

Texas Master Naturalist, Hill Country Chapter  
Riverside Nature Center  
October 24, 2016

Present: Board Members: Brenda Fest, Rheda Boardman, Kathy Ward, Floyd Trefny, Lisa Flanagan, Liz Ross, Vern Crawford, Claire Mitchell, Diane McMahon, Diana Armbrust, Larry Eskridge

Absent: Michele Haggerty, Roy Walston, Bridget Langdale

Quorum Met: 77%

Guests: Anthony Cieszkiewicz, Jim Stanley, Debbie Windham, Lenore Langsdorf, Ruth Bethea

President Brenda Fest called the meeting to order at 1325

Welcome and Review Agenda –Brenda Fest

Operational

- Approval of September 26, 2016 Minutes– Rheda Boardman  
Lisa Flanagan made a motion to accept the minutes as corrected.  
Diane McMahon seconded the motion.  
Motioned carried
- Approval of Treasurer's Reports – Diane McMahon  
Floyd Trefny made a motion to accept the February Treasurer's reports.  
Vern Crawford seconded the motion  
Motioned carried

Treasurer-Diane McMahon

Allotted funds available for:

1. Pollinator Garden Bandera Museum: \$24.05
2. Kerrville Butterfly Garden: \$1418.04
3. Kerr Pollinator Garden: \$50.60
4. Old Tunnel: \$88.76

2017 Annual Audit of the Chapter Financial Records: Diane will notify the board on meeting date to audit and approve the records.

Vice-President's Report on Programs-Floyd Trefny

1. October 24, 2016- "Citizen Science", Forest Mimes- NASA-(Confirmed)
2. November 28, 2016- "Update on ABK's Baseline Data", James Rice-TPWD (Confirmed)
3. December 10, 2016-"Holiday Party"
5. January 23, 2017-"Desalination of Brackish Waste Water"-Roberto Macias-
4. February 27, 2017-"Rabies", Ray Garcia- Kerr County Environmental Health & Animal Sciences

Strategic Initiatives

- New class selection – Expanding the new class size – New Class committee
  1. Brenda Fest and Vern Crawford met with Upper Guadalupe River Authority to determine feasibility and cost to use facility for the 2017 New Class. Cost \$540.
  2. Current cost and donation to Texas Lions Camp: \$500
  3. Discussion by the board and class committee on the pros and cons of adding more students, and changing the class location was conducted. Also discussed was the need to clarify application criteria and need to revise the guidelines in the Chapter Operating Handbook.
  4. Larry Eskridge, Lisa Flanagan, and Brenda Fest will meet to work on clarification and changes to the new membership application and if needed, revising Chapter Operating Handbook guidelines to align with changes to new criteria on the new membership application.
  5. Recommendation: Members meeting criteria will be accepted according to date of submission of application.
  6. Recommendation of assigning a Chapter representative to maintain contact with applicants that were not accepted. The representative will keep them informed about meetings, advanced training opportunities, and volunteer opportunities.

Kathy Ward made a motion to rescind September board meeting motion for the approval of 2017 class size to 50 students.

Vern Crawford seconded the motion

Board debate included many reasons why a class of 50 is too large: reduced camaraderie between classmates, difficulties managing field trips, and making meaningful connections between the class committee and trainees.

After a full debate a vote was taken on rescinding the motion.

Motion Carried.

Kathy Ward made a motion to change the 2017 class size to 40 students.

Vern Crawford seconded the motion.

Motion Carried.

Lisa Flanagan made a motion to have the 2017 class at the Lion's Camp

Larry Eskridge seconded the motion

Discussion: Following discussion by board and new class committee Floyd Trefny recommended moving the 2017 classes to Upper Guadalupe River Authority facility.

Lisa Flanagan and Larry Eskridge ask permission to withdraw the motion.

No objections-motion withdrawn

Liz Ross made the motion to have the 2017 classes at the Upper Guadalupe River Authority facility.

Vern Crawford seconded the motion.

Motion Carried.

Floyd Trefny made a motion to have \$325 donation to the Texas Lions Camp added to the 2017 budget.

Vern Crawford seconded the motion

Motion Carried.

#### Director's Reports

- Membership – Lisa Flanagan  
No Report
- Advanced Training – Liz Ross  
No Report  
Brenda Fest will submit Chapter Annual Symposium for Advance Training hours.
- Volunteer Projects – Claire Mitchell  
No Report
- Communications – Bridget Langdale  
Absent
- New Class – Diana Armbrust  
No problems with progression of new class  
Dave Barker returned his check to Chapter.  
John Davis, Wildlife Diversity Director, TPWD, confirmed and will be the speaker at the 2016 New Class Commencement.

#### Resource Development

- Holiday Party Committee- Diane McMahon, Lisa Flanagan, Rheda Boardman, Brenda Fest  
Committee meeting November 1, 2016 2PM at Rheda Boardman's home  
Holiday Party Member Cost: \$15.00
- Nominees for Chapter 2017 Officers-Kathy Ward  
Committee: Kathy Ward, Diane McMahan, and Rheda Boardman  
President: Brenda Fest  
Vice President: Craig Childs  
Secretary: Kristine Bobbitt  
Treasurer: Ann Dietert  
Brenda Fest will send announcement no later than fifteen days prior to November meeting.
- December Board Meeting- Brenda Fest  
Board agreed to move the December board meeting to December 12, 2016, 1:30PM.
- Ideas/Comments that did not fit in?
  - Chapter Meeting: Claire Mitchell will take orders and fee from those wanting to purchase the new class book.
  - Chapter Meeting: Rheda Boardman will be available to take reservations and money for Holiday Party.
  - Lisa Flanagan announced the 2017 pin is the Kemps Ridley Sea Turtle.
  - Announced the documentary "Homestead Habitat" hosted by NPSOT Boerne Chapter will be October 26, 2016. Brenda Fest has prepared handouts for tonight's meeting.
  - TMN Annual Symposium:
    1. Fourteen members from Chapter attended.
    2. Chapter Brochure won public and judges award
    3. Other entries were made by Lenore Langsdorf for the newsletter and Brenda Fest in art.
    4. Next year symposium will be held in Corpus Christi
    5. 2017 will be Chapter's 15<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.
- Meeting Decisions
- Approved the September 26, 2016 Board Meeting minutes
- Approved the September Treasurer's reports
- Motion carried to rescind September board meeting motion to increase 2017 class to fifty members.
- Motion carried to increase the 2017 class to forty members.
- Motion carried to have the 2017 classes at Upper Guadalupe River Authority facility
- Motion carried to add to 2017 budget a donation of \$325 to Texas Lions Camp.
- Board decision to have December board meeting on December 12, 2016

Meeting Adjourn at 1535 (Board to meet at UGRA facility)

#### Announcements

- Board Meeting: Monday, November 28, 1:30 pm, RNC
- Monthly Chapter Meeting: November 28, 7 pm, UGRA
- New Class Commencement: November 16, 9am, Cibolo Nature Center Auditorium
- Holiday Party: December 10, 2016