

GBAC-TMN Board Meeting Minutes
March 31st, 2020
Zoom Remote Meeting

Attendees: Susette Mahaffey, George Kyame, Mike Petitt, Bev Morrison, Cindy Lienen, Patty Trimmingham, Jo Monday, Ellen Gerloff, Janet Mason, Maureen Nolan-Wilde, Monica Duran. This represents 11 of 15 members or 73% attendance.
Guests: Gene Fisseler, Sandy Parker, Stennie Meadours, Chuck Snyder.
Zoom Facilitators: Chuck Snyder host, Maureen Nolan-Wilde co-host.

The meeting was called to order by Susette at 1:00 pm.
Susette welcomed us to this new remote format, housekeeping reflected our ability to leave for short periods if need arose.

Old Business:

- March board meeting minutes were distributed prior to meeting and no further corrections were offered. Patty made a motion to accept the minutes, George seconded and the motion passed unanimously.
- Prior to meeting, Cindy L had sent out information regarding the credit card scanners she found most appropriate. The discussion regarded price, usage, and needs for either iPhone or I tablet and Wi-Fi connection or hot spot availability, and how many/much is the predicted usage. Maureen made a motion to buy a square card reader for the chapter. Janet seconded. Motion passed unanimously.
- Guests Sandy and Stennie reported on the status of Bayside Regional Park. Currently it has been staked, the county is being requested to herbicide the path from the road to the garden main. Plans currently call for prairie grasses on one side of that path, pollinator garden on the other. Sandy has requested designers submit bids for the larger garden main. One designer has responded to date. Multiple sponsors are offering varied kinds of support, and the board was asked to define our sponsorship. The board responded that more concrete information is needed for that determination to be made. It was suggested that designs could come from members of our chapter. Decision tabled till more specifics available.

New Business:

- Susette discussed current planning of the 20th year celebration of our chapter. She had distributed ideas prior to the meeting. The discussion was supportive of the monthly celebrations with various topics that reflect our chapter over 20 years. She predicted that the portion of chapter meeting time would be about 15 min or less each meeting. Julie and Susette had discussed creating a 20 year pin for the membership. Also a chapter tee shirt could be designed and sold at chapter meetings. An additional topic for the chapter meetings could include people outside the chapter who have been vital to the life of the chapter.

- Possible uses of Zoom to extend to class and membership training and interaction were discussed. The pros and cons of creating video recordings of speakers was discussed. The state officers had bought several Zoom licenses to allow all chapters' usage, however we are fortunate to have 2 licenses already in the chapter. Our zoom projects could include up to 100 attendees, keeping in mind the work that Chuck and Maureen have in training membership and would have to take on more as usage increases. . Gratitude expressed to both.

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Susette board report: President

- She had a Zoom conference with Mary Pearl and Michelle. Agrilife is closed until May 4th as of now. Other closures and dates discussed.
- The Emeritus committee has met, has plans to continue with the May 12th meeting, even if it needs to be held remotely.

George board report: Past President

- Deferred

Mike board report: Vice President

- The April 2nd speaker has been cancelled, as there will be no chapter meeting held that day. Hans Landel has accepted Oct speaker request and would like to tie that to an AT in-service regarding his work and teaching invasive species knowledge.

Bev board report: Secretary

- Deferred.

Cindy L board report: Treasurer

- The chapter is in a positive financial position.
- The financial activity in March was provided prior to meeting and there was some discussion regarding line items . Postage for pin mailing and background checks were largest expense items.

Patty made a motion to accept financial report, seconded by Maureen, motion passed unanimously.

Patty board report: Membership

- 215 paid memberships this month, dues for 2020 were due Jan 31st. 184 members have entered hours this month, the VMS team has approved 750 lines of activity this month.

Jo board report: Volunteer Service

- Discussion of what activities should cease or continue under current government requests we should stay home. Agreed that activities such as water monitoring, monofilament gathering and others that don't conflict with the social distancing request and can continue to be entered in VMS hours.

Ellen board report: Advanced Training

- Scheduled training in near future has been cancelled or delayed. Several speakers may be able to reschedule and will be resumed on case by case basis.
- Discussed some offerings being offered on Zoom, perhaps Heritage Book Club. Some AT requires hands on and wouldn't be considered for Zoom presentation.
- Discussed presenters to training class being videoed and offered to membership. The idea of videos is complex, some speakers have trademarked presentations. Control of the videos and who could see them has complexities. Idea needs further discussion.
- There has been approval for all 8 hours of AT to be done online and with webinars. Ellen hopes to send a definition of online AT acceptable practices to the membership.

Janet board report: Class Coordinator

- The class has been offered speakers on Zoom format. The acceptance of the idea was class wide. Training for Zoom by Chuck has begun and going well.
- Expected format is a 10 to 11:30 am session and a 12:30 to 2 pm session, beginning Thursdays on April 9th thru May 7th. Most of the speakers are the same people from the original class schedule.
- Class handouts are being scanned in for students to download, some will be handed out when next we meet in person.
- Some class fieldwork is expected to be scheduled for the fall.
- Evaluations of each session are expected to be filled out on-line and the responses will be able to be formatted to a spreadsheet as they are received.
- Class will be reminded they are to be thinking of electing class representatives to join the board of directors when class is completed.
- The ability to complete the required 40 hours of training for this class looks to be possible. The state TMN officials haven't adjusted the needed hours for class completion for any chapter to this time.

Maureen board report: Communications

- Facebook had 1300 hits on the shell presentation.
- As new posts come in for Stump the Master Naturalist, the site averages about 600 hits each. Some of the membership is supporting these daily mini topics with submissions.
- Maureen noted other chapters have expressed interest in our website content.

Monica board report: Class Representative

- Began discussion of having AT on Zoom, and being videoed so working people that can't meet appointment time presentations would still have the opportunity. Privacy concerns, permissions, convenience all discussed.
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It was mentioned that Sponsor Julie Massey has been called away to a family need.

Class representative Tiffany wanted board to know she has had health problems and explain her absence.

Discussion to have our website include a statement of support to members and visitors reflecting this trying time.

Discussion to consider some random Zoom hours to allow members to log on for some or all of the session to speak and see and share with each other. Consideration of Chuck and Maureen's availability would be needed, both to administer the session and also the training for members it would entail.

Motion to adjourn the board meeting at 3:16 pm was made by Jo, seconded by Janet. Motion was passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,
Bev Morrison
GBAC-TMN Secretary.