LINDHEIMER MASTER NATURALISTS

**BOARD MEETING**

**MAY 22, 2017**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Joel Dunnington, Kim Wright, Jim Teeling, Jeanie Springer, Cheryl Trock, Art Williams, Darlene Varga, Sara Riggs, Debbie Kyrouac, Rich Nielson

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Marie Miller, Joyce Doyle

**CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order at 5:35 PM.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** In Kim’s absence in April, Joel Dunnington took the minutes and sent them out to the BOD for corrections. Corrections were made via email. Jeanie Springer moved that the April minutes be approved; Jim Teeling seconded. Motion passed. Minutes were approved.

**PRESIDENT’S REPORT:**

1. **TMN 20th Year Meeting and Preparation---**The BOD decided not to participate.
2. **Letter for Prospective New Members-**--Sara Riggs is composing a letter to go out to people who expressed an interest in our next training class. Cheryl Trock said that she also sends an email out to people she and Brian Trock have spoken with at various LMN activities and she cc’s Sara Riggs and Debbie Kyrouac.
3. **McKenna Center as Alternative Meeting Location-**--Sherman Krause, County Judge, said that our chapter can hold our membership meetings there. We might alternate between TPML and McKenna.
4. **Christmas Party-**--The Christmas Party date has been moved to the second Thursday in December instead of the third Thursday due to too many conflicts. The new date is December 14th and we will have access to all 3 rooms at TPML.
5. **Pins-**--Joel Dunnington said that some members do not attend the membership meetings and he has several pins that have not been awarded to these members. His question is how far should he go to get the pins to these members? Should he mail them? Some members can deliver the pins to those they see at various volunteer activities. Or an email could be sent to those members to see how they want their pins delivered.
6. **Chapter Operating Handbook-**--Joel Dunnington sent the changes in to State and also to Marie Miller to post online.
7. **Community Recognition Award-**--In the next week or two, Joel Dunnington will set up a meeting for the Community Recognition Award committee because Jane Miller asked Art Williams about the status of her recommendation for the award.

**OFFICER AND COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

1. **Treasurer---**Rich Nielson reported that at the end of April, the balance was $7178.20, with 3 cleared checks totaling $178.81. The cost to the chapter of the Bamberger Field Trip was $315. See report.
2. **Vice President-**--Art Williams reported that he has speakers lined up for all months except September. He will also arrange for speakers for the first 3 months of 2018. He is having problems with the Historian videos.
3. **Past President-**--Jim Teeling had no report.
4. **Communications-**--Marie Miller was absent; no report.
5. **Education-**--Sara Riggs reported that the Bamberger trip was successful. She notified Rich Nielson about the amount of the check that she used to pay for the trip cost. Debbie Kyrouac said that the class’s next field trip may be to John Knox Ranch. She will contact Doug Dalglish about scheduling a visit. The week after John Knox will be a trip to the Bracken Bat Cave.
6. **Membership-**--Cheryl Trock said that some members are still having issues with the VMS. She suggested that these members may need a data buddy to help them navigate the system. Art Williams thinks this is a good idea. Joel Dunnington said that a direct email to the members who are not entering data would give them options on how to enter their data. If there are no submissions in a year, these members are put on the Inactive list. Cheryl Trock will get confirmation from these members and turn that list over to Joel Dunnington. She said there are some members who have not entered data, some have moved, others are doing VH but not submitting hours to VMS.

Earth Day, Open House, and Wine and Saengerfest---Cheryl Trock said that some people who attended these events were interested in our next training class. There are about 27 who might be interested. The current class has 21 students, but several more who were interested did not sign up.

State has done some updates to the VMS handbook, but Cheryl Trock said she doesn’t always receive notices when these are made. State also wants a student’s initial training hours (classroom) to be recorded under Opportunity as “Initial Hours”. Cheryl will know with the new class to enter these hours as “Initial Hours” as requested by State.

1. **Projects---**Jeanie Springer said that it had been a calm month with fewer applications for activities. She said that members are using the new spreadsheet that lists all the opportunities for volunteering. Jeanie will email Kim Wright a complete list of the applications to include in her report.
2. **Outreach-**--Darlene Varga said that she had contacted the Headwaters of Comal and Schertz Parks and Recreation, but hasn’t heard back from them yet. Susan James did a presentation at Oak Run Elementary. Darlene said that she will meet with the Inglets to go over the items in the Bird Trunk. She will get some ideas as to what needs to be included in the trunk. She will be asking for some money to purchase what she needs. Rich Nielson informed Darlene of the amount in her Outreach budget. Darlene is also working on the Butterfly Trunk. Susan James sent Darlene the information on the New Braunfels Farmers’ Market. The chapter could have a booth there for our trunks, and it would be a good place to promote our upcoming training class in the fall.

Darlene, Art Williams, and Marie Miller will meet to discuss the Christmas Village project at CRRC.

**COMMENTS AND OBSERVATIONS:**

Troy Luepke, our chapter advisor, was absent. Joel Dunnington reminded the BOD of our new agreed meeting time of 5:30 instead of 6 PM. He needs to remember to go out and make sure the gate is open so that the BOD can get into the Agrilife grounds for our meeting. The key to the classroom is placed in a special drawer.

Computer training is now required to use the computer in the classroom. The training dates are listed on the agenda. Whoever will be setting up for a class will need to attend this training, but they will receive AT hours.

**NEW BUSINESS---**no new business.

**OLD BUSINESS---**Cheryl Trock reported on the Technical Guidance notification received from the VMS. If a member serves on another board of one of LMN’s partners (NPSOT, Honey Creek, Gorge Preservation Society, etc.) and in that capacity as serving, represents the LMN and is an active participant, then that person should be able to claim those hours. Rich Nielson said that if a member is asked to serve on another board, then they should notify the LMN BOD. Joel Dunnington will consider this issue and report at the next BOD meeting.

**ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting was adjourned at 6:30 PM.

Next Meeting--- Monday, June 26, 2017 at 5:30 PM at Agrilife.

Respectfully submitted by:

Kim Wright, Secretary

Lindheimer Master Naturalists