

ALAMO AREA CHAPTER
TEXAS MASTER NATURALIST
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

June 12, 2018

MINUTES

BOARD MEMBERS & NEW CLASS REPRESENTATIVE OBSERVERS IN ATTENDANCE

	OFFICERS		Sam Womble		Evelyn Penrod	✓	Joedy Yglesias
✓	Martha Cray		Jessica Alderson	✓	Gary Poole		CLASS 42 OBSERVERS
✓	Donald Ewers		MEMBERS		Keeley Porter	✓	David Bordelon (Class 42 rep)
✓	Jeanette Geiman		Shelly Abbott	✓	Liz Robbins		Ashley Green (alternate)
✓	Stan Drezek	✓	Pam Ball	✓	Nancy Thoss		CLASS 43 OBSERVERS
	ADVISORS		Michael Britt (Class 41)	✓	Karen Stevenson	na	Fall 2018
	Judit Green	✓	Camille Gong	✓	Tyler Sanderson (Class 40)	na	Fall 2018

Note: **Quorum=10**: there are 19 Board “positions” including the three advisors. New Class 43’s observers will be named with the start of New Class 43 in the Fall.

With a quorum present, President Martha Cray called the regular monthly meeting of the Board of Directors to order on Tuesday, June 12, 2018 at 5:30 p.m. at the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service Classroom 208.

MINUTES There being no objections, the emailed corrected Minutes for last month’s meeting stand as written.

TREASURER'S REPORT There being no objections, last month’s Treasurer’s reports stand as communicated.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Martha Cray, President, announced a member of the Converse City Council had requested guidance on the appropriate plants for planting trailside in one of their parks. She will forward the information to Pam for dissemination.

Joedy Yglesias, Programs, announced that a brief video at end of meeting would showcase Spicewood Ranch, the 2018 recipient of the Lone Star Land Steward Award and Joedy’s nominee

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Martha Cray, President, reviewed the history of our evolving relationship with the Witte Museum. Largely because the curator of the Texas Wild exhibit, Helen Holdsworth, saw an obvious partnership with Master Naturalists there were some initial discussions involving Martha, Liz, and Jeanette. Out of that came the idea for docent training so MNs could volunteer in the Texas Wild exhibit. Subsequent to that a group of about eight MNs have been working on a Pollinator Garden there and the goal is to have it underway by October.

Gary Poole, State Representative, reported that the COH Revision Committee is making great progress, just met again, and should finish up in another meeting. The committee is reconciling the TMN COH and the AAMN COH. As soon as that is done, early this Fall, the Board will become involved in its review.

NEW BUSINESS

Jeanette Geiman, Treasurer, requested approval to authorize \$90 to replace our chapter banner. Gary moved approval, Karen seconded, and the motion was unanimously passed.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS, ADVISORS, BOARD MEMBERS, AND/OR STANDING COMMITTEES

Sam Womble, AgriLife Advisor, was not present.

Judit Green, TPWD Advisor, was not present.

Jessica Alderson, TPWD Advisor, was not present.

Liz Robbins, Past President, had no report.

Donald Ewers, Vice President, had no report.

Gary Poole, State Representative reminded us that TMN is still looking for help transcribing videos, that on 6-20 there will be a Pollinator workshop in Deer Park, and on 6-29 a Monarch Workshop at Zilker Gardens. Contact Gary if you have an interest or need additional information.

Pam Ball, Activities Information, had no report.

Joedy Yglesias, Programs, clarified that July would be a social event without a speaker and August would be Monday 8-13.

Shelly Abbott, Community Outreach was not present.

Keeley Porter, Historian, reported via email from Germany. "As point of contact for the TMN 20th Anniversary Project, I'm in contact with Lauren Powers, the TMN Marketing Intern tasked with gathering "historical photos" for the TMN 20th Anniversary project. This is another facet of the anniversary project and carried a very short deadline, but Lauren said she is flexible and willing to take whatever photos any of the chapters can provide over the course of this month. If any of the Board members or general membership have photos they'd like to share, please tell them I'll send Pam links (for dissemination) to a Google Drive file and a Dropbox location that can be used to share AAMN images.

Camille Gong, Hospitality, had no report.

Evelyn Penrod, Media and Technology was reported to be handling a family medical responsibility. She did tell Martha about the same number (more than 200) opened our June newsletter. Several in attendance made very positive statements about the quality of the most recent newsletter.

Nancy Thoss, Membership, had no report.

Karen Stevenson, New Class Training Committee, said class applications will be open 6-28 to 8-9, with Class 43 to begin 8-30. Class 43 Field Trips and just about everything else are all set due to her fantastic committee and the use of technology. She reviewed briefly the Class 42 surveys and said they were very positive with the only area of concern being the new pre-class ATs. She, Martha, and Jeanette have or will have presentations to groups such as Garden Volunteers of South Texas.

Tyler Sanderson, New Class 40 Representative, mentioned the LHI tour in which five MNs participated and the possibility of further tours for MNs and VSH opportunities at LHI.

