

ALAMO AREA CHAPTER
TEXAS MASTER NATURALIST
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
June 11, 2019

MINUTES

BOARD MEMBERS & NEW CLASS REPRESENTATIVE OBSERVERS IN ATTENDANCE

	OFFICERS		Sam Womble	✓	Evelyn Penrod		
✓	Martha Cray		Jessica Alderson		Gary Poole		
	VP-vacant		MEMBERS	✓	Keeley Porter		CLASS 44 BOARD LIAISON
✓	Jeanette Geiman		Pam Ball	✓	Liz Robbins	✓	Danny Ingram
✓	Stan Drezek		David Bordelon (Class 42)	✓	Tod Smith (Class 43)		
	ADVISORS	✓	Chris Keen	✓	Nancy Thoss		CLASS 45 BOARD LIAISON
	Judit Green	✓	Theresa Needels	✓	Joedy Yglesias		TBD Winter 2020

Note: **Quorum=9:** There are 19 Board “positions” including the three advisors; however, currently there are only 17 persons as Jeanette Geiman is both Treasurer and New Class Training Director and Donald Ewers had to resign as VP.

With a quorum present, President Martha Cray called the regular monthly meeting of the Board of Directors to order on Tuesday, June 11, 2019 at 5:30 p.m. at the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service Classroom 208.

MINUTES The emailed corrected Minutes for May 2019 were approved with no additional corrections.

TREASURER'S REPORT The reports for May 2019 were approved with no additional corrections.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Martha Cray, President announced that Donald Ewers resigned effective immediately as Vice President due to health issues. She also announced that TPWD Year Two Monarch Watch Grant funding had been approved. Karen Bishop will be looking for volunteers (one-offs or recurring) to help out in sites throughout the city on such topics as Plant Choice and Biodiversity. Pam Ball will publicize VSH opportunities as they become available.

Jeanette Geiman, Treasurer, shared the very positive feedback from the SA River Foundation on New Class 44's field trip to Confluence Park. She also reminded us of the to-be-announced drawing for stipends to attend the annual TMN meeting.

Liz Robbins, Past President, in her role as chair of the Officer Nominating Committee, will be communicating to the chapter a group of officer candidates and stressed anyone interested may put their name forward up to the actual election at November's general membership meeting.

Stan Drezek, Secretary, shared his very positive experience with a talk on reptiles by Trinity University's Michele Johnson and how it related to making our Talking Point series (Guide to SA Natural Areas & Greenway Trails) a living, updated document. Several Board members requested Michele's contact information.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Tyler Sanderson, Green Spaces Alliance was present to discuss the tabled proposed AAMN/GSA MOU. After Tyler answered a question on monthly reporting, Joedy moved approval, Jeanette seconded, and the motion was approved by a 9 to 2 vote.

NEW BUSINESS

Chris Keen, Community Outreach, presented on the need of TPWD state parks to be more connected with TMN and proposed for discussion next meeting a possible liaison position for the state parks. There was a lengthy discussion culminating in Chris's being asked to talk it over with a small group and write something up that could be reviewed and discussed next meeting.

REPORTS OF ADVISORS, OFFICERS, 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 (see item under announcements above)

Vice President, vacant.

Gary Poole, State Representative, was not present.

Pam Ball, Activities Information, was not present.

Joedy Yglesias, Programs, indicated programs for the next two months have been lined up but he is always open to program ideas. He also said he was willing to serve as liaison to SARA. Martha appointed him to that role.

Chris Keen, Community Outreach, reported on a very successful presence at CreekFest at San Pedro Springs where there was lots of interest in AAMN. Chris was lauded by the group for doing a great job. Several events had been cancelled due to weather and are awaiting rescheduling. Chris also had a lot to say in the context of his recent experience with TPWD Ambassador training. He felt it was a "life-changing" experience. He mentioned several SA area residents were serving as Ambassadors to area State Parks and that future training of Ambassadors would be offered, though the program is geared to 18 to 30-year-olds interested in outdoors.

Keeley Porter, Historian, said she received for archiving in Dropbox certain items being moved from the website.

Theresa Needels, Hospitality will be contacting members to bring a sweet or savory treat just as soon as Wanda sends a copy of the already developed list.

Evelyn Penrod, Media and Technology, explained we were only going to be keeping on the website recent year(s) reports and Pat has already sent to Keeley material that can now be archived in Dropbox. Also, the May Nature Crossroads had 27% of 809 subscribers open it and June was already running about 32%. With respect to the Demonstration Garden, a thank you sign was installed by PHP staff. The Demonstration Garden will host a May 2020 landscaping your yard program as well as near term be subject of an article on the PHP website.

