

GLCTMN
Board Meeting
March 20, 2017
Agri-Life Building
LaGrange

President Cindy Hobbs called the meeting to order at 10:05 AM.

The following board members were present: Cindy Hobbs, Debbie Copeland-Luhn, Cheryl Karr, Karen Mahoney-Woods, Nita Tiemann, Donna Mueller, Cindy Rodibaugh, Jerry Gips and Chris Morrison.

Minutes: Chris Morrison made a motion to accept the minutes of the previous meeting as read. Nita Tiemann seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

Old Business:

Weather station: Fayette County AgriLife Agent Scott Willey reports that the weather station for Winedale has arrived. He has not yet received an MOU from UT.

Upcoming election and new board members: Cindy Rodibaugh, Chris Morrison and Charlotte Von Rosenberg and/or Leada Dietz will serve as the nomination committee. Chris explained the procedure for the election and selection of board members. The elected officers decide what positions (other than elected officers) will hold board membership. President Cindy asked that they get this all nailed down by the September meeting, prior to the election to be held in November.

Graduation: Graduation will be held on Monday April 24, 2017 at the Agri-Life building in La Grange. Dinner will be followed by an hour and half presentation on legal ethics. Graduation certificates will be presented at the end of the meeting. After much discussion, it was decided to furnish the meat, according to our chapter operating handbook, and have the chapter members bring sides. It was suggested to have a graduation RSVP sheet available at the new member class. We will also provide a cake for the graduating class.

Attwater: President Cindy asked why Attwater was still on the website since Butch retired. Jerry Gips stated that Terry Rooney has volunteered there and has agreed to be the lead at Attwater. Jerry also mentioned that now is a good time for a tour as the birds are booming from late March through April. Mike Morrow has volunteered to give us a tour since the Training Class tour was rained out. However, it would be best to go during the week, when the employees are present.

Grants: Jerry Gips mentioned that we fall under the parameters of the National Fish and Wildlife Federation's guidelines and that maybe we should apply for 50K grant. There are two areas: Monarch habitat (quality and quantity) or outreach. According to the NFWF you can apply for one or the other, but not both. There was much discussion on how and what we could do. Several suggestions were made, such as

creating additional monarch habitats in the 5 county area, a bird viewing station possibly at Winedale. Some names were suggested as to who could head up this project. Patrick Dunne or Betsy Palkowsky might be willing to take this on. President Cindy said this would be a good topic to bring up at our next chapter meeting and get input from the membership. Chris Morrison reminded us that our chapter mission statement leans more towards outreach and education. We have already missed the 2017 deadline for application, but we have plenty of time to apply for 2018.

Bird banding: Cindy Rodiaugh received an email question from a TMN student from another chapter class concerning a bird-banding project and did we have one. There was some discussion on trying to start a bird banding activity/project. This would make a great outreach program.

Chapter Operating Handbook: Chris Morrison, Cindy Rodibaugh and Lori Buffum are finishing this up and it is done except for minor updating. It will be complete before the change in officers and board members next year.

Reports:

Secretaries: Nothing

Vice President: Nothing.

Treasurer: There is a new button on the website to make donations to our chapter. The dues button has been disabled for now until it is time to renew memberships. Also, Chris mentioned that not everyone renewed. There were several couples that have not renewed, three couples from last year's class.

Training: Jerry also mentioned he talked with Sherry Wilcox to add our training application to the website prior to our next class, probably around August. He also suggested some names possibly Betsy Palkowsky or Terry Rooney to take over the training for next year. He will stay on to help whoever it may be.

Past President: Nothing

Outreach/Publicity: Donna Mueller and Betsy Palkowsky are working to build contacts in each county to cover outreach. Donna is still in need of 2 or 3 more people to cover Colorado and Lee County. They are considering many types of publicity to get our projects out to the public, such as radio programs, newspaper articles etc. There was much discussion on some overlapping duties. It was agreed that Vice President Karen Woods would continue to manage the advanced training programs. Betsy Palkowsky and Donna Mueller will do all publicity work. Vice President Karen Woods will provide the necessary information to them for publication.

There was no other business.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:08 AM