

**Galveston Bay Area Master Naturalists
Board Meeting
November 7, 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, Janet Mason, Jim Duron, Patty Trimmingham, Julie Massey, Jo Monday, Andrea Stromeyer and Lynn Wright.

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

Old business

1. October Board Meeting Minutes
 - a. The minutes of the October 2017 board meeting were reviewed. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Lynn, seconded by Janet. Motion was passed.
2. 20th Anniversary Project update (George)
 - a. George reported that the team is making progress.
3. Gulf Guardian Award (George)
 - a. Maureen and Chuck are meeting with the photographers from DC as we meet.
 - b. Filming of chapter members cleaning up Virginia point will happen tomorrow.
4. Guide Certification (George)
 - a. No activity, waiting on beta testing.
5. State Conference (George)
 - a. Everyone had a good time. There were 28 members from our Chapter.
 - b. George met a lot of good contacts. His only regret was not being able to meet the president of the Coastal Prairie chapter.
6. Project of the Year (George)
 - a. We won!
7. Photo Contest (George)
 - a. Judging has been completed.
 - b. Awards for the contest come from the Chapter's store. Winners will get to pick out something.
 - c. There is a recommendation for next year's contest to pull pictures from our database versus sending out emails asking for submissions.
8. Proposed 2018 Budget (Lynn)
 - a. Lynn made some slight adjustments to the proposed budget:
 - b. Added \$150 to Stewardship for Hawk Watch expenses

- c. Added \$200 to Education Outreach for Adopt-a-Highway expenses
 - d. Increased Technology & Website Fees in order to replace one of the Chapter's laptops.
 - e. Julie mentioned there will not be a Dolphin challenge next year so Lynn deleted the associated \$225 from Education Outreach.
 - f. Motion by Patty to approve 2018 Budget, seconded by Janet. Motion passed.
 - g. Patty made a motion to amend the Budget to increase the State & Regional Meeting Scholarship from \$600 to \$1,000 allocating funds for the Chapter President and/or Vice President to attend the annual State conference or other meeting on behalf of the Chapter. Jo seconded. Motion passed.
9. New Training Class update (Jo)
- a. The committee met; all locations and presenters have been confirmed.
 - b. Meet and greet scheduled for Nov. 14, 2017.
 - c. There are 40 interested people on the list, only 22 will be selected.
 - d. First class is February 15, 2018.

New business

1. Auditors report (Lynn)
- a. Carolyn Miles completed the FY 2016 report.
 - b. Carolyn recommended three new procedures which Lynn has implemented:
 - i. Training Class Fees should have \$150 per class member. If a scholarship is awarded, it should be shown as a line item.
 - ii. Change the name of CHA08 State & Regional Meeting to State & Regional Meeting Scholarships to reflect the actual use of the account.
 - iii. The remaining balance in Scholarships & Awards (INC10) should not be moved from year to year.
2. December Meeting (All)
- a. We will have Mel's store. Store items will need to be moved to Walter Hall and brought back to Carbide.
 - b. 2017 class should be able to get into building around 4:30pm to start decorating.
 - c. Tim has contacted the vendor who supplies the meat. Members will bring side dishes.
 - d. Bobette has offered 5 new naturalist books for door prizes.

Board reports

President (G. Kyame):

- 1. Discussion on members who are traveling to Point Clear, Alabama to receive the Gulf Guardian award on Nov. 30, 2017.
- 2. Motion by Lynn to reimburse 1 night not to exceed \$150 for the 5 members who need to be in Point Clear to accept the award. Seconded by Andrea. Discussion: The chapter has done this in the past as it is supporting the Chapter goals. Motion passed.

Past President (M. Nolan-Wilde)

- 1. Not present to report.

Vice President/State Representative (T. Long):

1. Not present to report.

Secretary (P. Trimmingham):

1. Nothing to report.

Treasurer (L. Wright):

1. October Treasurer's report presented to board.
2. 3 income transactions:
 - a. Corporate contribution from Shell Oil.
 - b. Adjustment to training class fees per 2016 audit.
 - c. First place award for State project.
3. 4 expense transactions:
 - a. Facility fees for TCPP during Harvey
 - b. Microsoft upgrade for membership laptop.
 - c. Purchase of 10 curricula
 - d. Training class adjustment per 2016 audit.
4. Jo made a motion to accept the Treasurers report, Andrea seconded. Motion passed.

Membership: (J. Duron):

1. 35,149.25 volunteer service hours YTD, about 1200 hours ahead of last year at this time.
2. YTD 179 members have reported hours. 222 Active/paid members.
3. 121 re-certifications.
4. At some point in Nov., Jim will take a snapshot of the hours so that he can generate a report to recognize members at the Dec. meeting.
 - a. There will also be a cutoff date for the end of the year so he can finalize the year end report.
 - b. Dates will be announced in the Midden.
5. Our chapter is behind in service awards compared to 2016.
6. Members can start recording hours for 2018 on Jan. 1.

Volunteer Services (J. Monday):

1. Nothing to report.

Advanced Training (C. Snyder):

1. Not present to report.

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

1. The class met and completed the center pieces.
2. Maureen emailed two questions about Master Naturalists.
 - a. Class reps are collecting answers from the class.
3. Class reps will ask Chuck and Bill to take photographs at the December meeting. Photos taken with cell phones are OK.
4. The class would like more clarification on what their involvement would be with the Emeritus program.
 - a. They thought it was a good idea, but didn't want to commit without a better definition.

Chapter sponsor (J. Massey)

1. Julie discussed three changes that will be coming. She wants to collect more information before sending out the changes.
 - a. Recording MN hours when working on multiple boards.
 - b. Recording MN hours if the project is for a federal grant.
 - c. Suggestion that our chapter needs a TPWD advisor in addition to the Agrilife advisor.
2. The pin for 2018 will be an Ocelot.

Other business

Discussion regarding December board meeting: Traditionally, it's a lunch that the chapter picks up. There is money in the Refreshment and Fees account. The Gypsy Joynt in Galveston was mentioned. Lynn will check to see if there is a room/quiet corner for us to meet in.

Next board meeting will be on Tuesday, December 5th at the Gypsy Joynt in Galveston at 11:30. The address is 2711 Market Street.

Motion was made at 3:37pm in Tim's spirit by George to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Lynn. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Patty Trimmingham