

**TEXAS MASTER NATURALISTS GIDEON LINCECUM CHAPTER
BOARD MEETING MINUTES FEBRUARY 24, 2023
WINEDALE HISTORICAL CENTER
WINEDALE, TEXAS**

President Sheri Wilcox called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. There were 11 Board members present. Those attending were Sheri Wilcox, President; David Hessel, Treasurer; Patti Brown, Secretary; Past President, Betsy Palkowsky; Membership, Chris Morrison; Marketing, Ken English; Training, Connie Shortes; Education, Karen Gardner; Communications, Lori Buffum; and Volunteer Projects, Jaci Elliott. Education Team Member John Gardner also attended.

The January 6th 2023 minutes were approved as distributed. The Chapter Operating Handbook was approved for a final vote of the membership at the March chapter meeting.

MARKETING - Ken English

Ken reported that approximately \$3000.00 was made on the Landowner Summit. The Board discussed the scholarship program and voted to reduce the scholarships to \$500 to align with the amount raised by the Landowner Summit. During 2023, the scholarship committee will re-evaluate the scholarship program.

TREASURER - David Hessel

David reported on dues collected for 2023. He confirmed that the chapter's Form 990 will be filed in April. A financial update will be prepared for the chapter meeting.

EDUCATION- Karen Gardner

Karen submitted her report on successful educational events and upcoming opportunities. The Education Committee will be structured as a team. Karen suggested that we adopt the tagline "We connect people and nature" to explain to the public what master naturalists do.

Karen and her team have been organizing the existing educational materials and evaluating what needs to be updated. The goal will be to make educational materials more accessible and available in multiple formats.

MEMBERSHIP - Chris Morrison

The new roster will be issued now that 2023 dues have been collected.

VOLUNTEER PROJECTS – Jaci Elliott

Jaci reported on discussions with Festival Hill to establish a new project consistent with our mission. Possible projects are a birding trail and placement of benches along the trail.

COMMUNICATIONS -Lori Buffum

Lori would like to add another website administrator to help with the website, starting with updating the calendar on the website.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:37

Respectfully submitted by Patti Brown Secretary