

Master Naturalist, Hill Country Chapter
Board Meeting
Texas AgriLife Office
May 23, 2016

Present: Brenda Fest, Kathy Ward, Floyd Trefny, Rheda Boardman, Diane McMahon, Lisa Flanagan, Liz Ross, Claire Mitchell, Diana Armbrust

Absent: Michele Haggerty, Roy Walston, Lisa Barrett, Vern Crawford, Bridget Langdale

Quorum Met: 63%

President Brenda Fest called the meeting to order at 1335.

Welcome and Review Agenda

Operational

- Approval of April 25, 2016 minutes– Rheda Boardman
Kathy Ward made a motion to accept the April minutes.
Lisa Flanagan seconded the motion.
Motion Carried
- Approval of Treasurer’s Reports – Diane McMahon
Kathy Ward made a motion to accept the April Treasurer’s reports.
Lisa Flanagan seconded the motion.
Motion carried
Floyd reminded Diane to report financial details and not just a summary.
The form that is attached to the speakers check was reviewed. Checks can only be honored by the bank for one year. Brenda reported Patty Pasztor, Kent Rylander, and D. Barker have stated they do not want the money (they don’t know where the checks are). Their reply letter will be submitted to Diane for record.
Floyd has completed the computer equipment purchases for Old Tunnel.
- Vice President’s Report on Programs – Floyd Trefny
 1. May 23, 2016 “Scimitar-horned Oryx”-Jared Holmes of Selah, Bamburger Ranch
 2. June 27, 2016 “Tawny (Rasberry) Crazy Ants”-Robert T. Puckett-Texas A&M AgriLife.
 3. July 25, 2016 “Common Spiders of Central Texas”- Sheryl Smith-Rodgers
 4. September 26, 2016, “Viticulture”- Andrew Labay- Texas A&M AgriLifeApril meeting attendance: 91
Floyd will not be at the June meeting- Kathy Ward will introduce the speaker.
Liz Ross asked Floyd for more information on Robert Puckett’s knowledge of the topic-Tawny Ants.

Strategic Initiatives

- Chapter Trifold Display Board:
Discussion on updating pictures, statistics, colors, etc. Lisa Flanagan volunteered to make revisions/updating.
- Scenic Texas/Scenic Hill Country Chapter
<http://www.scenictexas.org/scenic-hill-country> Anjali Naini, AICP, (Coordinator, Scenic Hill Country)-is seeking a Chapter contact for Scenic Texas newest chapter-Scenic Hill Country. Brenda Fest will be the contact.
- Annual TMN State Meeting in October
Date: Oct. 21, 22, & 23, 2016 Location: Conroe, Texas
Suggestions discussed:
 1. Brenda will check with Lenore about entering the newsletter
 2. Brenda will explore possibility of submitting the brochure
 3. Diana suggested asking Bridget to do a presentation on Night Skies
 4. Discussed possibility of finding a member to do a video to enter

Director’s Reports

- Membership – New Class applicants and application – Lisa Flanagan
Twenty new class applications have been received. Amount of possible applications is unpredictable. In the past there have been as many as fifty applications. Diana Armbrust shared data on the history of applicants.
Brenda will ask Bridget Langdale to republish newspaper articles at this time.
Brenda recommended that there be an update of the application for 2017.
- Advanced Training – Liz Ross
Brenda gave a report on the May 15, 2016 field trip to the Gierisch Ranch. She stated Bobby Gierisch did an outstanding job. Because of the excellent quality of the AT, she recommends that it be repeated in the future.
- Volunteer Projects – Claire Mitchell- no report

- Communications – Bridget Langdale- no report
- New Class – Diana Armbrust
Diana has contacted new speakers to review their bios. She has had a problem contacting two of the speakers. There will be no book bags this year. The appropriate book will be given out at the class with the appropriate lecture. Curriculum books have been ordered.
Diane reported Amazon payments are all accounted for except for the most recent one.

Resource Development

- TMN License plates
Information sent by Emily Hawthorn (Alamo Area Texas Master Naturalist) was discussed. Our share of the expense would be \$174 and we were expected to reply by May 31, 2016.
Brenda will discuss with Michele Haggerty as to her opinion.
To be readdressed at the June Board Meeting.
- New Curriculum purchase by board members and others-Diana Armbrust
New Curriculum cost: \$35 plus \$1 for postage. 48 copies of the curriculum have been ordered and will be available the end of July.
- Makeup Classes – Diana Armbrust and Lisa Flanagan
Possible solutions were discussed on how to make up missed classes. Make up must relate to the missed lecture. Floyd stated that paragraph D page 7 of the Chapter Management and Operating Procedures outlines what the presentation must include.
- Checks to TPWD speakers
It was reported that Michelle and Rufus thought it was a good idea to give speakers checks.
There is a procedure for TPWD speakers and the procedure should accompany the checks.
Brenda will follow up on how much of the \$30 the speaker receives.
Floyd questioned why we are providing money to TPWD when they are our sponsors, and our chapter finances need to be protected.
To be revisited after we have received more information.
- Review and discussion of funding request of \$322.45 submitted by Pam Lienhard for Kerr County Courthouse Pollinator Gardens.
Pam previously came to the board to request funding for this project. She was told to return with a specific proposal which is the request for \$322.45. Floyd Trefny made a motion stating that the grant award is dependent on receipt of invoices and clarification of donations with back-up documentation as required by the treasurer. Kathy Ward seconded the motion. During discussion, the board agreed that this was a one-time donation and not to be used as precedence for future pollinator garden requests. It was also agreed that future requests must be reviewed for approval before purchasing and not after the fact.
Motion Carried.
- Update on Bandera Natural History Museum Pollinator Garden by Brenda
The garden was planted on May 9, 2016. Monarch Waystation sign has been received and in place at the garden. Future plans include identifying invasive plants and additional planting.
- Annual Holiday Party-Diane McMahan
Dec. 10, 2016 at the Riverhill Country Club. Sales manager will be sending suggested menus to Diane.
Price of the meal is \$20 per person. We have almost \$1000 to help cover the event expenses.
Volunteers to help are Rheda Boardman, Brenda Fest, and Lisa Flanagan
- There will be a vote tonight at the membership meeting to accept Mike Krueger as an "Honorary Member Chapter".
- Board Meeting: July 18, 2016

Meeting Decisions

- Approved the April 25, 2016 Board Meeting minutes
- Approved the April Treasurer's Reports
- Approved Funding for Kerr County Courthouse Pollinator Garden with stipulations
- Scenic Hill Country: Brenda Fest will be the contact.
- Holiday Party Dec.10, 2016 at Riverhill Country Club: Committee Designated
- Chapter Trifold Display will be updated by Lisa Flanagan.
- TMN License Plate Decision tabled until further information is received

Announcements

- Monthly Meeting: Monday, June 27, 2016
- Board Meeting at RNC: June 27, 2016 at 1:30 pm

Meeting Adjourned: 16:15