

TMN-Gideon Lincecum Chapter Meeting  
March 16, 2013  
Meadows Conference Center  
Winedale, TX

## **Minutes**

### **Executive Report:**

The meeting was called to order at 0915 hours by President Cindy Rodibaugh. There were approximately 20 members present.

The minutes of the February meeting were accepted as presented.

Cindy welcomed classmates from this year's class, and explained that meetings are volunteer hours, program attendance is Advanced Training.

Cindy discussed the revisions made to the budget reductions will be explained by Mary, our Treasurer.

The President went over some training and volunteer opportunities:

- Steven F. Austin State Park – Previously offered instruction on how to do a nature walk which Cindy R. attended and she will practice by assisting the park interpreter in guiding 7<sup>th</sup> graders from Cinco Ranch next week.
- Nails Creek – Brenham ISD 3rd grade Spring outdoor classroom has asked for TMN volunteers to help.
- Elementary Outdoor Learning Center – Nancy no longer in charge of the program, it is on hold until next year.
- Bill Knesek, President of the Rosenberg Economic Board, has received "gifted acres" that he's asking for help. Location is outside Sealy, Hwy 36 just south of Sealy in Wallis. See Cindy R., if interested in planning and/or making recommendations for this site.
- July 2013 meeting will be a field trip at Steven Austin State Park. Bring a lunch, walking shoes. Cindy is checking into 'discounts' offered by the park interpreter and will inform members when she knows. There will be a \$5.00 charge to cover the cost of weekend rental of the dining hall with AC.
- Regional Master Naturalist Conference is Apr 12-14 in Anna, TX. Cost is \$125.00 plus hotel cost. Attendance would constitute Advanced Training.

- Women of the Land – a program sponsored by the TX Parks and Wildlife and Ag Life. Cost is \$200 if member, non-member is \$250.00. Dates Apr19-21, 2013, in Spurry, TX.
- Indian Creek – as per Cindy R., needs weed pulling etc. before the Cotton Gin Festival in April (same day as class field trip to Quebe Farm). Royceanna Kendall informed the group Dottie Schoeneberg has been mowing the area and will advise when mulch will be available.
- The Class Field trip, which is scheduled for 20 Apr, at Quebe Farm, will be conducted by Minnette Marr, the plant conservationist from LBJ Wildflower Center.
- Monument Hill – Cindy R has made contact with the ranger and when asked how TMN might help, he responded, "removal of invasives." Cindy R will follow up.
- Seed Collection Seminar - Quebe Farms, on Nov 2, 2013.
- Adopt a Highway – next clean-up will be in May 2013, after Antique Show.

**Treasurer' Report:**

The executive board has amended the budget because we no longer have the support of the corporate sponsors we have had in the past. We need to operate on a "money in, money out" basis. If we plan to offer programs that require reimbursement costs, we will need to find a way the programs can be paid for. \$11,753.08 is our current bank balance. Mary has set aside a reserve balance for 2014, leaving us with \$6,700 for operating expenses 2013. Mary suggested that we talk with employers to see if they are interested in sponsoring TMN, and that all personal donations are tax deductible.

**Committee Reports:**

**Membership Report:** by Carol Daniels. Three members of last year's class were given their certificates and pins. Background checks were handed out. We are part of the group that signed up for electronic hours reporting, but training isn't available yet. In the interim hours will have to be done twice, paper and electronic to verify the system is reporting correctly. Members can count time spent reporting hours as Volunteer hours.

**Recruiting Report:** by Judy Deaton. We already have 10 new recruits for next year's class.

**Training Report:** by Chris Morrison. There are twenty-two people in this year's class. We don't have a make-up video of the Forestry Class and would

appreciate help to get one made. April 8, 2013 is the Woodland-Forestry presentation. March 18<sup>th</sup> – Dr. B Rector will present lecture he originally missed.  
29 April – Graduation

**Website** – as per Cindy R., please send in updates as needed.

**Newsletter** – Always looking for articles, photos, and items for newsletter.

**Programs Report:**

16 Mar – Carol Daniel- Firewise Landscaping  
Stephanie Lubianski – Animal Rehabilitation

18 May – Mark Klym – Wildscapes

20 Jul – TMN Field Day at Steven Austin State Park. Several AT options will be provided. Will send out flier when available.

21 September- Bob Honig - Master Birder, KPC; Topic - Dragonflies & Damselflies: Wes Davenport - GLC-TMN member; Topic - Weather.

16 Nov – Top Ten Program. Carol Paulson is the POC, see her if you have ideas. Anyone can make a presentation, using any media on anything associated with TMN. Presentation should be 10 items in length on a single topic, i.e., invasive, wildflowers.

Dec 2013 – Christmas social, election of officers.

**Prairie Committee** – planted 40 trays of grasses; only switch grass is above ground. What are we going to do with plants? Suggestions: give to State Park/school demonstration gardens; put some at Indian Creek; sell at any festivals we are involved in (Cotton Gin Festival).

**MISC:**

**Agrilife Programs** – Discussion, they need us, our relationship is give and take. Issue is paying for their programs, Cindy states, we shouldn't feel guilty when attendance fee is waived; we help each other. It's to their advantage that we volunteer.

**Land Trust** – Mary was invited to be member of the board as a TMN. They are looking for speakers to address issues, i.e., noise pollution, and old wells, anything that affects wildlife.

Meeting was adjourned at 10:30, by President Rodibaugh.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Cindy Hobbs for Margaret Atkins.