

Texas Master Naturalist, Hill Country Chapter
Board Meeting
December 8, 2014

Present: Vern Crawford, Sarah Hilburn, Kathy Ward, Diane McMahon, Priscilla Stanley, Becky Etzler, Bob Wiedenfeld, Rod Boertje, Stephen Bishop, Liz Ross, and Lisa Flanagan.

Quorum met: 100% present

Absent: Donna Oliver-Leep and Michelle Haggerty

Also present: Paul Person, 2015 Vice President
Brenda Fest, 2015 New Class Director
Pat McCormick, 2015 Volunteer Projects Director
Judy Gausnell, 2015 New Class Representative
Bridget Langdale, Mason County Representative

President Vern Crawford called the meeting to order at 1:40PM.

Approval of November 10, 2014 Minutes: Becky Etzler made a motion to approve the November 10, 2014 minutes with a modification of adding Monday by the date since this meeting was not held on a Wednesday. The motion was seconded by Kathy Ward. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: The State holding account had a balance of \$43,967.86.
The Chapter account had a balance of \$16,295.91.

Kathy Ward made a motion to accept the treasurer's reports. The motion was seconded by Lisa Flanagan. Motion carried.

Annual Audit Report: Sarah Hilburn reported that the Audit Committee audited the State Holding and the Chapter Checking Accounts and verified receipts and deposits against the bank statements. No discrepancies were found. Lisa Flanagan made a motion to accept the Audit Committee's report. The motion was seconded by Kathy Ward.

Ratify Minutes from November Annual Membership Meeting: Priscilla Stanley made a motion to ratify the minutes from the November Annual Membership meeting. The motion was seconded by Becky Etzler. Motion carried.

Directors & Officer's Insurance: Discussion followed about whether our Chapter should buy this insurance for directors and officers and a general liability insurance for the remainder of the membership. Vern Crawford made a motion to form a committee to research D&O and general liability insurance policies. Pat McCormick will be the chair of the committee. Paul Person, Priscilla Stanley, Kathy Ward, and Judy Gausnell will serve on the committee. The committee will investigate D&O and general liability insurance.

Lisa Flanagan will chair a committee to investigate background checks. Liz Ross and Diane McMahon will serve on the committee.

2014 Class Update: Liz Ross reported that the New Class Guidelines had been revised. Becky Etzler made a motion to approve the revisions with Kristie Denbow formatting the document. The motion was seconded by Lisa Flanagan. Motion carried.

2014 Class Suggestions: Judy Gausnell handed out a summary of the 2014 New Class suggestions.

Update on Holiday Party: Seventy-four members have signed up to attend the party on December 13, 2014 at Lady Bird Johnson Municipal Park. Kathy Ward will set up for the party at 1:30PM on Friday. The trail walk will begin at 10:00.

Board Representation from Western Edwards Plateau Counties: Vern Crawford suggested that we have representation from each of the counties at our Board Meetings. Vern suggested to discuss this representation at the January Board meeting. Vern also handed out a contact information sheet for Board members to check over.

Board Retreat Planning: Vern handed out an agenda for Rose Mary Fry's presentation. The Board Retreat will be on January 10, 2015 from 9:00-4:00 at Camp CAMP in Center Point. We will have a potluck lunch so everyone is encouraged to bring a dish.

Officers' and Directors' Reports:

Becky Etzler: Reported that she had made suggested revisions on the New Class application.

Kathy Ward: Reported that Bob McKinley and Rebecca Flack will talk about Love Creek Preserve at our January Chapter meeting. Jonah Evans from Texas Parks and Wildlife will discuss "tracks" at the February Chapter meeting.

Diane McMahon: Nothing else to report.

Lisa Flanagan: Nothing else to report.

Bob Wiedenfeld: Nothing else to report.

Priscilla Stanley: Nothing else to report

Sarah Hilburn: Nothing else to report.

Rod Boertje: Nothing else to report.

Pat McCormick: Nothing else to report.

Judy Gausnell: Nothing else to report.

Brenda Fest: Nothing else to report.

Stephen Bishop: 73 active projects 28,616 hours at the end of October. Two new projects: Mason Nature Trail in Mason County and Tecaboca in Kerr County.

Vern Crawford: Thanked Priscilla Stanley, Becky Etzler, Rod Boertje, and Stephen Bishop for their service on the Board.

Meeting Decisions:

*Approved the November 10, 2014 minutes

*Accepted the Treasurer's reports

*Ratified Minutes from the 2014 November Annual Membership Meeting

*Approved two committees; one committee to investigate D&O and general liability insurance policies and one committee to investigate background check policies

*Approved the New Class Guidelines revisions with Kristie Denbow formatting the document

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:06PM.

The next meeting will be January 21, 2015 at 1:30 at the Riverside Nature Center.

Respectfully Submitted,
Sarah Hilburn
Secretary