

**Galveston Bay Area Master Naturalists  
Board Meeting  
January 31, 2017  
Texas AgriLife Building Classroom 2 – Carbide Park  
Minutes**

The meeting was called to order by George Kyame at 2:05pm.

Present: George Kyame, Ron Morehead, Maureen Nolan-Wilde, Tim Long, Lynn Wright, Chuck Snyder, Julie Massey, Jo Monday, William Breaux, Alice Rodgers, and Debi Shelton. Jim Duron was unable to attend.

Maureen discussed safety related issues: When performing group volunteer effort that might be spread out (e.g. kayaking), it is good practice to ensure that each person with a cell phone has the numbers for the other people.

### **Old business**

1. The minutes of the January 2017 board meeting were reviewed. A motion to approve the amended minutes was made by Julie, seconded by Maureen. Motion was approved.
2. The minutes from the Board Day Away were reviewed. No approval needed.

### **New business**

1. "Sale" of Chapter Store items
  - a. Annual review of chapter store items for "slow movers" underway. Those items are historically discounted 10-20% in order to sell and remove from inventory.
  - b. Motion to authorize Mel to identify store items and discount as needed to sell. Motion by Maureen, second by Alice. Motion passed.
2. Project of the year
  - a. Continued discussion from Day Away about the need to identify a "Project of the Year" for our Chapter. Requires 2-3 months of preparation prior to State Meeting in October.
  - b. Needs to be a project "owned" by MN chapter.
  - c. Could be "bundled" projects under a common theme. For example, nesting bird habitat restoration and injured bird rescue.
  - d. Defer decision to April/May timeframe.
3. Envirothon Speakers needed
  - a. Emily Morris, teacher at Clear Falls HS, has asked for any MN's interested in helping with Envirothon training of students at "lock ins".
  - b. Three dates in Feb/March timeframe. Email sent via Constant Contact to chapter members.
  - c. Referred to Sara Snell for additional assistance.
4. Records Retention
  - a. Action from Day Away to identify chapter records that need to be kept, for how long, and where? Sara Snell was to inquire to state for any guidelines.

- b. Inquiry sent to Michelle Haggerty at State MN by Sara. Reply indicated that she liked proposal and suggested rolling out to other chapters. This was not our intent. Will reply to State indicating that ours was just a suggestion/example, and that we are only looking for guidance at this time. Nothing has yet been approved by our Board.
5. TMN License Plate
- a. Recent email from State indicates that the lead chapter has set up a GoFundMe page to raise the \$8000 needed to initiate TMN license plate. Email not forwarded to chapter prior to discussion with board.
  - b. Much discussion about the merits of using GoFundMe to raise money from members. Board split on whether it should be done.
  - c. Motion to table decision to next month's meeting made by Jo, Lynn seconded, and approved.
  - d. Suggestion made that all board members should subscribe to the State MN Listserv email service in order to receive emails from them. Go to TMN State website and sign up at link.

## **Board reports**

### President (G. Kyame):

1. Update on Bacliff 64 Acres – George is attending meetings. No commitments made. May become a VS opportunity in the future.
2. Hospitality Committee – Leader is Penny Bessire. Interested in finding new ways to contribute to the chapter, and also publicize their existence. Penny will be introduced at next chapter meeting.

### Vice President (R. Morehead):

1. Work is ongoing to line up speakers for this year's chapter meetings. Suggestions welcome.

### Secretary/State Representative (T. Long):

1. Communication Strategy (from Day Away) – Will call meeting of initial Communication Committee in early March to set goals.

### Treasurer (L. Wright):

1. January Treasurers report presented to board. YTD spend well under budget.
2. Motion to approve made by Jo, second by Chuck. Motion passed.

### Membership: (J. Duron – absent)

1. Final 2016 numbers - 40,934 volunteer hours. Equates to a value to the State of \$1,027,853!! First time over \$1M for Chapter.
2. With Jim absent, Chuck and Maureen will make service level recognitions at chapter meeting.
3. Get well soon Jim!

