

Texas Master Naturalist - Gideon Lincecum Chapter  
Chapter Meeting Minutes  
September 18, 2021  
Virtual Format

The meeting was called to order by President Betsy Palkowsky at 11:02. There were 43 members in attendance. The July 17, 2021 chapter meeting minutes were unanimously approved.

**President Report - Betsy Palkowsky:**

State Annual Meeting: Media Art and Photo Contest deadline of September 30, 2021 was discussed.

Elections: For the term 2022-2023 the proposed new officers were introduced:

Sheri Wilcox - President  
Norbert Dittrich - Vice President  
Patti Brown - Secretary

Dues Increase: Effective September 18 at mid-night chapter dues will increase to \$25.00. The group took a vote and there was only one nay so the proposal passed.

25 members have currently paid dues.

The increase in dues will help fund projects and scholarships. A fund raiser is being planned for the spring.

**Vice President - Mark Brown:**

November advanced training will be on the topic of water fowl and presented by Taylor Asher from Ducks Unlimited at Camp Kubena in Ledbetter.

January advanced training will be Chuck Babb discussing emergency preparedness and wilderness survival for rural areas.

Seed collection for Winedale was discussed but there are no set plans at this time. Cat Springs Native Seed project was discussed as well as the need for volunteers.

Chris Morrison reminded members these are two different projects and service must be reported and documented separately.

Mark asked for notification from land owners as to collection of native seeds.

Native Prairie Meeting will be held in Weimer on October 29. Meghan Clayton will be there and the agenda sent later.

A cooperative work day is planned this Friday, September 24 with Rory Johnson of the Fayette Prairie Chapter.

**Treasurer - David Hessel:**

As of August 31, 2021 the chapter had a bank balance of \$11,715.33.

\$1,000 has been donated toward scholarships for the year 2022.

**Education - Donna Mueller:**

Donna asked about budget proposals and Betsy reminded all project managers to have a budget ready by the end of the year meeting in November. David will send out the forms.

**Membership - Chris Morrison:**

SwEE Leng Rapatz earned initial certification

2 milestones were awarded:

500 hours - Jim Wilson

2,500 hours - Lori Buffum

4,096 hours of service and 933 AT hours have been reported this year.

Chris asked if members would meet her at specific sites to receive their pins. It is very expensive to mail them and they are often damaged in transit.

**Volunteer Services - Jaci Elliott**

Adopt a Highway is scheduled for October 6, 8:00-10:00

Chris mentioned that Adopt A Highway can be your own state road and it counts toward volunteer hours.

Betsy asked for photos of what people are doing in our Chapter to send to the State Meeting. Send any photos to Jaci.

**Training - Connie Shortes and Chuck Linton:**

Plans for the 2022 class are underway.

**Communications - Betsy Palkowsky for Lori Buffum**

October Newsletter content is due September 30 and should be sent to Betsy.

Chris Morrison and Sheri Wilcox will plan the volunteer appreciation event with the new board possibly in January.

Next board meeting is November 5 location TBD.

Next chapter meeting is November 20 at Camp Kubena.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:17.

Respectfully submitted,

Patti Brown for Linda Esco  
Chapter Secretary