

Texas Master Naturalist - Hill Country Chapter
Board Meeting
October 21, 2009

Present:

Julie Clay, Steve Dodge, Jim Gardner, John Huecksteadt, Bob McKinley, Martha Miesch, Phyllis Muska, Jim Stanley, Priscilla Stanley, Gracie Waggener

Absent:

Will Lummis

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

1. **Acceptance of Minutes for September Meeting:** The Board reviewed the Minutes from the September Meeting. John Huecksteadt moved to approve the Minutes, and Bob McKinley seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.
2. **Treasurer's Report:** Treasurer Martha Miesch presented the Treasurer's Report for September. Steve Dodge moved to approve the report, and Jim Gardner seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.
3. **CPR Classes:** It was brought to the Board for discussion the idea of offering CPR Classes for any interested Chapter Member. The classes would be taught by a member of the new class. In light of the Chapter's sometime strenuous work, often outdoors, the Board decided to have the classes. Jim Stanley moved to accept, and John Huecksteadt seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.
4. **Nominating Committee:** Jim Stanley put forth the names for new Board Members in 2010. They are Sandy Pena as Vice-President, replacing Jim Gardner, and Cathy Downs as Treasurer, replacing Martha Miesch.

The Board was also asked to consider and suggest any members to take the positions of Membership Director and New Class Director.

5. **Book Donations:** Phyllis Muska brought to the Board the suggestion that the Chapter should donate copies of Jim Stanley's new book, Hill Country Landowner's Guide, to the area libraries. The Board decided to donate 7 copies to the libraries in the Chapter area. Phyllis will purchase and place the books at the libraries on behalf of the Chapter.
6. **Holiday Party:** John Hucksteadt reported that a Committee has been formed, and is working on plans for the Holiday Party in December. Several members have offered their facilities, including Bob Tanner at Camp C.A.M.P., and Carol Ann Neunhoffer's Ocean's Ranch.

Diane McMahon has agreed to Chair the Committee, and has been given a budget of \$500.00. The suggestion was made that Members be required to pay a small charge which would supplement the budget, and get a more accurate count of attendees.

7. Updates and Reports by Directors and Officers:

Volunteer Projects Director Priscilla Stanley reported the profits from the Down by the Riverside plant sale were \$2,250. The larger than usual profits were a benefit of the economy, with landscape companies going out of business donating a large number of plants, and giving deep discounts. Also, many plants were grown by Priscilla and other Chapter members. Chapter Members should be encouraged to grow plants for future sales.

Two new volunteer projects have been created by new class members. Koy Coffey is heading up the L.A.N.D.S. (Learning Across New Dimensions in Science) program, which works with classroom students in the outdoors. Lou McMahon is working on a project at Enchanted Rock.

Preparations for the State Meeting have been completed, with additional volunteers helping to complete the project.

Priscilla was presented with a gift from the Board to thank her for all of her tireless work for the Chapter.

New Class Director Bob Mckinley presented information to the Board on the class speakers and their evaluations. Bob is creating graphs to chart all of the class speaker ratings and comments. The complete graphs will be presented at the December Board meeting, along with any suggestions he has to improve next year's classes.

The Board thanked Bob for all of his excellent work as the New Class Director.

Vice-President Jim Gardner updated the Board on the Chapter meeting speakers. October will be Rebecca Flack on Rivers of the Edwards Plateau. November will be Matt Reidy speaking on Feral Hogs. The meeting in January will be Mark Klym on Hummingbirds.

Advanced Training Director Steve Dodge reported that the Calendar continues to be updated with many Advanced Training opportunities for members. All AT attended by members at the State Meeting will be reported under one AT number, rather than broken out into multiple numbers.

Membership Director Julie Clay reported that Sandy Leyendecker has taken over the position of Database Manager from Lloyd Hemmert. Sandy and Lloyd have met and transferred files. Lloyd will be available to help Sandy with questions or problems she might have.

From the 2008 Class, there are still 15 who need to make-up classes. There are 6 class members who have completed all of their work, and an additional 2 or 3 who will be completed this year.

The name tags for the 2009 Class have been picked up. The charge for those tags was \$380.

Secretary Gracie Waggener updated the Board on the status of the Chapter shirt sales, and brought to the Board the idea of selling TMN Gate signs. Gracie will look into finding a company to make the signs, prices and what the Chapter's options are.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

The next Board Meeting will be Wednesday, November 11, 2009, at 1:30 pm at Riverside Nature Center in the Nature Lab. All Hill Country Chapter members and advisors are always welcome to attend.

Respectfully submitted,

Gracie Waggener