

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

The meeting was called to order by George Kyame at 2:12 pm.

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

George welcomed the new Class Representatives (Janet, Patty, and Andrea) to the board meeting. They were given their board member pins.

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.

Old business

1. April Board Meeting Minutes
 - a. The minutes of the April 2017 board meeting were reviewed. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Lynn, seconded by Bill. Motion was passed.
2. Stewardship Committee update (George)
 - a. Stewardship defined by George. Caretaking of anything tangible/physical.
 - b. Requested that a new class member join him on a Stewardship committee to help define way forward.
3. 20th Anniversary Project update (Chuck)
 - a. Chuck gave overview of 20th anniversary video project.
 - b. Beginning to identify interview candidates. Two that we want on the list: Mary Jean Hayden (former chapter president, founder of Camp Wild) and Becky Edmonson (2004 class and Westbury Community environmental activist). Mary Jean lives in Dallas, but will be here for Camp Wild; we'll find a time to meet with her. Becky was at the final class Thursday and I asked her if she'd agree to talk with us; she said yes.
 - c. Equipment assembled; need to test the setup to make sure all the components work together well. Video interviews are complicated - especially sound and lighting.
 - d. Further decisions on who will be interviewed will be made by project team, but any suggestions welcome.
4. Project of the Year
 - a. Announced at last chapter meeting, and still soliciting ideas for a chapter "Project of the Year".

New business

No new business.

Board reports

President (G. Kyame):

1. Brief discussion about who/how to help nominate or propose presentations for this year's TMN annual meeting. See below.

Past President (M. Nolan-Wilde - absent)

Vice President (R. Morehead - absent):

1. Speakers still being lined up for future meetings. Suggestions include a local Game Warden, speaker on pelicans, etc.

Secretary/State Representative (T. Long):

1. To make speaker proposals for TMN Annual Meeting:
 - a. Go to txmn.org (TMN state website)
 - b. Go to "Annual Meeting" tab
 - c. "Call for Proposals" and go to <http://www.regonline.com/TXMN2017CallforProposals>
 - d. Deadline is June 1st, 2017

Treasurer (L. Wright):

1. April Treasurers report presented to board. YTD spend still under budget.
2. Motion to approve made by Bill, second by Tim. Motion passed.

Membership: (J. Duron) :

1. Passed 15,000 volunteer service hours for year. 5300 hours in April, first month above 5000 hours since VMS introduction.
2. We have not been very good at completing required background check info in VMS. Members are being encourage to update their profile. Required for any members working directly with minors.
3. Reminder: DO NOT CHANGE YOUR VMS USER ID! It can create various issues difficult to resolve.
4. 2017 Member Directory sent out for review. Should be release within a week or so.
5. Pending State VMS audit postponed from last month. Should occur this month. Only minor concerns.
6. YTD 11 new Certifications, 68 re-certifications.
7. New class progressing very well toward certification.

Volunteer Service (J. Monday):

1. A lot of volunteer service activity in April.
2. Continue to review and revise old and new opportunities.
3. Education Outreach committee working on identifying opportunities.

Advanced Training (C. Snyder):

1. Upcoming AT for May:
 - a. CoCoRaHS training – Rain gauge monitoring network. May 6th
 - b. "Benthic Community" – Cindy Howard on May 23rd.
 - c. Benthic boat tour of Galveston Bay on May 30th. Full.

Class representatives (W. Breaux, J. Mason, P. Trimmingham, A. Stromeyer):

1. Bill commended the new class and class representatives.
2. New class reps were thanked for their willingness to serve, and reminded of their responsibility of YE banquet.

Chapter sponsor (J. Massey)

1. Dick Benoit being awarded Terry Hershey Bayou Stewardship award by Bayou Preservation Association at banquet on May 8th. Several chapter members attending.
2. Alan Wilde – “Unsung Hero” award from Galveston Daily News for NICK-AMOY leadership.
3. SeaGrant budget approved through September.

Other business

Training Class (D. Shelton): Training class was a success. Next year’s dates and locations set.

Next board meeting will be on Tuesday, May 30th, 2017, at Carbide, 2-4 pm.

Motion was made by Bill and seconded by Chuck, to adjourn at 3:28 pm. Motion enthusiastically passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Tim Long