

Galveston Bay Area Master Naturalist
Board Meeting
April 5, 2016
Agrilife Extension Building
Carbide Park

The meeting was called to order by Cindy Howard, Vice President, in absence of of President Maureen Nolan-Wilde at 12:00 noon. Cindy thanked the Board for being flexible and moving up the time of the meeting two hours.

Board members present were: Cindy Howard, Jim Duran, Ellen Gerloff, Jo Monday, Chris Anastas, Ron Morehead, Debi Shelton and Beth Cooper. Julie Massey was unable to attend. Maureen and Chuck Snyder were absent.

Old Business

The minutes of March 1, 2016 were approved as read.

New Business

2016 Training Class update

Beth reported that the new class continues their active role in volunteering and attending AT opportunities with enthusiasm.

Day Away – Initiatives Status

Most of the initiatives are in the early stages of development, we hope that the second quarter will see more results. Beth reported Camp Wild will be working with the campers showing them how they can conserve water and what role each camper can help by cutting down on unwanted materials going into the watershed areas. The campers will be able to help write an article for the local paper describing their ideas on how they can help. They will also work together on a project showing a watershed model.

Scholarship Applications

Ellen presented an application for a \$1,000 scholarship submitted by Cameron Folsie. Cameron has worked as a teen volunteer at three major prairie planting events. In the past 3 years, he has learned and participated in the entire planting process. He had three recommendation letters from teachers from his high school and letters from Tom Betros, Chatt Smith and Sara Snell. **Ellen made a motion to award Cameron Folsie a \$1,000 scholarship from our Chapter, the motion was seconded by Jo and approved by the Board.** The Board suggested that a process be established on how best to select future applications.

Mini Environthon Project for 2017

Cindy reported that a request from Clear Falls High School has come to our Chapter requesting assistance in presenting a Mini Environthon next year. It was unclear if they wanted a monetary gift and/or volunteer support or both. The Board decided that we need more information before we could proceed. **A motion was made by Beth and seconded by Ellen to table this request until more information could be received. The motion was passed.**

Board Reports

President no report.

Vice President

Cindy has contacted Dr. William Johnson and he was delighted to speak at our April 7th Chapter meeting. He will speak on Beneficial Arthropods.

Secretary/State Rep no report

Treasurer

Ellen handed out the treasurer report from March for review and questions. **Jo made a motion to accept the report, Chris seconded the motion, motion carried.** Carolyn Miles will review and audit our Chapter books in the next few weeks.

Membership

Jim reported that the newly revised VMS video is on our website. The state has started an internal audit on Chapter's VMS systems. We asked what would be included on the audit and they thanked us for volunteering to be the first Chapter to be audited. The committee believes this an opportunity and we will be interested in finding out how we are doing with our VMS system.

Jim said we now have 218 paid member, 42 members have recertified and 148 who have submitted hours this year. Our new MN class has 18 of their 22 members who have reported hours. We are ahead of our numbers in these categories from this time last year.

VS Director

Jo has been contacted by the San Jacinto Girl Scout Council, they are asking asking if our Chapter would be interested in partnering with them on environment education at their local resident camp, more information to follow.

AT Director No report.

Class Reps No report.

Motion was made by Chris and seconded by Ellen to adjourn, motion passed at 1:40pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Beth Cooper
Secretary