### Volunteer Service (J. Monday):

1. Nothing new to report

Advanced Training (C. Snyder):

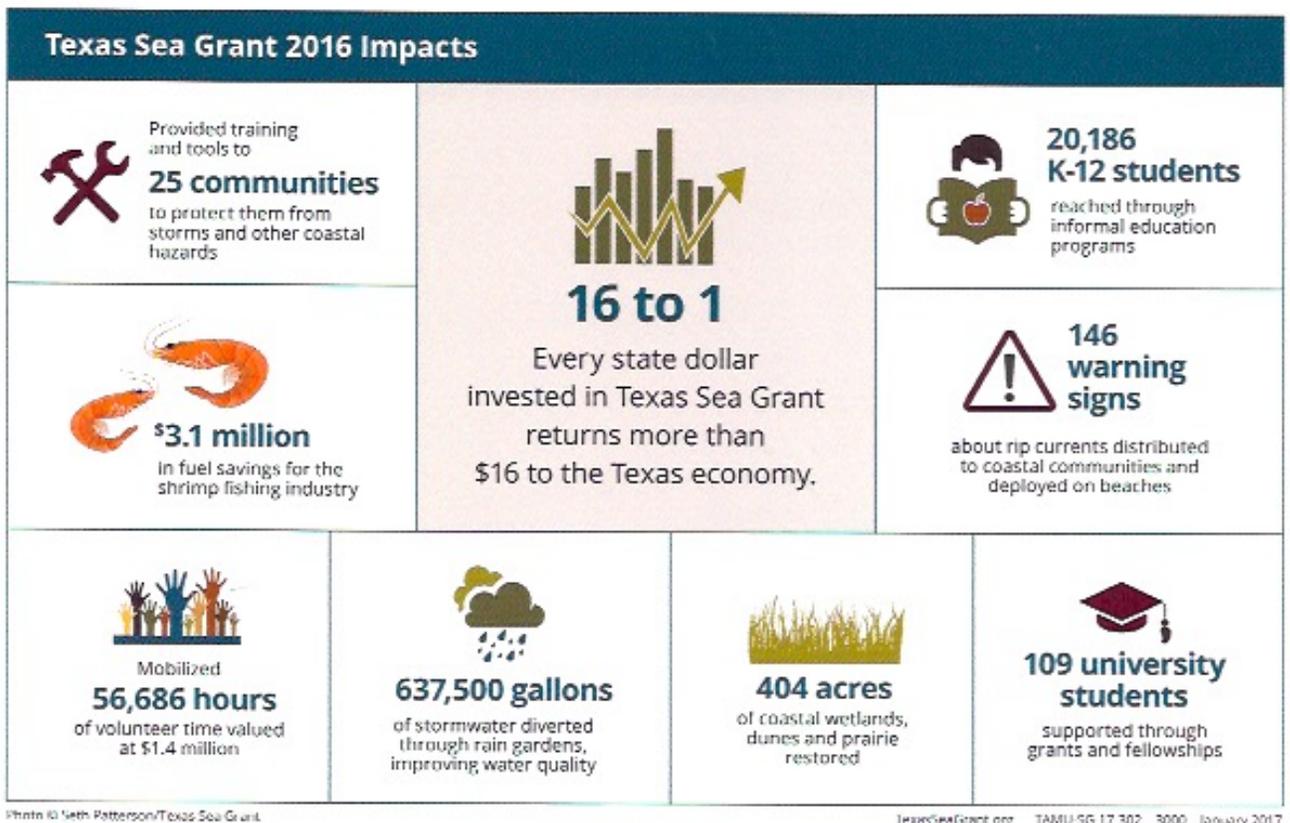
1. Upcoming AT for Feb 2017:
  - a. Whooping Crane trip to Rockport – planned for Feb. 14-15
  - b. Diurnal Raptor Training – Planned for Feb 27<sup>th</sup>, 1:30-4pm

Class representatives (W. Breaux, A. Rodgers):

1. Planning potluck lunch for first 2017 class session on Feb 9<sup>th</sup>. Signup sheet will be at chapter meeting.

Chapter sponsor (J. Massey)

1. Dolphin Challenge – February 4<sup>th</sup>. High school quiz bowl at Texas A&M Galveston.
  - a. Doing Beach and Bay exploration at GISP on Friday.
  - b. Group is about 19 students from all around the state.
2. Texas SeaGrant impact = 16 to 1. See below:



**Other business**

1. Update from Debi Shelton on 2017 Training Class:
  - a. Class is ready to go! First class will be Feb 9<sup>th</sup>.
    - i. All GBAMN members will be invited to attend
  - b. Two class students requesting scholarships (\$75).
    - i. To be determined after class finished.
  - c. Suggestion made to give away the rest of the 2015 Class t-shirt bags at the chapter meeting. Approved by consensus.

Next board meeting will be on Tuesday, March 7<sup>th</sup>, 2017, at Carbide, 2-4 pm.

Motion was made by Bill and seconded by Maureen to adjourn at 3:56 pm. Motion enthusiastically passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Tim Long