

**TMN- Hill Country Chapter
September 2005 Board Meeting Minutes**

Present: Sharon Corley - VP, Ronald Hood – Dir of Volunteer Projects, Wanda Mattarocci – 2004 Class Representative, Sandy Pena – Past -President, Bob Richie - Treasurer, Jim Stanley - President, Priscilla Stanley- Dir of Membership, Amy Sugeno – TPWD Advisor, and Nancy Vaughan - Dir of Class Training

Absent: Kathryn Harrison - Secretary, Phyllis Muska – Dir of Communications, and Betty Thomas – Dir of Advanced Training

Guest: Maggie Tatum

The meeting was called to order by Jim Stanley at 2:00 PM on September 21, 2005.

Volunteer Projects: Ron Hood distributed an updated list of approved Chapter Volunteer Projects. At the request of Bob Richie, a new volunteer project had been approved: **CC-05-C Miscellaneous Short-term Educational Events**. (*Note: Our Chapter has approved projects for “Miscellaneous Short-term Projects” for agencies, including Upper Guadalupe River Authority, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, Texas Forest Service, Texas Cooperative Extension, Headwater Groundwater Conservation District and Lower Colorado river Authority to enable our Chapter to show each agency the support we provide them during the year.*) A motion was made by Ron Hood and seconded by Sharon Corley that the educational field trip by students at the B.T. Wilson School be approved under the new volunteer project CC-05-C. The motion was passed unanimously.

Communication: A motion was made by Wanda Mattarocci and seconded by Nancy Vaughan to put the Board Minutes on the Chapter website each month. The motion carried.

Chapter Meeting as Advanced Training: As the Board had announced earlier this year, monthly meetings would be reviewed for content at the following Board meeting to determine if a meeting had reached the level of Advanced Training. After some discussion, Sandy Pena moved, seconded by Wanda Mattarocci, that the presentation by Dr. Kent Rylander on “Bird Behavior” at the August Chapter meeting qualified for **1.5 hours** of Advanced Training. Members who attend this meeting should report this 1.5 hours on their regular submission to the Tracy Garofano, our Chapter Data Manager. The motion carried.

Cibolo Joint TMN Christmas Party: Cibolo Nature Center is planning a Christmas party for TMNs from Alamo, Hayes County, Hill Country, and the New Braunfels chapters on Friday, December 9 from 6 to 9 PM at Cibolo Nature Center.

Chapter Christmas Party: Our Chapter Christmas Party for members, and spouses or friends has traditionally been held in a different county each year. This year is Kendall County’s turn. At the request of the Board, Myrna Langford had researched several different options. After reviewing these options, the Board approved holding the party at the Comfort Lutheran Church on **Saturday, December 3** in the early afternoon with a catered lunch. Sharon Corley, Sandy Pena and Nancy Vaughan volunteered to form a Committee to organize this party. The Board thanks Myrna and the new committee volunteers for their service.

Volunteer Project Guidelines: The Board confirmed that the **Guidelines for Volunteer Projects** are currently available on the Chapter website. The Chapter Procedures and Form for applying for approval of a new project will be made available on our Chapter website. The Board commended the accomplishments of Kim Whitaker, our Webmaster, for maintaining our comprehensive and highly useful website.

Programs: Sharon Corley notified us that Hurricane Rita might be a problem for the Weather program at our September 26 meeting. If the hurricane does significant damage, our speaker, Dr; Larry Eblen of the National Weather Service, might be assigned damage assessment duty. If Dr. Eblen is unable to give his Severe Weather program in September, Sharon will work to reschedule him for our January meeting.

The October program will be Xeric Gardening and Landscaping by LCRA. The November meeting will be Melinda Kneese on “The Soil-Food Web”.

Chapter T-shirts: Sharon Corley reported that our second order of 26 Chapter T-shirts by Chapter members has been received and will be available for purchase at our September 26 Chapter meeting.

Membership: Priscilla Stanley presented two makeup classes completed by member Bob Weymeyer. The two topics were made up in our Class of 2005, and were approved.

Volunteer Hour Reporting: Priscilla Stanley wanted to encourage our members, and our New Class as of October 1, to report all their Volunteer Hours and Advanced Training Hours to our Chapter Data Manager, Tracy Garofano. Each January, Chapters provide Annual Reports on aggregate hours, certified members, non-certified members, activities etc. to the State TMN Office. The State TMN Organization obtains grants to fund its activities. Many grants require some matching funds. The State TMN Office can count each Volunteer Hour as \$17.55 toward matching grants. The Board supported sharing this information with our membership and our Class of 2005.

Class of 2005 Class Project: The Class Project will at the Lady Bird Johnson Park in Fredericksburg. A severe storm damaged the excellent Nature Trail and Butterfly Garden, and the project will be to aid in the recovery of these areas. Organizational details for the park, equipment needed and responsibilities were discussed.

TMN State meeting Project Fair: Sandy Pena reported that each chapter was encouraged to submit a table display for this new event describing a project sponsored by the chapter involving TMNs to benefit their communities. After some discussion, the Land Management Assessment Program was selected.

Nominating Committee: The Nominating Committee of Nancy Vaughan and Sandy Pena is making good progress. The Nominating Committee will present a slate of officers at the October Chapter meeting. The election will be held at the November 28 Chapter meeting.

Treasurer's Report: Bob Richie presented his report detailing expenditures of \$4,518.62 for State TMN Curriculum books, room rent and other class costs for the Class of 2005, Tee shirts and Chapter meeting costs. He reported income of \$3,935 from Class registrations, sales of new curriculum books to Chapter members, and Tee shirt sales. The opening balance was \$4,353.56 and the closing balance was \$3,935.00.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:45 PM

Due to travel by several Board members, the next Board meeting will be held on **Monday, October 17, 2005 at 2 PM at Riverside Nature Center.**

Respectfully submitted
Priscilla Stanley, Acting Secretary
for Kathryn Harrison, Chapter Secretary