

Texas Master Naturalist, Hill Country Chapter  
Board Meeting  
Riverside Nature Center  
August 22, 2016

Present: Brenda Fest, Kathy Ward, Diane McMahon, Bridget Langdale, Lisa Flanagan, Claire Mitchell, Diana Armbrust, Larry Eskridge, Floyd Trefny, Michelle Haggerty, Jim Stanley, Sarah Hilburn (Subbing for Rheda Boardman)

Absent: Roy Walston, Liz Ross, Rheda Boardman

Quorum Met: 77%

President Brenda Fest called the meeting to order at 1330

Welcome and Review of Agenda

- Lisa Flanagan shared that one of the Class of 2016 members asked to bring their child to the classes.

Floyd Trefny made a motion to deny non-Master Naturalist visitors to attend the new class.

Vern Crawford seconded the motion.

Motion carried.

**Motions that passed by email:**

1. **The nominating committee was selected.**
2. **Vern Crawford will receive the \$75 Texas Master Naturalist Scholarship since Bridget Langdale has a conflict and cannot attend the conference.**

Operational

- Approval of July 18, 2016 Board Meeting Minutes-Rheda Boardman

Kathy Ward made a motion to accept the July Minutes.

Lisa Flanagan seconded the motion.

Motion Carried

- Approval of Treasurer's Reports-Diane McMahon

Floyd Trefny asked if we had sent a 1099 Form to the person Michelle Haggerty had employed to enter data this summer. Floyd Trefny agreed to contact Michelle Haggerty to discuss this requirement.

Kathy Ward made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Reports.

Lisa Flanagan seconded the motion.

Motion Carried

- Vice President's report on Programs-Floyd Trefny
  1. August 22, 2016 New Class Reception
  2. September 26, 2016 "Viticulture" Andrew Labay-Texas A&M AgriLife (Confirmed)
  3. October 24, 2016 "Citizen Science" Forest Mims NASA-(Confirmed)

Strategic Initiatives

- Honorariums for TPWD employees-Jim Stanley and Michelle Haggerty

The Board discussed options for gifts to give the TPWD employee speakers. It was discussed whether to continue to give the \$30 honorarium check to the TPWD employees.

Kathy Ward made a motion to give the TPWD employee a check for \$30 along with a letter explaining the cashing and spending procedures.

Diana Armbrust seconded the motion.

Motion carried. (Michelle Haggerty abstained and Floyd Trefny voted against the motion)

- Chapter make-up policy - Brenda Fest shared that the Board had previously discussed allowing more flexibility by counting a variety of AT classes for missed classes. Jim Stanley wanted the Class Director and the Membership Director to have more discretion in allowing specific AT classes to substitute for missed classes since our Chapter provides 20 hours over the 40 hours of required state training. The substitutions must be relevant to the required classes that were missed. Discussion followed. It was decided that the New Class Director and the Membership Director will work together and use their discretion in selecting make-up classes. Lisa Flanagan will also send out an email request to see if a Chapter member would volunteer to video the new classes.

#### Director's Reports

- Membership-Lisa Flanagan-all but one new class member have turned in all of their paperwork
- Advanced Training-Liz Ross-absent
- Volunteer Projects-Claire Mitchell-no report
- Communications-Bridget Langdale-no report
- Michelle Haggerty shared that the Texas Master Naturalist Conference registration will be opened today. She also reminded us that the Texas Master Naturalist Program will award 1 - \$75 scholarship to a member to help pay for the conference registration.
- Vern Crawford made a motion to give the \$75 scholarship to Bridget Langdale since she is presenting at the conference.

Claire Mitchell seconded the motion.

Motion carried

- New Class-Diana Armbrust The reception is tonight. Diana handed out identification badges for Board members. Diana also reported that the speaker evaluation form was modified to get more written responses.

#### Resource Development

- Holiday Party-Diane McMahon The committee has been planning and the party will be at Riverhills.
- Ideas/comments that did not fit in

Brenda suggested that the Board work on the new class member selection rubric at the September Board meeting. It was also discussed to clarify some issues on the application process.

#### Review of Decisions

- Approved July Board Meeting Minutes
- Approved July Treasurer's Reports
- Approved to not allow non-Master Naturalist visitors to attend the new class sessions
- Approved to continue to give a \$30 check and/or honorarium to TPWD employees along with a letter explaining cashing and spending instructions
- Approved to give the \$75 Texas Master Naturalist Conference scholarship from the Texas Master Naturalist Program to Bridget Langdale since she is presenting at the conference

Adjourn: 1542