

April 22, 2024

Minutes for Meeting of Board of Hill County Chapter, Texas Master Naturalists

Place: Riverside Nature Center

Time: 2:10 p.m.

Present In Person: Lisa Flanagan, Patricia Poore, Phil Roberson, Mark Hults, David Drake, Carra Milikien, Vern Crawford, Alice King , Dot Maginot, Jeff Schwarz, Lou Hugman

Not Present: Carla Stang

President Jeff Schwarz called the meeting to order at 2:00 P.M.

Approval of Minutes

A couple of changes were made with those in attendance that was incorrect and minor rewording of when the board took the speaker out to dinner.

Motion to approve: first, Carra, second , Vern. Approved unanimous.

REPORTS

Treasurer – Dot Maginot

Discussed treasurer reports posted online. Month end balance was \$19,653. No questions; status quo activities. Discussed the issue of getting a bench in honor of Jim Stanley. Check into wooden benches from builder in Hunt. City trail benches are around \$2500. Vern will talk with Becky at RNC about placing a bench there, since Jim has spent many hours there. Might have one scholarship in the new class. Look at donating chapter books that no one is using any more.

Motion to approve: Alice , first , Phil , second Approved unanimous.

President Announcements – see board and chapter slide

Vice President’s Report (Alice King)

Attendance at the March chapter meeting: a little over 100 viewers on zoom and in person at last meeting. Nancy Huffman presents today on nature journaling. Rufus Stevens coming up to present on birds. Have Rufus bring his new book to the chapter meeting. November coordinate with class on presentation. The storage unit has been cleaned out. Still full, but will continue to go through it.

Past President (Carla Stang):

No report

Programs (David Drake) one project approved for the month. Wanting to know if he can share the membership list. It’s confidential for a good reason. A lot of members do not want their info shared, which is why it’s private. Cibolo has a sister organization they are partnering with to try to protect lands, not develop. We might consider helping? Bioblitz coming up, April 25-29, on iNaturalist. At

RNC and at Lost Maples. Hc-00-G. Stephen Bishop has asked to be removed as project lead at Roberts Ranch. We have been asked to develop and deliver a presentation at Mo Ranch on July 29th for six 45 minute sessions for the Peer Assistance Leadership and Service training for high school students 16-18 years of age out of San Antonio, to highlight interdependency of flora and fauna of the Texas Hill Country. Need suggestions for speakers. Highland Lakes Chapter would like read access to our One Drive so they can replicate material they find useful. Support Katy Kappel at the Kerrville City Council meeting on Tuesday April 23rd to support the application to designate Bird City Kerrville. Also Monday April 22, 9:00 a.m. at the Kerr County Commissioners Court to consider a bird blind at Flat Rock Lake. Developing plans for future volunteer fairs, evaluate projects with few service hours, match volunteers with skills and interests with opportunities, and enlist project leads help for AT opportunities with TPWD ranger/volunteer led activities.

Membership (Phil Roberson) Lots of applications, at 33 or 34 as of today. Carra prefers not to do as much as 40.

How do we evaluate apps? Take from inside our 10 county region first? Look at strong apps if we have too many apps, put people on wait list. Will discuss particulars of accepting at next meeting. VMS hours reported looking good. 31 with no hours yet. Phil to report the special certifications separately. Current stats on membership numbers were reported, with YTD totals.

Advanced Training (Patricia Poore)

Reviewed posted report. 62 events as of Friday. NPSOt doing one on native bees. NLCP in boerne, 7 hours. Good AT opportunities being reported weekly.

Communications (Mark Hults)

Reviewed posted report. Reorted numbers of participation at Chapter meetings. We need a breakdown of in person and zoom participation from chapter meeting.. Summary on the news page is online. Review social media at another time.

Class director: Wants to have people represent early naturalists...dress up to play the part and give history and what plants might be named for them. Make the presentation more interesting. May – cara and sheryl with meet with the Lead about a podcast. Other events? Gave us the rough draft of what the classes will look like. Dates and locations are locked in. Need to confirm some speakers.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. None to report. Jeff pulled up slides for the meeting tonight.

Motion to adjourn at 3:37. Mark first, seconded by Vern . Unanimous approval.

Minutes taken and submitted by: Lisa Flanagan