

Texas Master Naturalist Hill Country Chapter Board Meeting
Riverside Nature Center
July 15, 2019

The meeting was called to order by President Lisa Flanagan at 2:35 PM. A quorum was present.

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

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

Guests: None

Operational:

1. The amended minutes of the June 24, 2019 meeting were approved on a motion by Katy, seconded by Reggie. Additional venues were added for consideration for the volunteer recognition party Dec. 7.
2. Treasurer Cathy Binney reported that payments for 37 new students have cleared. One is still being processed by Amazon and three are unpaid. Diane Naylor withdrew but donated her \$200 tuition, which will be applied to scholarships. The La Farque Foundation has granted \$300 for the Schreiner Pollinator garden, thanks to Larry Eskridge's grant proposal. Steve moved and Reggie seconded a motion to accept the Treasurer's report. The motion passed.
3. Craig reported that Craig Hensley will speak in September on the Texas Nature Trackers program. October, Robert Potts of the Dixon Water Foundation is scheduled and in November Rick Fink on Bees. January, Peggy Sechrist will present on Soils for Water. Only one more speaker, February, remains to be scheduled.
4. AT- nothing to report.
5. Tom reported that there is a regular review of volunteer projects, which is not due for 2 more years. There is a semiannual audit of zero-hour projects. The Garner pollinator garden is being pursued by Richard Coleman and UGRA has requested volunteers to review aerial photos to locate invasive cane (Arundo donax).
6. Catherine discussed possible improvements to recruitment efforts next year, including printing more rack cards for members to handout to friends, and earlier dispersal to various sites. Tabling at the weekly farmers' market was valuable.
7. Carla reported that Brenda will again do the botany presentation and she is lacking only one speaker bio. Lisa will do "ethical issues" on August 28 and there was discussion of the "Helpful Information from the Board" presentation. Assembly of the class notebooks will take place after the Class Committee meeting on Wednesday.
8. Membership: Mentors have been assigned to all 42 students and the mentor workshop will be at 9:30am on July 31 at Reggie's house.
Steve moved and Tom seconded a motion to accept all 40 applicants into the class. The motion passed. There are two students auditing, one from San Antonio and one from Corpus Christi. There was discussion of the mechanics of awarding scholarships and it was decided to cut a check for \$100 to each of the applicants. This passed after a motion by Katy, seconded by Brenda.

Strategic Initiatives:

1. Donations for used chapter shirts has netted \$37.50 so far.
2. Craig and Brenda will explore laptop options and prices so that Katy can develop a grant proposal to purchase them. This will be considered in the year end budgeting process.
3. Craig will report at the next meeting on venues for the Volunteer Recognition party.
4. A signup sheet was passed to bring food for the New Class Reception on August 19.

The next Board meeting will be August 19, 2019 at 2:30 at the RNC.

The decisions were reviewed, and the meeting adjourned at 4:05 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Katy Kappel, Secretary

Approved by Board of Directors August 19, 2019