

ALAMO AREA CHAPTER
TEXAS MASTER NATURALIST
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
March 14, 2017

MINUTES

[With a quorum present, President Martha Cray called the meeting to order.]

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Directors was held on Tuesday, March 14, 2017 at 5:30 p.m. at the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service Classroom. The President and the Secretary were present. The Minutes of the previous meeting were approved as corrected.

REPORTS (Officers, Advisors, Standing Committees)

Judit Green, TPWD Chapter Advisor, reminded the Board that San Antonio participates in the City Monarch Challenge. Member participation in establishing and maintaining butterfly and pollinator gardens should be reported to Judit so that she can pass the information along to city authorities. Also, Judit would like to see AAMN collaboration for the Texas Children in Nature program. Information is available at NatureRocks.org and NatureRocksSan Antonio.org. Also, she will be teaching an upcoming course on landscape design at the Cibolo Nature Center.

Aubrey George, Vice-President, reported that he has submitted to the state office the additional information requested for the annual chapter report.

Penelope Boyer, Director of Programs, announced a joint speakers series for the Alamo Area Chapter and the Land Heritage Institute for the period April through August.

Keeley Porter, Historian and Archivist, reported that she is ready to accept electronic items for archiving. The archives will be kept at a central location for interactive use by chapter members.

Freya McGregor, New Class Representative, introduced the two class representatives for Training Class #40: Karen Stephenson and Shelly Abbott. Also, she reported that the Master Naturalist program in Australia is making progress in its development.

REPORTS (ad hoc Committees and Chapter Liaisons)

George Ozuna, liaison to Medina River Natural Area, reported that 13 volunteers working at MRNA removed 704 trees in the past two outings. Also, funds are available to pay for school bus transportation to MRNA for TEKS-aligned school projects. Also, field guides are needed for various events; if interested, contact Don Pylant or George Ozuna.

Drake White, liaison to Phil Hardberger Park, reported that the Birding by Ear event will be held on Saturday, March 25th. Also, the official ribbon-cutting for the Butterfly Learning Center has been rescheduled for April 15.

MINUTES & TREASURER'S REPORTS

The Minutes were approved as corrected. There were no questions regarding the Treasurer's Report.

Pam Ball moved to approve the 2017-2018 chapter budget. The motion was approved by unanimous vote of the Directors present at the meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENT

The Chapter Conflict of Interest Policy, Article VI in the Addendum to the Bylaws for 501 (c) 3 chapters, was read to the Board. The state office has created a new form to meet the requirement contained in Article IV: "Each director, principal officer and member of a committee with board-delegated power shall annually sign a statement..."

The form was distributed to Board members present for signature and returned to the Secretary of the Board.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

- The purchase by the chapter of a vertical banner to be used for training and outreach events and to indicate the site of meetings was discussed. The banner is foldable for easy transport. The purchase price, with stand, is \$89.99. The motion, by Keeley Porter, to purchase the banner was approved.
Keeley suggested that the banner also show the chapter website.
- A change in start time for the Board meeting was discussed, because the Board meeting frequently exceeds one hour. It was agreed to retain the current start time. In order to shorten the meeting, the President asked chapter liaisons and ad hoc committee chairs to submit written reports to the Secretary by the 1st Tuesday of each month. The written reports will become part of the official meeting Minutes.
- The question of travel time for distant volunteer service activities was discussed. It was decided that any chapter member who has questions regarding travel to an approved activity discuss the matter with Nancy Thoss, the VMS coordinator.
- A discussion was held regarding an increase in dues to pay for volunteer appreciation events. It was decided that no dues increase would be brought before the general membership at this time.

The meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

Ron Tullius, Secretary

Martha Cray, President