

**Texas Master Naturalist – Hill Country Chapter
Board Meeting
December 13, 2006**

Present:

Dan Behringer, Betty Gardner, Kathryn Harrison, Ron Hood, John Huecksteadt, Susan Longacre, Marilyn Murrmann, Phyllis Muska, Sandy Pena, Donna Robinson, Jim Stanley, Priscilla Stanley, Jerri Workman.

Absent: Jane Crone, Cathy Downs, Bill Perkison, Bob Richie

The meeting was called to order at 2:00 PM by President Jim Stanley.

Introductions: This meeting was attended by members of both the 2006 and 2007 Board. Members of the 2007 Board were introduced as follows:

Phyllis Muska, President

Betty Gardner, Vice-President

Priscilla Stanley, Secretary

Marilyn Murrman, Treasurer

Dan Behringer, Advanced Training

Cathy Downs, Curriculum

John Huecksteadt, Membership

Bill Perkison, 2006 Class Representative

Donna Robinson, Communications

Jim Stanley, Past-President

Jerri Workman, Volunteer Projects

November Chapter meeting: After some discussion, it was decided that the November program on “Conservation Roles of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service” by Christina Williams, a Fish and Wildlife Biologist with the agency, qualified for **one hour of Advanced Training for our Chapter members who attended**. This presentation included a discussion of the Endangered Species Act and the biology of the Golden-cheeked Warbler and the Black-capped Vireo.

TMN Chapter Holiday Party: Susan Longacre, who recently joined the Party Committee, reported that the \$7 cost of the meal did not include a \$3/head mandatory cleaning fee. Thus the cost of each meal would be \$10. The church also required the group to wash and iron all the tablecloths, which Susan volunteered to do. Phyllis Muska volunteered to find gifts for Milestone achievers, committee members, and outgoing Board members. The Board agreed to maintain the subsidized cost to members at \$2/person.

Treasurer’s Report: Marilyn Murrmann reported we have \$5,566.04 in the bank.

Class of 2006 Training Evaluation: The 2006 Director of Class Training, Betty Gardner, reported on the evaluations sheets submitted by the Class members for each topic and field trip. For Presentation, on a scale where 3.0 is Excellent, 75% of the ratings were at or above 2.7. For Content, on a scale where 5 is

the highest rating, 75% of the ratings were at or above 4.5. Warren Ferguson, from our Class of 2006, will be the Class Manager for the Class of 2007.

Membership Report: Priscilla Stanley reported that 28 out of 32 members of our Class of 2006 completed sufficient classes to graduate in November. Members needing to complete their training can do so with our Class of 2007 or by making up classes with other nearby TMN Chapters.

Citizen Wildfire Ecology Specialist Certification Program – Update: Priscilla reported that she and Jane Crone are continuing to plan for this training program on teaching wildland-fire preparedness. The program was developed by the Texas Forest Service Urban Wildland Interface group. Current plans are to hold two 8 hour days of classroom training in mid-February in Fredericksburg. There is then a two week break allowing trainees to complete a personal project on some aspect of wildland-fire preparedness or how this information could be shared with the public. The classes conclude with an 8 hour field day practicing actual site assessment for wildland-fire preparedness and presenting the personal projects, followed by a graduation celebration. The dates will be finalized when we have confirmed the five speakers.

Chapter On-going Topic Review:

Members of the 2006 Board reviewed the evolution of some pending issues for the new Board, including the Youth Protective Screening program and the TMN Liability Waiver, both of which are awaiting further developments from the State Master Naturalist office.

The meeting adjourned at 3:15 PM for transition conferences between the incoming and outgoing Board member for each function.

Next Board meeting: Monday, January 17, 2006 at 1:30PM. Please note this is 30 minutes earlier than the 2006 Board meetings

Respectfully submitted,

Priscilla B. Stanley

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Chapter Secretary