

## **GBAC BOARD OCTOBER MEETING MINUTES**

**October 4, 2022**

Attendees via Zoom: Pam House, Vivian Allen, Ellen Gerloff, Lisa Hardcastle, Cynthia Hughes, Meade LeBlanc, Cindy Liening, Jo Monday, Mohammad Nasrullah, Patty Trimmingham, Tracy Walpole, Kathy Tamer, and James Malzahn

A quorum was established with 77% of voting members present.

The meeting was called to order by President Pam House at 6:00 p.m. Pam welcomed Tracy Walpole and Kathy Tamer to the meeting. Tracy has been working with Patty on a myriad of Membership tasks, and Kathy will be working with Jo on Volunteer Service.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

The minutes of the September meeting that had been emailed previously to the Board were offered for discussion. A motion was made by Patty and seconded by Ellen to approve the minutes as submitted. The motion passed unanimously.

Pam began with a discussion of the auction for the annual meeting. During the auction, additional GBAC volunteers will be needed, particularly on Saturday evening and Sunday morning. Volunteers will not need to be registered for the conference, and Pam understands that parking fees will be waived or reimbursed. She announced that Patty has agreed to serve as volunteer coordinator.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

Pam discussed planning for the December chapter meeting, scheduled for December 1<sup>st</sup>. She mentioned that it would be good to hold the December meeting in person rather than by Zoom-hybrid format. Traditionally, the December meeting has been an occasion to include spouses and significant others in a larger space than the Carbide building can handle. Discussion ensued, and the consensus was to hold the December meeting in person. Pam mentioned that Julie had reserved space in two locations for the event and would make a final decision soon based on R.s.v.p.'s and feedback from members. Pam also mentioned that Tyler offered to chair the planning committee for the evening, including set-up, tear-down, making sure that food was ordered, etc. Pam followed up with her plan to ask Ford Hubbard about organizing a ride-share for those members who are uncomfortable with night driving.

### **BOARD REPORTS:**

#### **President (Pam House)**

Pam was satisfied that she had covered the issues of her report in Old and New Business.

#### **Treasurer (Cindy Liening)**

Cindy provided the financial report. A motion made by Jo and seconded by James to accept the September financial report as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

Next, Cindy shared an early draft of the proposed 2023 budget, and she asked that the Board continue to provide best estimates of activities and expenditures for the coming year. As per the By-Laws, final approval of next year's budget must be in place no later than the December meeting.

### **Membership (Patty Trimmingham)**

Patty reported that September had been a very busy month including 4,076.75 Volunteer Service hours, 284.75 hours of AT, and 912 impacts. Gail Gawenis had reached 4,000 hours. Patty took a moment to mention that Dick Benoit had certified on 12/31/1999, and he had achieved 15,478 VS hours as a Texas Master Naturalist.

### **Volunteer Service (Jo Monday)**

Jo mentioned that October would offer multiple volunteer opportunities with events planned every weekend. Recently Jo had encountered some questions of exactly what activities qualify for volunteer service. For example, fundraisers would not count for volunteer service, however, if one were accepting entrance fees from visitors to the state park, that would count. Her point was that if members were not sure, they should check with their mentor or with the Volunteer Service Director.

### **Advanced Training (Ellen Gerloff)**

Ellen reported that the next GBAC-sponsored AT would be conducted on Thursday, November 17<sup>th</sup>: "Why Ecology Matters," presented by Cindy Howard.

The AT Committee was pleased that both the San Antonio Land Bridge presentation and Jim Blackburn's Living Shoreline presentation had been well-attended with positive feedback.

### **Justice, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (Mohammad Nasrullah)**

Mohammad noted that he had distributed the JEDI committee's Purpose Statement to the board prior to the meeting. Discussion ensued, and the Board expressed appreciation to Mohammad and the JEDI committee.

As for a Project of the Year submission at the state conference, Mohammad explained that the committee had not been operating long enough to collect adequate data that might be of interest to other chapters. Mohammad felt that it was a bit premature to develop a presentation for 2022. However, he mentioned that he would take a table at the Chapter's Opportunity Showcase on October 27 in an effort to recruit new chapter members to the JEDI team.

### **New Class Training (Gene Fisseler)**

Although Gene was unable to attend this meeting, Pam announced that Gene had offered to coordinate a fall class for 2023. The Board expressed gratitude over the news.

**Communications (Meade LeBlanc)**

Meade reported that the Photo Contest had been concluded, and winning photos had been selected. She advised the Board to stand-by for a slide show of the winners at the Chapter meeting on Thursday.

The next Board meeting was scheduled for Tuesday, November 1<sup>st</sup>. It will be conducted via Zoom at 6:00 pm. The final meeting for 2022 will take place on November 29<sup>th</sup>.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Cynthia Hughes