Ash Borer is a new and even greater problem;

Donald Ewers, Liaison to Medina River Natural Area and to the San Antonio River Authority, reported that three upcoming SARA public events still need volunteer assistance; that Medina River NA was underwater during much of May and electricity was out for days, requiring cancellation of events;

Drake White, Phil Hardberger Park and PHP Conservancy Liaison, reported that the Butterfly House is finished and that move-in will take place this weekend;

Penelope Boyer, Liaison to Land Heritage Institute, stated that the Explorations in Ethnobotany Project series for this summer is coming to an end--the final speakers include Bill Woller (July 9) and Dr. Elizabeth de la Portilla (Aug 13).

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- Evelyn Penrod, reporting on the chapter's Wildscape Demonstration Garden on the Riverwalk, stated that a Letter of Intent to purchase the property has been received by SARA, who owns the site. The AAMN Chapter will eventually receive a Memo of Understanding for a new garden site. Once a new site is selected, structures on the current property, including a bench and a sign, will have to be relocated.
- Ron Tullius reported on the new, engraved letter-opener fundraiser. Eight letter-openers have been sold at \$15 each. Two additional letter-openers have been ordered by members. Twelve more letter-openers have been engraved and are available for purchase.

NEW BUSINESS

- President Carley appointed Ron Tullius to the position of Chapter Liaison to Green Spaces Alliance of South Texas. Ron gave a brief update on the Native Trail Maintenance Project at Bulverde Oaks Nature Preserve.
- President Carley introduced a discussion about items for distribution at chapter Outreach events. Discussion centered around ordering milkweed seeds from Native American Seed Company for placement in small plastic bags with labels and growing instructions. Pam Ball made a motion to make 1,000 seed packets for distribution to News4Nature events and for chapter Outreach activities. The motion passed. Liz Robbins will organize a team to put the packets together.

The meeting adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

Ron Tullius, Secretary

Matt Carley, President