Michael Britt, New Class 41 Representative was not present.

REPORTS OF CHAPTER LIAISONS

Lissa Martinez, Alamo Area Children Organized to Replant Natives (ACORN) said school having wrapped up Project ACORN is quiescent. But Martha added that San Antonio ISD may be adopting Project ACORN at all its ESs as a 4th grade activity.

Tom Brotherman, Alamo Forest Partnership (AFP), had Lissa give the report. Lissa mentioned that the Texas Nurserymen and Landscapers are having their annual meeting in San Antonio the next seven years and that may present some collaborative opportunities. For the next few months the AFP will not be meeting.

Friends of the SA Natural Areas (FoSANA), vacant, no representative.

Pam Ball, Headwaters at Incarnate Word (HIW), outlined a unique opportunity whereby for \$25 for all three or \$10 a course, a person could get Growing Up Wild, Aquatic Wild, and Flying Wild training later in June. Also, on 7-14 there would be a three hour iNaturalist Training in the auditorium to accommodate large numbers. Finally, on 7-26 there will be a presentation on Myths and Facts About Bats.

Donald Ewers, National Park Service (NPS)/San Antonio River Authority (SARA) highlighted two impressive SARA event *today*. First, SARA had its first burn along the Mission Reach and second, tonight was their Environmental Film Festival.

George Ozuna, Medina River Natural Area (MRNA) said his volunteer group had eliminated 3,558 Chinaberries this month and nearly half the volunteers are sailors. Also Class 42 has supplied several volunteers. He explained the use of drones to survey the Medina River to find feral hog damage. His group is exploring using drones to identify Chinaberry and monocultures in the properties adjoining the Medina. Finally, he mentioned the SA Zoo is close to putting together several properties including MRNA for a Horned Toad reintroduction project. We all know MRNA is home to Harvester Ants and may make a great site for this project. Stay tuned.

Drake White, PHP Conservancy, said the BLC is in its summer state. They have worked out a watering schedule so the plants get water every day and stay alive during this heat. She mentioned trainings she did at Eisenhower Park and Mitchell Lake as well as AT opportunities about to become available for MNs wanting to help with Hatch House work.

Texas Alliance, vacant.

Patsy Kuentz, Land Heritage Institute (LHI), is scheduled to come and report only after each quarterly LHI Board meetings.

Tyler Sanderson (Joedy Yglesias back-up), Green Spaces Alliance (GSA), thanked everybody who came out to volunteer for the Secret Garden Tours.

Michelle Garza, Texas Waters Specialist Program, was not present but Lissa Martinez clarified for us in a post-meeting email that there is a Texas Stream Team webinar at 1:30 pm on June 26 and the topic is the new Dataviewer. The intended audience is people already in the TST program, especially monitors who are reporting data. But the general TMN audience is not likely to care much for this topic. Also on June 26 is the next Texas Waters Webinar at 6:30 pm in EcoCentro. The topic is Texas Water Entities, the speaker is Cindy Loeffler from TPWD, and the intended audience is everybody. It is already on the AAMN calendar as AT.

Lynn Richards, Mitchell Lake Audubon Center, reminded us that Mitchell Lake is closed 6-19 to 7-5 for major remodeling of the offices.

ADDITIONAL DISCUSSION There being some time available, Martha introduced Debbie Reid to the group (Debbie was one of the founding members). Debbie talked about the need for a training module to bring cutting edge information on using plants in restoration of riparian areas and how MNs might work in developing such a project and using the training materials. A lengthy discussion followed. One key concept brought up was the link between Debbie's idea and already existing projects such as Texas Waters Specialist. Martha asked Debbie to formalize a proposal, possibly presenting it as an AT.

COMMITTEE REPORTS (none)

ATTACHMENTS (none)

ADJOURN The meeting adjourned at 6:26 p.m. to allow time for Joedy to show the video on Spicewood Ranch and socialization before the General Meeting.

Stan Drezek, Secretary

Martha Cray, President

ALAMO AREA CHAPTER
TEXAS MASTER NATURALIST
GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
June 12, 2018

MINUTES

President Martha Cray called the general membership meeting to order on Tuesday, June 12, 2018 at 6:55 p.m. at the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service Classroom 208.

Nancy Thoss presided over the pin awards.

Martha then had Joedy introduce our speaker, Lissa Martinez. Lissa has represents the Texas Master Naturalists on the SA Climate Ready Technical Working Group on Water and Natural Resources. SA Climate Ready is the City of San Antonio's public engagement process to invite our contributions of ideas and strategies to come to terms with our changing climate.

Lissa gave a riveting talk on the background information and goals related to carbon emissions and her suggested strategies including, but not limited to, urban forestry, urban tree impacts, urban natural creek restoration, and riparian restoration. She invited us to give her feedback and share other ideas.

The talk was extremely well-received and the meeting adjourned at the conclusion of the question and answer session.

Stan Drezek, Secretary

Martha Cray, President