

Texas Master Naturalist - Hill Country Chapter
Board Meeting
July 25, 2012

Present: Anne Cassidy, Daneshu Clarke, Steve Clyburn, Sally Garrett, Eileen Gotke, Tom Hynes, Phyllis Muska, Priscilla Stanley, Floyd Trefny

Absent: Michelle Haggerty, Reidun Hilleman, Paula Smith

Also Present: Jim Clarke

President Priscilla Stanley called the meeting to order at 1:30 pm.

Acceptance of Minutes for June 2012 Meeting: Daneshu Clarke made a motion to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded by Eileen Gotke. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Floyd Trefny presented the Treasurer's Report. During June there was an increase in activity with new class tuition checks and expenses related to the new class. Our income is on track with the budget for this time of year. The silent auction at the picnic brought in around \$1600 which was recorded as a fundraising item. Floyd also used 1 of our 2 tax free days for this event. As of this meeting, our checking account balance is \$14,004.68. At the end of June, Floyd paid the chapter's quarterly sales tax using an on-line form.

Daneshu Clarke made a motion to approve the Treasurer's report; Sally Garrett seconded. Motion carried.

The June Budget Report presented by Floyd shows that income is tracking ahead of forecast year-to-date. Year-to-date expenses are on track.

Chapter Laptop Computer Use Policy: Floyd expressed concerns with the language in the title of the policy. He felt that the policy covered all information resources owned by the chapter and should therefore be titled "Information Resources Use Policy". Some discussion on this matter followed. However, Floyd agreed to leave the title of the policy in its original form – "Chapter Projector and Laptop Use Policy".

Floyd made a motion to change "checklist" at the end of the policy to read "equipment checklist" and therefore the line in item #6 which reads "See checklists below" be changed to read "See equipment checklist below". Tom Hynes seconded this motion. Motion carried, policy approved.

Auxiliary Speakers for Laptop: Tom Hynes proposed that the chapter consider buying a set of auxiliary speakers for the laptop computer as more and more of the presenters are bringing video presentations. After some discussion during which Floyd suggested that a microphone held over the laptop speakers could suffice, it was determined that we needed to investigate the possibility that the speakers in the PA system, purchased last year, would be able to enhance the sound from the laptop. Tom will talk to Vern Crawford.

Donation Request for Kronkowsky Place Senior Center: Daneshu Clarke requested a \$125 donation from the chapter for the Kronkowsky Place Senior Center in Boerne. The center has hosted the New Class planning meetings and the staff has gone out of their way to assure that the meeting time was convenient and comfortable for the committee. Floyd noted that donations have been incorporated into the budget. Tom Hynes made a motion to approve this donation. Sally Garrett seconded the motion. Motion carried. Daneshu Clarke will present the check in person as chair of the New Class Committee.

Chapter Picnic: Tom Hynes announced that the Picnic Committee had hoped that the proceeds from the picnic silent auction would be placed in a 'Project Fund' in the budget to be used for all Chapter volunteer projects; as opposed to just being 'general fund money'. A DVD of the picnic made by Paul Stafford, will be publicized at the New Class Reception on August 20.

Donation Request to Muleshoe Farm & Ranch: Item tabled until the next board meeting in August.

New Newsletter Editor Update: Paula Smith announced by email that Lenore Langsdorf has agreed to be the Newsletter Editor. Kristie Denbow, retiring editor, will work with Lenore on the August newsletter. Thank you to Lenore for taking on this important role.

Discussion and Acceptance of 2012 New Class Applications: 30 applications for the New Class of 2012 have been received. Of the 30, one individual has withdrawn her application and one application could not be accepted due to the failure to accept state program policy. One individual has sent the tuition check but has not completed the full application. Eileen Gotke, Membership Director, is confident that this person will complete the application soon. The board found all remaining applicants acceptable and Eileen will send out acceptance letters and packets.

Request for Financial Aid: Eileen stated that one potential applicant had verbally requested financial aid. However, an application has never been received.

Officers and Directors Reports

Tom Hynes: The Holiday Party will be held at Camp C.A.M.P. We may use the facility free of charge. It is available December 1 or December 15. The board felt that December 1 is a better date for the party. The facility will be fully decorated so all that is needed in the way of décor will be table decorations. There are caterers from the facility. Tom said he has not found a chairperson for this event but many people from Kerr County have volunteered to help.

Tom also announced that the speaker lineup for the chapter meetings has changed: Jim Stanley will present in September instead of October.

Daneshu Clarke: There will be a slide show at the New Class Reception of the picnic at Muleshoe Ranch. Daneshu and Eileen will meet regarding new class mentors.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:05 PM.

The next meeting will be **Wednesday, August 15 at 1:30 PM at RNC.**

Respectfully Submitted,
Anne Cassidy
Secretary