

TMN – Gideon Lincecum Chapter Board Meeting

March 24, 2007

Carol Montgomery's Place, near Burton

Those in attendance are Dave Redden, Randy Reddemann, Carol Montgomery, Jan Redden, Cecil Rives, David Vogel, Louise Wait, Martha Koslosky, Linda Kay Behrend, Larry Hilgers, Gary Fritcher, and Monterey White.

Agenda

1. President Dave Redden called the meeting to order at 9:20am.
2. Copies of the minutes of the last meeting were handed out. Randy Reddemann makes a motion to approve the minutes and Cecil Rives seconds the motion. The Board unanimously approves the minutes.
3. Executive and Operating Committee Reports.

President's Report

- Dave Redden reports that the regional meeting of TMN was a good opportunity to meet members of other chapters. Many chapters are older than GLC and some have more state parks available for both advanced training and volunteering opportunities. However, each group has different and unique resources.
- Randy Reddemann announced that arrangements are ongoing to hold the state meeting in San Antonio. This will be the 10th anniversary of TMN and the first group was in San Antonio. It is tentatively scheduled for the third or fourth week-end in October.
- Grimes County is trying to start a MN chapter.
- Dave explained briefly the we are trying to have a cooperative effort between groups such as NPSOT, MG, TWA, WCWS, and TMN so that speakers may be shared and attendance for all groups might increase.

Treasurer's Report

- Larry Hilgers reported that he has recorded eight people having paid dues for 2007, but dues as well as bills are still coming in.
- We have not yet approved a 2007 budget.
- Larry's budget handout is available from him by email (lehilgers@cmaccess.com).

Vice-President's Report

- Randy Reddemann announced that our 501(c)(3) application has been rejected, but that was not entirely unexpected, and he is working on getting it approved.
- Randy then suggested that the Expense reimbursement policy introduced at the last meeting be adopted. Jan Redden made a motion to accept the policy and Larry Hilgers seconded. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

4. Committee Updates

Program and Advance Training

- Randy Reddemann reminds everyone that he sent a 4-page list of advanced training opportunities gathered from many sources, and members should consult that list for ideas on where to get advanced training. Some groups don't give very much advance notice, but he will try to get information out as quickly as possible.
- There were two items of general interest: this Sunday the Discovery Channel is starting a series on "Planet Earth," and on April 15th Stephen Hawking will be speaking at A&M. Fee is \$5 to hear him.
- The April 21st ornithology field trip will be changed from what it is on the schedule.
- May 25th is the soil program, a joint effort with WCWS.
- September 22nd will be a program on wildlife art.
- Dave explained the "Top 10" as a competitive way to test your MN knowledge. An example is to identify ten common birds in your area while on a field trip. Members will work up lists of ten things such as native grasses, insects, and wild flowers to identify.
- David Vogel interjected a report on the status of the classes in Fayette County. Classes will start September 17th and will

tentatively be located at the Fayette Library Museum, and planning is well underway for some good speakers.

Training Committee

- Cecil Rives stated that Larry Pierce will be presenting rangeland ecology at this Monday's meeting. There is a wetlands field trip next Saturday at Nails Creek Park at 10am.
- Graduation will be on May 5th at Monterey White's place.

Membership

- Martha Koslosky said that she would like us to report our volunteer and advanced training hours quarterly.
- With a few exceptions, if a member has not paid dues by March 31st and has not communicated with us, that member should be dropped from further correspondence.
- Dave Redden, Jan Redden, Cecil Rives, and Randy Reddemann received their recertification pins.
- Following state guidelines, Martha will write a proposal addressing certification and re-certification for GLC of TMN

Volunteer Service Projects

- Chairperson Louise Wait noted the following opportunities are available for volunteering: blue bird houses are being built in LaGrange; helping with displays and activities for the public on April 28th at the Antique Rose Emporium; Outdoor Classroom at Lake Somerville on May 8th-10th; canoe trip and kids' fishing at Nails Creek SP on June 17th.
- A discussion followed on the expectations of committee and chapter members. It often seems as if there are only a few participating members and we need to engage the current MN students as well as the current members who are not participating.

Outreach

- Jan Redden reported that nine people signed up to receive information about the MN program during the Home and Garden show on the Brenham square March 11th.
- Displays and projects for the April 28th ARE outreach were discussed.
- David Vogel has been recruiting for the September class.

- The question was raised about who is keeping track of applicant record keeping and coordination of that with the membership.

History/Library

- Linda Kay Behrend reported that we now have the start of a library.
- There is no scrapbook at this time.
- Pictures should be taken at all events for the future scrapbook.

Host

- Graduation in May should be budgeted in the Host committee. It was suggested that \$500 for two meetings that served meals might be a reasonable amount to put in the budget.

5. Old Business

- David Vogel and Louise Wait mentioned a grant application had been made to target schools for a bat project.

6. New Business

- Dave Redden mentioned a possible project in Burton on Indian Creek near the cotton gin. It will be a natural setting for walks and we could help with the planning and also bring in native species. A ramp for observing nature is already there.

7. Adjourn.

- May 19th will be the next board meeting.
- Randy Reddemann makes a motion to adjourn and Cecil Rives seconds. The meeting is adjourned at 12:40pm.

Respectfully submitted by
Monterey M. White, secretary