Nancy Thoss, Membership, was sorry to say there was still no word from TMN on when we would get pins.

Jeanette Geiman, New Class Training, told us the planning for New Class 45 is complete. Karen Stevenson will be helping in a "back-office" role, Tod Smith will be handling Field Trips, and Wanda Huffins has picked up many of Karen's former duties.

David Bordelon, New Class 42 Representative, was not present.

Tod Smith, New Class 43 Representative, while present had no report.

Danny Ingram, Class 44 Board liaison, mentioned a "crazy idea" of AAMN being in the Battle of Flowers parade; in the ensuing discussion several members felt we might fit in better in the King William parade.

REPORTS OF CHAPTER LIAISONS

Lissa Martinez, Alamo Area Children Organized to Replant Natives (ACORN), told us how Project ACORN hosted its first Kindergarten group and just by chance Dwight had a butterfly for each student. Martha related an anecdote about one young girl saying it was the best day of her life. Lissa went on to explain next year's seed collections at GCSNA and ended telling that Project ACORN is now seen by NISD as an established program.

Tom Brotheman, Alamo Forest Partnership (AFP), was not present, but Lissa said the Urban Forest Assessment while complete still has not been released. On a somber note, she told us of Paul Cox's memorial at Ault House this Saturday.

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

Pam Ball, Headwaters at Incarnate Word (HIW), was not present

Joedy Yglesias, San Antonio River Authority (SARA), mentioned the next quarterly SARA Environmental Advisory Committee would be July 12th and that Bat Loco would be the first Tuesday in August.

George Ozuna, National Park Service (NPS), was not present.

Medina River Natural Area (MRNA) vacant, no representative at this time.

Drake White, PHP Conservancy, was not present.

David Borderlon, Texas Alliance for America's Fish and Wildlife, was not present.

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

Tyler Sanderson Green Spaces Alliance (GSA), said the GSA search for a new CEO was winding down and they expect to have a new person in July. He stated he decided not to accept an offer to manage MRNA and will be remaining at GSA.

Michelle Garza, Texas Waters Specialist Program, was not present.

Lynn Richards, Mitchell Lake Audubon Center (MLAC), was not present.

Pete Hernandez, Native Plant Society of Texas - San Antonio Chapter (NPSOT-SA), invited us to the June 25th meeting on the Herbarium recently transferred from IWC to the Witte and a July meeting on landscape restoration

Keeley Porter, Native Plant Society of Texas - Boerne Chapter, quipped that they were more low key with July and August non-meeting months and a couple of others were social meetings. She did say that the Pollinator Garden Assistance and Recognition Program (PGARP) was now up to about 56 participants.

COMMITTEE REPORTS There were no committee reports.

ATTACHMENTS

#1: BOARD ACTION ON FILLING VICE PRESIDENCY

ADJOURN The meeting adjourned at 6:35 having finished the agenda and to allow some limited time for socialization before the General Meeting.

Stan Drezek, Secretary

Martha Cray, President

ALAMO AREA CHAPTER
TEXAS MASTER NATURALIST
GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
June 11, 2019

President Martha Cray called the general membership meeting to order on Tuesday, June 11, 2019 at 6:50 p.m. at the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service Classroom 208.

Nancy Thoss presented pin awards including 250 hour pins to the McGuires (Left photo of Lissa Martinez) and initial certification to three members of Class 44 (Right photo of Lissa Martinez).



Joedy Yglesias introduced TPWD Conservation Ecologist, Ryan McGillicuddy who gave an incredibly informative presentation on healthy river and stream functions that is typically only offered during the all-day Texas Riparian Ecosystem workshops. He was able to show us through ten lessons the functions of natural running water and the mistakes we make trying to alter and control it and how we have learned to work with nature.

Stan Drezek, Secretary

Martha Cray, President

ATTACHMENT 1: BOARD ACTION ON NEW CLASS TRAINING COMMITTEE DIRECTOR

Communicated to the Board 10 am June 15, 2019

“This is your official notice, which I received from Martha Cray yesterday:

Martha had recommended to the full Board Joedy Yglesias as Vice President to replace Donald Ewers who has resigned. A vote was taken electronically. Martha communicated Joedy’s being approved as our new Vice President.”

Submitted to the Board
Stan Drezek, Secretary