

**Texas Master Naturalist – Hill Country Chapter
Board Meeting
January 21, 2008**

January 2009 Board Minutes

Present:

Steve Dodge, Jim Gardner, John Huecksteadt, William Lummis, Martha Miesch, Jim Stanley, Priscilla Stanley, Gracie Waggener

Absent: Janet Csanyi and New Membership Director, position vacant at present

President John Huecksteadt called the January meeting to order at 1:30pm.

1. **Acceptance of Minutes for December meeting.** Board members had no additions to the minutes sent to them for review, and approved them.
2. **Duties of the New Class Representative:** William Lummis, the New Class Representative for 2009, discussed with the Board his duties to his fellow classmates, how to address questions from them, and guidelines for helping them advance in the program.
3. **Ground Rules for Board Meetings:** President John Huecksteadt asked that the Treasurer have the monthly statement prepared before the meeting for review.

Also, anyone with a topic, item or agenda they wish discussed at an upcoming meeting should prepare and send their ideas to the Board members beforehand for their review.

4. **Treasurer's Report:** Treasurer Martha Miesch discussed the anticipated cost and income for the upcoming year's budget including the picnic, Christmas party, plant sale and shirt sale costs and incomes. Topics also discussed were how to save expenses on the new class program, web site, and the progress on the 501(c)3. It was decided that expenses for the new class should be itemized and reported by the March meeting.

Also decided, the Budget should be re-checked quarterly for income and expense balances, and re-circulated at that time for review.

5. **Shirt Sale Project:** It was reported by Gracie Waggener that sales are expected to be low until the new class comes in the fall. At that time, more sales can be expected on shirts, and by adding hats, fleece and sweatshirts it can be expanded to include members who have already bought shirts. This project will be referred to as "HCMN Apparel".
6. **Membership:** The resignation of Ward Miller as Membership Director, and his replacement were addressed. John Huecksteadt reported that he and Phyllis Muska were actively searching for a new Director. John also stated that the Director should set up a committee to help track the hours and awards.

Steve Dodge, Director of Advanced Training, addressed how to carry non-active members, and whether or not they should still be contacted on a regular basis. It was decided to place them on the membership list, but not contacted.

7. **New Class Committee:** Bob McKinley, 2009 Class Training Director, reported that at present the Committee has decided on 13 classes, from August 26 to November 18, with introductions of the new applicants at the August Chapter meeting. It was decided that the Board would meet with the New Class Committee on February 11 in the RNC Nature Science Lab. It was also decided that the target number for the classes should be 35 members.

Also discussed was the problem of a projector for the classes, and whether the Chapter should rent or buy a projector. It was decided that the Chapter would buy a projector, which would be the responsibility of the Class Director, and limit access to use by others. Motion for approval was placed by Bob McKinley, seconded by Jim Stanley and approved by the Board.

Any suggestions for speakers for the Classes would be appreciated.

8. **Vice-President's Report:** Jim Gardner reported that his focus for speakers for the upcoming year would focus on water issues, considering our current lack of any.

He also reported that the Deer Harvest at Kerrville-Schreiner Park totaled 35 deer, with many hunting applicants being no-shows or not qualified. Park employee Brian Crenwelge is heading up the project there.

9.Volunteer Projects: Priscilla Stanley, the Volunteer Project Director, reported that she has been reviewing the Volunteer Project tables to see if the information in the tables is correct and up to date, and if it is useful to new members looking to volunteer on a project. She has made several corrections, and found new Project Coordinators where they were needed. She has been working with Lee Kneupper, the Database Manager, who sees the errors in members reporting, and sees where changes need to be made.

Priscilla also provided the Board with a new Volunteer Project table she has been working on, that is reformatted and more user friendly. It was agreed that her new table would be much easier to use.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:15pm.

Following the Board meeting, an Audit of the 2008 budget was conducted by William Lummis and Gracie Waggener. The Budget was balanced and approved.

Next Board Meeting: Wednesday February 18, 2009 at 1:30pm at Riverside Nature Center in the Nature Science Lab. Hill Country Chapter members are always welcome to attend.

Respectfully submitted,
Gracie Waggener
Secretary