

**Galveston Bay Area Master Naturalists  
Board Meeting  
March 7, 2017  
Texas AgriLife Building Classroom 2 – Carbide Park  
Minutes**

The meeting was called to order by George Kyame at 1:59pm.

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

George discussed safety by reviewing a hand drawn diagram of the building and the fire evacuation route, and location of fire extinguishers and AED devices. Muster point in covered basketball pavilion. Suggested that a computer generated diagram be made and added to chapter meeting presentation.

### **Old business**

1. The minutes of the February (Jan 31<sup>st</sup>) 2017 board meeting were reviewed. A small, spelling correction amendment was made. A motion to approve the amended minutes was made by Maureen, seconded by Lynn. Motion was passed.

### **New business**

1. TMN 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary (Tim)
  - a. Tim gave a brief overview of the state's plans for the TMN 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 2018, specifically the project to collect oral history interviews. This was for information only to the Board, and the task will be referred to the Communication Committee for planning and execution.
  - b. Additional information regarding the TMN 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary can be found at <http://txmn.org/20th-anniversary/>
2. Project of the year
  - a. Discussion that the Project of the Year should not be decided by Board, but should be nominated and led by member(s) of the chapter. This is how it had been done in the past. Suggestion to ask for project nominations at April Chapter meeting.
  - b. Defer to May/June timeframe to see what is nominated.
3. Chapter Checking Account (Lynn)
  - a. Lynn made motion to remove Maureen, Cindy, and Ellen as signees for the Checking Account, and to add George, Ron, and Lynn. Second by Chuck. Motion passed.
4. Stewardship Committee (George)
  - a. Action from Day Away to reform Stewardship Committee with key leaders of the Prairie/Wetland restoration efforts and others.
  - b. George to read history of committee provided by Sara Snell, and description/charter in Operating Manual. What is its role? Do changes need to be made?

5. Partner Description syncing on Website and in Directory (George)
  - a. Partner and Sponsoring organization information is not consistent in the Chapter website and in Chapter Directory. Clear and consistent definition of terms uses (eg. partner, sponsor), and roles of various sponsoring organizations and partners clarified.
  - b. Jo has been working on it. Goal is to have all edited by time for 2017 Directory publication.
  
6. GISP Beach and Bay Day Sponsorship
  - a. GBA-TMN had historically given \$250 sponsorship for Beach and Bay Day. Many in our chapter (60+) volunteer at it, and includes publicity during event and on event t-shirt.
  - b. Motion made by Maureen for chapter to sponsor Beach and Bay Day for \$250. Second by Lynn. Motion passed.

## **Board reports**

### President (G. Kyame):

1. Heartwood Chapter still asking about funding for TMN State License plate. Will not be pursued by GBA-TMN due to lack of interest.
2. Wordpress Training – Only required by those actively updating Chapter website.
3. SeaGrant likely to be defunded. Information only.

### Vice President (R. Morehead - absent):

1. Nothing to report.

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

1. Discussed outcome for recent State Rep Conference Call, including the upcoming Annual Meeting (Oct 20-22, Corpus Christi) and increased use of Listserv. “State Rep Resources” added to TMN State website under Chapter Resources tab.
2. Communication Strategy (from Day Away) – Will call meeting of initial Communication Committee in late March to determine initial goals and plan forward.

### Treasurer (L. Wright):

1. February Treasurers report presented to board. YTD spend well under budget.
2. New format of report includes Current Month, YTD, Budget, and Budget Remaining. Good improvement.
3. Motion to approve made by Maureen, second by Tim. Motion passed.

### Membership: (J. Duron) :

1. Currently 61 members (from 2016 Active Members - 222) have not yet paid 2017 dues. Final reminder emails being sent. They have until April to pay, then will be moved to “Inactive”.
2. Volunteer Service hours YTD are on same pace as last year.
3. 23 members have re-certified YTD.
4. Jim made motion to add Dick Benoit to Honorary Member roll (ie. No dues required). Second by Maureen. Motion passed.

### Volunteer Service (J. Monday):

1. 2017 Education and Community Outreach Team Charter completed. Updated to Operating Manual.
2. "Managing a Speaker Request" procedure released. All speaker requests to go to Sara Snell.

Advanced Training (C. Snyder):

1. Upcoming AT for April/May:
  - a. "Shrimp and Oysters" – Apr 29<sup>th</sup> at Carbide. Nathan, Bill, and Julie to teach.
  - b. CoCoRaHS training – Rain gauge monitoring network. May 6<sup>th</sup>
  - c. "Benthic Community" – Cindy Howard in May or June. Date TBN.

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

1. Nothing to report

Chapter sponsor (J. Massey - absent)

1. Nothing to report.

**Other business**

1. Update from Debi Shelton on 2017 Training Class:
  - a. Classes are going well. Perfect attendance so far!
  - b. Modifying curriculum and making improvements in preparation for 2018 class schedule.

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

Motion was made by Jo and seconded by Chuck to adjourn at 3:52 pm. Motion enthusiastically passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Tim Long