

Texas Master Naturalist - Hill Country Chapter
Board Meeting at Riverside Nature Center
March 18, 2015

Present: Kathy Ward, Paul Person, Sarah Hilburn, Judy Gausnell, Brenda Fest, Diane McMahon, Vern Crawford, and Lisa Flanagan.

Quorum met: 73% present

Absent: Bob Wiedenfeld, Pat McCormick, and Liz Ross

Also present: NA

President Kathy Ward called the meeting to order at 1:32PM.

Strategic Initiatives

Directors and Officers Liability Insurance and General Liability Insurance: Kathy Ward wanted to know about the exclusion of city and state parks from the coverage. Vern Crawford made motion to accept the quote of \$750 for the Directors and Officers Liability Insurance and \$667 for General Liability Insurance from Cincinnati Insurance Company with the provision that there is not an exclusion of coverage for state and city parks. Lisa Flanagan seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Background Check: Lisa Flanagan spoke with Michelle Haggerty and she suggested that we form a subcommittee and Michelle will train the committee and set up a project for our Chapter. Diane McMahon, Sarah Hilburn, and Brenda Fest volunteered to serve on the committee.

Kerr County Youth Exhibit Facility: Diane McMahon shared that she thought the meeting room that Pat emailed us a picture of was too small for our Chapter. Much discussion followed and Diane volunteered to talk to Jodie about the cost of the larger meeting room at the Kerr County Youth Exhibit Facility. Paul Person will talk to the University Center in Fredericksburg to see if there is a room to rent. We currently pay \$526 for 9 meetings. Paul also suggested that Kathy Ward start the monthly Chapter meeting with a safety briefing, pointing out the fire exits and bathrooms.

Resource Development

2015 Class Update: Brenda Fest reported that John Davis, Director of Wildlife Diversity will be the 2015 commencement speaker. Brenda Fest wanted to know if the Chapter could pay a portion of the cost of \$20 for the publication "Range Plants of North Central Texas" by Ricky J. Linex. This resource can be bought from the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). Discussion followed on whether the Chapter could afford this publication and it was determined that the budget did not allow the Chapter to buy this resource for the New Class members. Brenda will arrange for someone from NRCS to bring this publication to one of the New Class meetings so that the New Class members can individually buy this publication.

Diane McMahon shared that the Chapter is charged \$4.15 by Amazon Simple Pay per online payment for processing each transaction. Paul Person made a motion to add a line on the application that states there will be an additional \$5.00 processing fee if you pay online. Lisa Flanagan seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Approval of Recruitment Pamphlet: Much discussion followed on changes that needed to be made. Vern Crawford moved that Brenda Fest verify any changes that need to be made on the pamphlet before it is printed. Paul Person seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Operational

Approval of February 18, 2015 Minutes: Paul Person made a motion to accept the minutes. Lisa Flanagan seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Approval of the Treasurer's Reports: Paul Person made a motion to accept the treasurer's reports. Lisa Flanagan seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Vice President's Report on Programs: John Heron from the Nature Conservancy will speak on "It Ain't Easy Being Green". Bridget Langdale will also speak for 5 minutes about the 25th celebration for Eckert James River Bat Cave Preserve. John Helcel, an extension associate from Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service, will speak about wild hogs in April. The chapter picnic will be in May and the Chapter will provide water. The speaker for July will talk about invasive species. Paul has speakers lined up through August.

Director's Reports

Membership: Lisa Flanagan will get with Kristie Denbow to make the 1 change on the application. Lisa continues to get inquiries about the 2015 Class. Lisa will send the Board applications as she receives them. Lisa also needed volunteers for the recruitment table at "Wings Over the Hills"

2014 Class Members: The next meeting will be on at April 1, 2015 in Comfort. The talk will be about trees.

Vern Crawford: Pulled up a quote for printing 500 tri-fold/double-sided brochures, \$174.

Kathy Ward: Nothing else to report

Sarah Hilburn: Nothing else to report

Diane McMahon: Alerted everyone that the Chapter is expecting a grant check from Exxon/Mobil.

Meeting Decisions:

- *Accepted the two quotes from Cincinnati Insurance Company
- *Approved a subcommittee to be trained on how to implement background checks
- *Approved to add a line on the application that states there will be an additional \$5.00 processing fee for online payment.
- *Approved Brenda Fest to verify changes to the recruitment pamphlet so it can be printed
- *Approved the February 18, 2015 minutes
- *Approved the treasurer's reports

Announcements

The next Chapter meeting will be April 27, 2015.

The next Board meeting will be April 22, 2015 at 1:30 at the Riverside Nature Center.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:50PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Sarah Hilburn
Secretary