

Texas Master Naturalist, Hill Country Chapter Board Meeting
Riverside Nature Center
September 24, 2018

The meeting was called to order by President Lisa Flanagan at 2:39 PM. A quorum was present.

Members present: Lisa Flanagan, Craig Childs, Susan Clark, Cathy Binney, Reggie Cox, Dave Davies, Brenda Fest, Leslie Hannah, Paula Harley, Kay Kappel.

Members absent: Vern Crawford, Claire Mitchell, Michelle Haggerty, Roy Walston.

Operational:

1. David moved and Reggie seconded to approve the August minutes as submitted. The motion passed.
2. Cathy gave an explanation of our funds and accounts and reviewed the new class payments. David moved and Reggie seconded to accept the Treasurer's report as submitted. The motion passed.
3. Craig reported that the director of the Texas Wildlife Association, David Yeates, will present at the next meeting. Tonight's speaker will be Monica Morrison, founder of Texas Native Cats. The title is "Everybody Knows Texas has Bobcats and Mountain Lions. But What Other Cats Have Called Texas Home? And Why Should We Care?" Katy moved and Susan seconded to present Monica with a \$75.00 donation to support her program. The motion passed.

Strategic Initiatives:

1. Reggie reported on the project with UGRA. The agreement is finalized and will become official after the Oct. 1 UGRA board meeting. We are partnering with UGRA for educational purposes and have agreed to maintain the native plants in their landscape and make recommendations as per the Texas Master Naturalist philosophy. She will send an e-mail blast after the agreement is finalized. We will save \$585 a year on rental for membership meetings and \$477 for the new class use of the room. We will receive a refund from Oct. to the end of this year. She will tour the project with the new class on October 24.
2. Brenda reported on the Apache Tree Project. The purpose is to plant native trees. Our grant proposal was approved and she gave a review of the tree providers. 80 trees will be available for new class members. Brenda moved and Leslie seconded to approve \$580 to be spent on wire and stakes. The motion passed.
3. Brenda will chair the nominations committee for the upcoming board elections in November. She will poll the current officers and then present a slate of new officers at the October meeting. She also encouraged members to attend the annual meeting and reminded all of the scholarship money available. This will be mentioned at the general meeting.

Directors' Reports:

1. **Membership:** Reggie reported that the new class members are participating in projects and entering hours in VMS.
2. An article on VMS will be included in the newsletters. A discussion was held regarding field research hours that do not count for matching funds and Brenda will request an explanation from Michelle.
3. **AT:** Paula reported that we have 274 ATs. Lisa complimented her on her work on the ATs. A discussion was held regarding the Aldo Leopold movie presented by RNC. A movie can only count for AT if it begins and ends with a Q&A session.

4. **Communications:** David reported on the newspaper articles.
5. **New Class:** Leslie reported that the new class asks good questions and provides excellent feedback on the evaluations. The class lost one member who will not receive a refund but will be invited to join the next class. The botany presenter canceled and Brenda agreed to fill in. The Volunteer Fair was a success.

Resource Development:

1. Craig present the menu for the Holiday and Volunteer Recognition party. Since the screen and microphone rental is \$100 and the chapter is not paying any part of the dinner cost, he recommended a price of \$25 per person. The entrée will be chicken. Katy proposed that a group of teenagers from her church present a skit with songs after the luncheon. The hat will be passed for donations to their youth group. Craig will put together a slide show of events highlighting Mater Naturalists at work over the past year. Paula suggested acknowledging members for the most ATs, most volunteer hours, and farthest travel for an AT over the past year. The Plant Haus, Wild Birds Unlimited, and Medina Garden will be contacted for recognition awards (in lieu of door prizes). Katy is collecting items for the silent auction. A table will be set up at the October and November meetings for membership to sign up and pay for the dinner.

Susan moved and David seconded to adjourn the meeting at 4:36 PM. The motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Clark, secretary