

**Galveston Bay Area Master Naturalists  
Board Meeting  
June 27, 2017  
Texas AgriLife Building Classroom 2 – Carbide Park  
Minutes**

The meeting was called to order by George Kyame at 2:00 pm.

Present: George Kyame, Tim Long, Maureen Nolan-Wilde, Jim Duron, Jo Monday, Janet Mason, Patty Trimmingham, Andrea Stromeyer, Julie Massey, Chuck Snyder, Lynn Wright and Sandy Parker.

George discussed safety of the building and the fire evacuation route, and location of fire extinguishers and AED devices.

## **Old business**

1. May Board Meeting Minutes
  - a. The minutes of the May 2017 board meeting were reviewed. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Maureen, seconded by Jo. Motion was passed.
2. VP Resignation
  - a. President George received the resignation of VP Ron Morehead due to personal and business reasons. George made the following appointments, effective immediately:
    - i. Tim Long, Vice President
    - ii. Patty Trimmingham, Secretary
    - iii. Andrea Stromeyer, 2017 Class Rep
  - b. It was noted that the VP is the State Representative so Tim will continue to be the State Representative.
  - c. Lynn made a motion to
    - a. Take Ron off the signature card and add Tim.
    - b. Remove Ellen Gerloff as the main bank contact and add her (Lynn) to be the main bank contact.
    - c. Motion seconded by Chuck. Motion passed.
3. Project of the year (Tim)
  - a. Galveston Bay Injured Bird Response Team has been nominated. Tim agreed to lead the group, preparing documentation and display.
  - b. It was mentioned that Suzanne Becker is very talented and artistic; she would probably help with the display.
4. 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Project update (Chuck)
  - a. The team had a dry run at Camp Wild.
    - i. Interviewed Mary Jean Hayden twice.
    - ii. The team learned a lot especially with sound.
  - b. They have about 15-20 primary people who are on the list to “have conversations with”. The team will begin to schedule those on the list.
  - c. We will have a good oral history of our chapter when all is through.

## New business

1. “Treasures of the Bay” nominations (Maureen)
  - a. These awards are given at the yearend meeting. There are several categories.
  - b. This year there will be two new awards.
    - i. The Dick Benoit; someone who is/has been a pillar of our organization.
    - ii. The Beth Cooper; someone who has made an impact in a short amount of time (current or prior class).
  - c. There will be discussion on possibly renaming the Chuck Buddenhagen award.
  - d. Everyone is encouraged to be thinking of nominations.
  - e. George will appoint an ad-hoc committee to help him. The committee will include Julie.
2. Sponsorship for State Annual Conference
  - a. The Chapter makes a donation to the conference (\$300) to help with the general conference operations.
  - b. The Chapter offers to subsidize two chapter members (\$600/ea).
    - i. One of the sponsorships is for the volunteer who reaches 10,000 service hours.
    - ii. The other one is usually to a member who really stepped up in volunteer service.
  - c. The State also contributes a small amount for the two chapter members who are selected.
3. Coastal Brigades (Julie)
  - a. This is a weeklong camp for high schoolers who might be going into a wild life/land conservation type of field.
  - b. They have requested a donation to help them with the cost of the bus. The group will be bused to various locations where Master Naturalists will be teaching them.
  - c. They have to perform volunteer services; Julie will solicit for Camp Wild junior counselors.
  - d. Lynn made a motion to donate \$500, Patty seconded the motion. Motion passed.
4. Service Opportunity night at Chapter Meeting (Maureen)
  - a. Discussion was held regarding how a lot of members do not know about all the opportunities that exist. Everyone agreed this would be a good idea, but point were made on logistics:
    - i. Space issue since a lot of space is taken by the food tables.
    - ii. Lack of tables.
    - iii. We could do it in the other, bigger building.
    - iv. Have short presentations just prior to the Chapter meeting
  - b. More discussion/thought is needed on how to make this happen..
5. Galveston Bay Report Card Presentation (Tim)
  - a. Tim mentioned the Galveston Bay Report card will be released Aug. 9<sup>th</sup>.
  - b. It has a lot of good information in it.
  - c. He will consider accepting GBF request to make a presentation at future chapter meeting or AT training. Tim will follow up with them.

6. New TMN COH from State (George)
  - a. Michelle Haggerty sent TMN operating hand book suggested revisions.
  - b. Chapters are to provide her with feedback.
  - c. George didn't see anything that looked like we needed to incorporate it.
  - d. Our chapter did incorporate some changes to be inline with TMN COH 2 years ago.
  - e. It might be time to review again.

## **Board reports**

### President (G. Kyame):

1. George will lead the effort regarding scholarships for college students. The scholarship committee will be restarted.
2. October speaker: Steven Curtis (TPWD) from San Marcos to speak on "Eel Mops". Also, relates to future eel monitoring service opportunity. George to send info to Tim.

### Past President (M. Nolan-Wilde)

1. Photo contest is coming up in August.
  - a. It's a way to showcase our photographers.
  - b. Winners from our Chapter will be submitted to State.
  - c. Deadline needs to be early September.
2. Gulf Guardian award.
  - a. Waiting to be scheduled for a short video.

### Vice President/State Representative (T. Long):

1. Currently, no speaker for August meeting.
  - a. Tim will contact Sharon Schmaltz to see if she will come and speak about the Galveston Bay report card.

### Secretary (P. Trimmingham):

1. Nothing to report.

### Treasurer (L. Wright):

1. June Treasurer's report presented to board. Balance sheet in good shape. YTD spend still under budget.
2. Motion to approve made by Maureen, second by Jo. Motion passed.

### Membership: (J. Duron):

1. 23,686 volunteer service hours YTD, over 400,000 since the chapter's inception.
2. New class: 18 have already certified, and 7 have re-certified.
3. YTD 178 members have reported hours. 221 Active/paid members.
4. YTD 18 new Certifications, 99 re-certifications.

### Volunteer Service (J. Monday):

1. The team is collaborating with Dr. Tom Linton to create a 4 day workshop for educators.

- a. Not for any specific grade; the educators will be able to tailor it to their grade level.
  - b. Like a mini Master Naturalist class.
  - c. Scheduled for June 18, 2018.
2. The team would like to get a report of the impact data that is entered into the VMS so they know how many people they have been in contact with.

Advanced Training (C. Snyder):

1. Noted that 70% of those who have reported hours have their 8 hours of AT.
2. The AT committee is working on guidelines regarding how webinars might be included as AT training.
  - a. The webinar would have to be live, and have the ability for questions to be asked
3. Chuck mentioned that we have to be careful with the use of pictures that you did not take. Always check before using a photo.
  - a. Many of the photos have property rights.
  - b. You might have to pay to use the photo or have approval to use it.

Class representatives (J. Mason, A. Stromeyer):

1. No Report.

Chapter sponsor (J. Massey)

1. Kelly Samek from the National Sea Grant office toured down here.
  - a. She was very impressed with the Texas Master Naturalist program.
  - b. She wants to help us with restoration and outreach.
2. Re-iterated that support requests should be made directly to her until they fill Helen's position. She has gotten good response and hopes to fill it in July.
3. Julie read a letter from Jacob Hale who is seeking a scholarship.
  - a. He has volunteered at Camp Wild.
  - b. Julie motioned to award him \$1000 scholarship. Maureen seconded. Motion passed.

**Other business**

Next board meeting will be on Tuesday, August 1st, 2017, at Carbide, 2-4 pm.

George thanked everyone for stepping into the new positions.

Motion was made by Chuck and seconded by Jo, to adjourn at 4:18 pm. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Patty Trimmingham