

Brazos Valley Chapter, Texas Master Naturalist
Membership Meeting
11 August 2016
Minutes

The meeting was called to order by President Bruce Neville at 7:30 pm in the Exploration Room of the Brazos Valley Museum of Natural History. An attendance sheet is attached to these minutes.

Approval of Bylaws Revisions and Conflict of Interest Statement. President Neville reported that draft revisions to the Bylaws and a Conflict of Interest Statement were circulated to the membership by email on 7 July 2016, 30 days prior to this meeting, as required by the current Bylaws. Revisions to the Bylaws were only a name change to reflect the current incorporation. The Conflict of Interest Statement is required for us to pursue 501(c)3 status. Since it does not make sense to vote one document in and the other down, both were voted as one question. A list of eligible voting members had been prepared. That list was circulated and members present signed and noted that they received a ballot. That list is incorporated by reference into these minutes. Twenty-nine members received ballots, and twenty-nine marked ballots were received. Bruce Neville and Betty Vermeire independently counted the votes. The vote was 29 in favor of adopting the revisions and the statement, 0 opposed, none abstaining. The revised Bylaws are adopted as revised and the Conflict of Interest Statement is adopted.

New Directors. Olivia Ash volunteered to complete the term of the Communication and Outreach Director vacated by Cheryl Lewis's resignation. Many thanks to Cheryl for her efforts. Jackie Girouard volunteered to serve as the new Youth Programs Director. The first job of the Youth Programs Committee will be to establish goals for the programs and the committee. Both appointments were approved by the Board.

State Meeting. The TMN State Meeting will be 21-23 October in Montgomery, Texas. Registration is not open, but the program schedule has been posted. Bruce encouraged members to attend.

New Statewide Training Curriculum. Membership Director Betty Vermeire had copies of the new statewide curriculum for those who ordered them. Members who had not ordered in the first batch can still place orders when we order for the new class. The price when ordered through the chapter is \$35, a 50% discount from the Amazon retail price and a discount over the individual price from the TMN Bookstore.

New Class Mentor Program. New Class Mentor Program Chair Katharine Cupps announced that there would be a brief briefing for those who had signed up or who were interested in being mentors for the new training class. The State Office has shown that mentoring greatly increases retention among trainees.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Bruce Neville, President