

Texas Master Naturalist, Hill Country Chapter
Board Meeting at Riverside Nature Center
April 21, 2015

Present: Kathy Ward, Paul Person, Sarah Hilburn, Judy Gausnell, Brenda Fest, Diane McMahon, Pat McCormick, Liz Ross, Bob Wiedenfeld, and Lisa Flanagan.

Quorum met: 91% present

Absent: Vern Crawford

Also present: NA

President Kathy Ward called the meeting to order at 1:31PM.

Strategic Initiatives

Directors and Officers Liability Insurance and General Liability Insurance: Kathy Ward reported that she has signed all the insurance documents.

Background Check: Brenda Fest demonstrated “How to Sign up for the Background Check” through the Texas Master Naturalist Volunteer Management System. Lisa Flanagan will send an email notification to the new applicants stating that their application has been received and they now need to go online and register as a new volunteer within the Volunteer Management System. Kathy Ward asked for volunteers to serve on a background committee. Liz Ross, Brenda Fest, Paul Person, Lisa Flanagan, and Sarah Hilburn volunteered to serve on this committee.

Kerr County Youth Exhibit Facility: Diane McMahon spoke to the county commissioners’ administrative assistant, Jodi about a large meeting room. Jodi said the rental would be free if our Chapter was recommended by Roy Walston. There is a sound system, no wifi, and we would have to set up and take down the chairs. Seven board members volunteered to go look at the room on May 13, 2015 at 1:00.

Resource Development

2015 Class Update: Brenda Fest reported that one of the committee members resigned but the committee’s progress is on target. The committee also wanted to begin to solicit mentors earlier this year. Brenda shared that Doug Phillips from U.S. Fish and Wildlife would be happy to speak at one of our Chapter meetings.

Dispersal of New Class Brochure: We will disperse to our nature centers and various locations in each of our counties plus the 19 contacts on the Chapter’s communication list. Lisa Flanagan will provide another list to Bob Wiedenfeld at Monday night’s Chapter meeting. Bob will send out the press releases on April 22, 2015.

Operational

Approval of March 18, 2015 Minutes: Diane McMahon made a motion to accept the minutes. Lisa Flanagan seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Approval of the Treasurer’s Reports: Liz Ross made a motion to accept the treasurer’s reports. Paul Person seconded the motion. Motion carried. Diane McMahon gave the quarterly report. She noted that money is carried over for the Butterfly Garden at the Kerrville Schreiner Park and Old Tunnel State Park.

Vice president's Report on Programs: The speakers are lined up through October. Paul Person will check with Doug Phillips to see if he can be the speaker for November. Paul asked for help with setup and cleanup for the Chapter picnic on May 16. The Board agreed to provide a reimbursement check for \$185 to Paul Person for the reservation cost at Lady Bird Johnson. The Christmas Party will be on December 12, 2015 the location to be determined. Judy Gausnell will check on location prices.

Director’s Reports

AT: The River Trail consisting of 13 miles of walking and biking trails will have a grand opening on June 13, 9:00 - 1:00. The Board agreed to setup a table at this event. Liz Ross wanted to start a committee to work with the City of Kerrville and the River Trail to keep the trail native and protected. Judy Gausnell and Lisa Flanagan will serve on the committee.

Membership: Lisa Flanagan will begin to send the Board the applications that have been received. The Chapter will have a table at “Wings Over the Hills”.

Volunteer Projects: Pat McCormick is receiving new project requests. Pat is working with Kristie to create a process to notify the membership of new projects.

2015 Class Representative: The 2014 Class meet in Comfort.

Kathy Ward: Met the owner of “Cave Without a Name” and Kathy will speak with him to see if she can arrange a field trip to visit the cave in June.

Sarah Hilburn: Nothing else to report

Diane McMahon: Nothing else to report.

Meeting Decisions:

- *Approved a subcommittee to “Rollout” the online submission of background checks
- *Approved the March 18, 2015 minutes
- *Approved the treasurer's reports
- *Approved a reimbursement check for \$185 to Paul Person to cover the reservation costs for the Chapter picnic
- *Approved to have a Chapter table at the River Trail Grand Opening on June 13, 2015.
- *Approved a subcommittee to explore working with the City of Kerrville and the River Trail

Announcements

The next Chapter meeting will be the on May 16, 2015 picnic.

The next Board meeting will be May 20, 2015 at 1:30 at the Riverside Nature Center.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:28PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Sarah Hilburn
Secretary