

**Brazos Valley Chapter, Texas Master Naturalists
Executive Board and Chapter Meetings
January 10, 2013**

Present at Board Meeting: Olivia Ash, Jim Balthrop, Dwight Bohlmeier, Amanda Chau, Joyce Conner, Mike Conner, Lisa Davenport, Charlene Lusk, Bruce Neville, Barbara Pritchard, M. Jay Pritchard, Janet Quiram, Betty Vermeire

Present at Chapter Meeting: those listed above, plus: Jim Anding, Kitty Anding, Jo Anne Bates, Jackie Girouard, Carol Henrichs, Melissa Kamerbeek, Sarah Laughlin, Cheryl Lewis, Madge Luquette, Charlene Manning, Jean Paul, Greg Pitts, Brandy Trimble, Sue McBeth Welfel

Minutes of Board Meeting

President Olivia Ash called the meeting to order at 5:45 pm.

Committee Reports:

Advanced Training: Jim Anding will continue, with double pay, until a new chair takes over.

Historian: Terry Juneke will continue as chair

Social / Host: Joyce Conner, chair

1. Can we count volunteer hours for bringing snacks to meetings. Other chapters do. Consensus was yes.
2. Do we want to continue doorprize drawings at Chapter meetings? No discussion. (?)
3. A sign-up sheet for refreshments at this year's meetings will be passed around at the chapter meeting tonight.

Outreach: no chair yet. Tasked with publicizing our chapter.

Membership: Betty Vermeire will continue as chair. Please submit your hours. Discussion segued into training committee and next class.

Training: Bruce Neville will continue as chair.

1. Discussion of fall training class in 2013 vs spring training class per Michelle Haggerty's email regarding our backlog of people who expressed interest, then opted out of last fall's class. Amanda Chau made a motion to have a fall 2013 class and a spring 2014 class. Dwight Bohlmeier seconded. Motion passes unanimously.
2. Bruce will ask potential speakers if they can do either /both.
3. Dwight pointed out that those who take the fall class and miss sessions can take those in the spring class instead of waiting until fall.

Volunteer: Mike Conner will chair. Volunteer projects are anything supporting the chapter.

Web: Amanda Chau will continue as chair.

1. The committee has completed most of the projects they set out to do.
2. They want to find a way for members to upload photos.

3. The photo gallery is for all members.

Old Business

1. Earth Day will be April 20. Last year over 5500 people attended. Olivia asked the City whether we can have both adult and children's booths. The question was raised whether we have enough volunteers to staff both. It was suggested that a committee member captain each event, to coordinate activities.
2. Chris Northcliffe Memorial Bench. Lisa reported that excess money over the cost of the bench has been contribute. This was to go to the family, but family members contributed some of it. One contributor suggested using that money for landscaping around the bench. Discussion of this ensued. Bruce pointed out that excess money could go into the bank account set up for the family after the event.

New Business

1. Report on new shirts from Molly Harris via Olivia. CC Creations said that we did not reach the price-break quota for the second, and LAST, time. Hopefully the shirts will be available by the February meeting.
2. Olivia suggested that we explore whether we could find a small storage unit for "chapter stuff." Whomever is in charge of a particular event could then sign out the key and pick up the things needed. Jay said he know of a place that likes renting to civic organizations.
3. Olivia tried to contact the BioBlitz people to find out when that even t will be. Dwight said that it is scheduled for April 27.
4. The 2013 TMN Statewide Annual Meeting & advanced Training will be held at the T Bar M Conference Center in New Braunfels October 25 – 27.
5. Discussion about the announcement of a grant for creating butterfly habitat. The garden at the BVMNH was suggested as a site. The question was posed of whether there are other possible sites. Joyce will talk with Deborah Cowman about any potential plans for the garden plot here at BVMNH.
6. Lisa reported that the Annual Report to the State is almost finished. She needs the numbers of people attending events and the amount of acreage impacted at Conners' ranch.

The meeting was unanimously adjourned at 6:30 PM.

The Chapter Meeting began immediately.

After general announcements, awards were given out for Certifications, Recertifications, and Milestones achieved by members in 2012 as follows:

Certified

Jim Balthrop
Laura Biddle
Joyce Conner

Mike Conner
Jim Cummings
Sarah Laughlin
Charlene Manning
Greg Pitts
Barbara Pritchard
Cheryl Lewis (added later, as she turned in her 2012 hours that night)

Recertified

Class of 2005

Jim Anding
Kitty Anding
Jo Anne Bates
Dwight Bohlmeier
Mary Ann Cusimano
Madge Luquette
Jean Paul

Class of 2007

Jackie Girouard
Terry Junek
Charlene Lusk
Betty Vermeire
Mary Dabney Wilson

Class of 2008

Amanda Chau
Lisa Davenport
Molly Harris
Jay Pritchard

Class of 2009

Liz Crompton
Amanda Schwede
Steve Simcik

Class of 2012

Olivia Ash
Bruce Neville
Janet Quiram

Milestones

250 Hours

Amanda Chau
Lisa Davenport
Terry Junek
Charlene Lusk

Bruce Neville

500 Hours

Jo Anne Bates
Mary Ann Cusimano

1000 Hours

Jim Anding
Betty Vermeire

A handout listing the mission and responsibilities of each of the committees was given out , followed by a sign-up sheet for committees.

Members attending this meeting accrue 1 hour Volunteer Service – chapter development.

Respectfully submitted,
Betty Vermeire
Acting Secretary for this meeting