

AUGUST 10, 2016
Texas Master Naturalist Gideon Lincecum Chapter
Board Meeting
Minutes
La Grange

The meeting was called to order by President Cindy Hobbs at 12:56 PM.

There were ten board members present: Jerry Gips, Dave Redden, Cindy Rodibaugh, Chris Morrison, Greg Walker, Karen Woods, Nita Tiemann, Lori Buffum, Cindy Hobbs, Debbie Copeland and Kara Matheny.

The minutes from the previous meeting were approved.

OLD BUSINESS:

Scott Willey is still working out the details for the weather station in Winedale. He will let Cindy know when he needs our donation.

NEW BUSINESS:

From the President:

We now have a place in Washington County and in La Grange to store our chapter equipment. There will be a trifold in each location. The La Grange Agri-Life storage in Georgia's office will hold most of the equipment including tables, tents, and audio visuals. Washington Co has offered up storage space in another building as well.

The hard cover copies of the curriculum have arrived. See Cindy H to receive your copy if you are due one. Jerry will send email to last class to pick up books from Cindy.

Two students in Fayette Co. have paid their own Brigade fees. We will split the \$500 scholarship between the two candidates. Donna M will follow up.

We received a check for \$389 from Washington on the Brazos for mulch. Check was given to Chris.

A motion was made and approved that we run the Agri-Life store at the annual meeting at the State's request. There will need to be four full time workers as

well as other members to help out, setting up Friday at 9:00 AM. Two rooms with two beds and free meals are provided for the fulltime workers. Cindy would like four cashiers. There will be two to three interns to do the heavy lifting. Cindy will encourage Mary Pearl to make the arrangements to use credit cards. We need to make up the rules of the store and hours. Karen Woods and Cindy Rodibaugh, volunteered to be full time at the store. Cindy and Tom Hobbs will also work the store full-time (except for President duties). Other members including Dave Redden and Debbie Copeland volunteered to work on Friday. Karen will be sure to bring up the possibility of volunteer credit at the September meeting.

Scholarships:

Washington Co., Aug. 7th scholarship was awarded to Kendall Smitovek by President Cindy and Vice President Karen.

Fayette County, August 20, President Cindy Hobbs and Donna Mueller, will do the presentation.

Austin Co., President Cindy and Lori Buffum will do the presentation.

Lee County, August 21, Karen Woods and Cindy Hobbs will do the presentation

Colorado County did not have a qualified applicant.

Outreach: Donna Mueller will be our Outreach/Publicity Director. Lori Buffum and Cindy Hobbs will serve on the committee. A motion was made and the appointment was approved. Cindy would like the first recruiting advertisement in the newspaper on September first with the information that we are now accepting students and that class size is limited. Kara asked if we had hosted an open-house like the Master Gardeners. It was decided that Lori and Chris will head up an open-house to be held after the November meeting and presentation. Publicity will be needed in all five papers. Karen will send the information to Kara, so that she can send it to the county agents to make sure the info gets into all the county newspapers. Donna will cover the upcoming AG and Landowner meetings.

Audiovisual: Greg Walker, would like to update some of our audiovisual equipment. The projector is the oldest piece of equipment. Kara can purchase a projector for us for a \$325 lifetime leasing agreement. The motion was approved that we purchase the projector and a rolling cart to hold the cords and other AV equipment. Greg will work with Kara to get the projector.

Treasurer: Chris Morrison, All checks and letters for the scholarships have been written. See treasurer's report.

Past President: Cindy Rodibaugh, Cindy recommends that we start recruiting people to serve as officers. Board members will start talking with members from our latest class.

Advanced Training: Dave Redden, There will be 5-6 volunteer opportunities in connection with the Lands Program coming up that could also be used for Advanced Training.

Hospitality: Nita Tiemann, Cindy is already considering where to hold the Christmas party. Possibilities mentioned include the Cactus Restaurant in Burton, the Country Place Hotel in Fayetteville, the Winery in Colorado Co., the Cat Spring Ag Hall, and the hall in Industry. Nita will check on each place and their prices.

Newsletter - Lori Buffum: Lori needs more information from Carol Daniels so that she can brag on the members. She would also like to hear from every single board member. Example: "We are looking into new venues for our Christmas party." She would like to have three weeks notice to get articles into the newsletter.

Publicity - Karen Woods: Karen will start advertising for the class in September and once each month thereafter.

Training - Jerry Gips: We had our first meeting on Monday this week. Our next meeting will be at the end of September, and then there will be two more meetings, one in December and one in January. The venues will be the same as last year. Terry Rooney will be helping with the speaker contacts while Jerry is out of the country. There was discussion about class size and not paying before the class starts. It was decided that the class size would be limited to 25 with a waiting list, and that a deadline for payment would be set before the class starts.

Volunteer Service Projects – Cindy Rodibaugh, All approved projects are on the website. A question came up at the training class meeting that the new members did not know where the volunteer service projects were. It was suggested that there be a map and a contact # published on the website for each project. Cindy R. has a map she will send. Greg suggested that there be more

specific directions to locations. Trainees can start earning volunteer hours as soon as they start the class, but not AT hours.

Cindy will call Mary Pearl. We are committed to the store at the Annual Meeting. We will also need auction items for the Annual Meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:46 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Debbie Copeland