

Texas Master Naturalist, Hill Country Chapter Board Meeting
Riverside Nature Center
April 22, 2019

The meeting was called to order by Vice President Craig Childs at 2:30 PM. A quorum was present.

Members present: Craig Childs, Cathy Binney, Reggie Cox, Carla Stang, Brenda Fest, Paula Harley, Katy Kappel, Vern Crawford, Tom Burke, Catherine Gauldin, and Steve Ramirez.

Members absent: Lisa Flanagan, Michelle Haggerty, Roy Walston.

Guests: None

Operational:

1. The minutes of the March 25, 2019 meeting were approved on a motion by Vern Crawford, seconded by Reggie Cox.
2. Treasurer Cathy Binney reported that she has cleared the \$200 refund check from last year by adding it to the class committee fund. The check to Bamberger Ranch has been reissued. 13 new students have paid for the class. Katy moved and Steve seconded a motion to accept the Treasurer's report as submitted. The motion passed.
3. Craig reported that there have been no speaker changes.
4. Membership:
 - Reggie is has received 17 applications and is talking to 10 more potential students who have called her regarding the class.
 - Steve presented three options for modifying language regarding the expectation of 40 hours of service annually. The following was approved by the Board, on a motion by Carla, seconded by Brenda:

On the application:

The Texas Master Naturalist program is built upon a strong foundation of community volunteerism. Please give this careful consideration as you complete the application.

And...

On the website:

The Texas Master Naturalist program is built upon a strong foundation of community volunteerism. Each Texas Master Naturalist is expected to provide at least 40 hours of approved volunteer service annually. Please give this careful consideration as you complete the application.

-Steve will work on language clarifying our commitment to help students meet the physical challenges of the class.

5. Paula discussed the need for AT on emergency management. She will investigate First Aid/CPR for Master Naturalists through the Red Cross or the American Heart Assn.
6. Tom has been working with Claire Mitchell to pick up the volunteer project responsibilities. He will explore the possibilities of using iNaturalist for the Los Rincones field day next month.
7. Catherine has posted a video on the website. She plans another video to play at outreach events to recruit new students. Paula will do outreach events in Mason and Katy will table at the birding fest in Junction. Catherine is asking members to submit photos of members at work on their projects.
8. Carla reported that the class schedule is established. She will circulate a signup sheet at the monthly meeting tonight for volunteers to man the table at the Friday night Farmers Market. Steve has developed a closed Facebook group page for the new class. Mentor recruitment is ongoing, and the mentor meeting will be held in July.

Strategic Initiatives:

1. On income diversification:
 - Lisa will continue to discuss the donation jar at the membership meetings.
 - The showing of "Green Fire" as a fundraiser will be scheduled for 2 pm on Friday June 7 at the UGRA facility. We will take only cash and checks for \$10. The Leopold Foundation has approved our use of the RNC copy. Brenda will handle the projection equipment and Jim Stanley has agreed to lead the discussion. Catherine will do publicity about two weeks before the event. Board members will bring baked items for further donations. Katy will look for a door prize.
2. Craig presented a proposal for a Junior Master Naturalist program in three-way partnership between Texas Master Naturalist, Hill Country Chapter, YMCA of Greater San Antonio Roberts Ranch and Our Lady of the Lake University STEAM program. There was much discussion of the preliminary proposal, which would target high school students and take place at Roberts Ranch. A motion by Steve Ramirez, seconded by Catherine Gauldin, was approved to authorize development of the Junior Master Naturalist Program in partnership with YMCA of Greater San Antonio Roberts Ranch, Our Lady of the Lake University STEAM Center, and Texas Master Naturalist, Hill Country Chapter with implementation requiring additional Board approval.
3. Craig pointed out that we are approaching the need for a new laptop, projector, and bookkeeping software. This will be considered in the year-end budgeting process.
4. The remaining agenda items were tabled until the next meeting, which will be May 20, 2019 at 2:30 at RNC.

The decisions were reviewed, and the meeting adjourned at 4:35 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Katy Kappel, secretary