

**Texas Master Naturalist - Hill Country Chapter**  
**Board Minutes**  
**June 23, 2010**

**Present:** Steve Dodge, Cathy Downs, John Huecksteadt, Susan Longacre, Sandy Pena, Jim Stanley, Priscilla Stanley, Gracie Waggener

**Absent:** Laura Baker, Koy Coffey

President John Huecksteadt called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

1. **Acceptance of Minutes for May Meeting:** The Board reviewed the May Minutes. Steve Dodge moved to approve the minutes, and Priscilla Stanley seconded the motion , which carried unanimously.

2. **Treasurer's Report:** Treasurer Cathy Downs presented the Treasurer's Report for May. Susan Longacre moved to approve the Treasurer's Report, and Steve Dodge seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

**Officer and Director Reports:**

**New Class Committee:** New Class Director Cathy Downs reported on progress made by the committee. Past archival materials have been sorted, all speaker contacts, bios and presentations are now stored on CD, and only two years of past director's notebooks will be archived.

Michelle Haggerty will be at the New Class Orientation as a guest speaker, and to welcome new students. The decision was made to have the orientation at the Kerr Arts and Cultural Center, and Board Members will contribute to the refreshments.

There is a shortage of curriculum in print. Reidun Hilleman is working with Sonny Arnold on the problem, and to get more copies in time for classes. The application criteria for new students was discussed and approved.

The field trip to Love Creek Preserve was discussed. Due to recent rains, the road into the Preserve is in-passable. After discussion of alternative locations, the decision was made to have three trips instead of four. A motion was placed by Sandy Pena to have three trips for the New Classes, Hondo Creek, Kerr wildlife Management Area and Bamberger Ranch. The motion was seconded by Jim Stanley, which carried unanimously.

The list of Mentors for the new students was discussed. A motion to approve the mentors was placed by Sandy Pena, and seconded by Jim Stanley, which carried unanimously.

**Volunteer Projects:** Classes for Docent Training at the Gorge will begin on August 27, 2010. Notice of the training will be sent out by Priscilla Stanley to the HCMN Membership, and an announcement will be placed in the newsletter. Cathy Downs will be stepping down as the contact person for the Gorge. The contact will now be Gracie Waggener.

Volunteers who will be making presentations at the Heritage School in Fredericksburg will report their hours under HC-01-C, Nature Presentations.

Down By the Riverside plant sale will now require a license and permit from Texas Department of Agriculture. Riverside Nature Center has purchased the license, and the HCMN can purchase the permit from them for a nominal charge to the Chapter.

In an effort to raise funds, Riverside Nature Center is holding a Silent Auction in conjunction with Down By the Riverside, and has invited the HCMN to participate. Due to the Chapter's 501(c)(3) status the Board declined participating. A motion to not participate was placed by Jim Stanley, and seconded by Sandy Pena, which carried unanimously.

The shirt samples for the fall shirt sale will be ordered by Gracie Waggener, to be ready when the new classes start. The supply of hats and bags in inventory should be sufficient for the fall.

**Communications:** Susan Longacre reported that newspaper articles for the new classes have gone out to all of the area newspapers. A second article will run again in July.

The newspaper will not run an article for LMAP without a contact number for the LMAP Team. Jim Stanley's number has been given to the newspaper to use as the contact.

**Advanced Training:** Director Steve Dodge asked for direction from the Board on the question of On-Line Presentations qualifying for Advanced Training. The Board decision was that a presentation that was inter-active, and included an exchange of information would qualify, however, a ruling from the State would be required. John Huecksteadt will contact Michelle Haggerty for a ruling.

**Vice-President:** Sandy Pena reported that the speaker for the July Chapter meeting will be J. David Bamberger, who is bringing as guests Joanna Reese and Lois Strum. The announcement will be in the newspaper, and a large attendance is expected. Extra chairs will be set out in advance of the meeting.

**Chapter Business:**

**Holiday Party:** The date for the Holiday Party was set for December 18th, and will be held at the Kerr Wildlife Management Area. A committee from Gillespie County will be formed to plan the party.

**Riverside Nature Center Donation:** Riverside Nature Center has requested a donation from the Chapter. A motion to donate \$250.00 was placed by Jim Stanley, and seconded by Steve Dodge, which carried unanimously.

**State Meeting Presentations:** John Hucksteadt will send a message out to the Chapter members for any member interested in giving a presentation at the State Meeting to contact the Board.

With all business discussed, the meeting adjourned at 3:40 p.m.

The next Board Meeting will be Wednesday, July 21, 2010, at 1:30p.m. at Riverside Nature Center in the Nature Science Lab. All Hill Country Chapter members are always welcome to attend.

Respectfully submitted,

Gracie Waggener

Secretary