

Hill Country Chapter TXMN Monthly Board Meeting Minutes
7/22/21 – Riverside Nature Center

The meeting was called to order at 1:33 by President Elsa Roberts. In attendance were: Elsa Roberts, Nancy Scoggins, Carla Stang, Lisa Flanagan, Billy Guin, Katy Kappel, Jeralyn Hathorn, Tom Burke, Catherine Gauldin, Anne Ryan and Carra Milikien. Absent were Deb Youngblood, Vern Crawford and Sheryl Pender.

Operational:

1. The minutes from the previous meeting were submitted by secretary Jeralyn Hathorn. Corrections to be noted are that Catherine Gauldin was absent from the previous meeting and clarification that “Trues” who was shown as present was Trudy Eberhart. Billy made a motion to approve the minutes with the amendments and the motion was seconded by Lisa. Motion carried.
2. Treasurer Nancy Scoggins presented the financial reports and informed the board that Exxon Mobil was set to payout and the funds should be in the account next week. A motion was made by Carla to accept the reports and seconded by Billy. Motion carried.
4. Vice President Katy Kappel presented her report and discussed the Volunteer Appreciation luncheon scheduled for December 4, 2021 from noon to 3:00 p.m. The board will be setting up and cleaning up. Trues will be assisting her with the silent auction and they will begin seeking donations. Tom Burke gave a \$300 contribution toward the rental fees and other expenses and the board expressed their appreciation.
5. President Elsa Roberts discussed the “Be the Change” DEI training classes that are currently being offered to TMN and the controversy that surrounds them. She asked that any and all emails regarding them cease and desist. The videos are optional and you do not have to watch them if you don’t want to. Nancy and Catherine expressed their opinions in favor of the videos which lead to a discussion regarding how to include young people in the training classes.

Director’s Reports:

1. Membership Director Carla Stang presented her report and briefly discussed the contents with the board.
2. New Class Training Director Anne Ryan gave her report which included a timeline and assumptions to be verified. Changes to the volunteer fair were discussed. Anne feels that the Training Class Committee should not be responsible for organizing the Volunteer Project Fair, but that it should be a chapter project. Lack of response from project leaders past and present was discussed. She and Carra feel that it is a lot of time and energy spent with not much movement. Tom suggested having a conversation about strategy for letting the new class know about opportunities in place of the Volunteer Project Fair. The New Class Committee will come up with a strategy and present it to the board.
3. Communications Director Catherine Gauldin has been working with Mackenzie to update the web site. Some changes she’d like to see are moving “How to Become a Master Naturalist” from the state page to “Membership”, changing the “Spring Class Announcement” and eliminate “Resources”. Anne want to move “Slide Share” into OneDrive. Catherine suggested putting past videos into OneDrive, Communications. Katy asked if someone could do a slide show on volunteers for the Volunteer luncheon similar to the one Craig Childs previously did. Elsa requested that the Chapter Operating Manual remain on the web site instead of eliminating all of the chapter documents. Carla has already removed all of the personal information from the emails and the board agreed that they are comfortable with the “About Us” “Board of Directors” and no further action needs to be taken.
4. Project Director Tom Burke provided his report. Nancy relayed to the board that the City of Boerne is letting PGARP dictate what can be planted in the planter boxes along Main Street with NPSOT acting as advisors. She

also informed the board that the Apache Tree Giveaway was scheduled for October 5 & 6 at the Youth Event center.

5. AT Director Deb Youngblood was not present.

Resource Development:

1. Nominating Committee – need volunteers to search for board member replacements. Lisa said that any board member can provide suggestions. An email will be sent to the membership in October with a list of nominees for the vote in November. Catherine would like to have someone to groom for communications and she will continue to do social media, formally separating it into 2 separate positions.
2. Elsa gave an update on the KAPP meetings. Jeremy Walker will be spearheading the Tree Trail. They are now working on a Land Stewardship program. All organizations will be involved and our logo will be on the various web sites.
3. Nancy made a motion to change the board meetings to the 4th Monday at 2:30 starting in August. Lisa seconded the motion, motion carried.
4. The meeting concluded with a presentation on OneDrive and branded emails by Carla.

Next monthly board meeting August 23, 2021.

Meeting adjourned 3:50.