

PINEY WOODS LAKES CHAPTER TEXAS MASTER NATURALIST

BOD Minutes, AgriLife Building, Livingston

January 8, 2018

In Attendance: President, Timi Maples; Treasurer, Ron Diderich; Secretary, Olivia Wood; Past President, Susan Tullos

The meeting was called to order by President Timi Maples at 11:53.

Chapter Advisor Report: No report was given as neither of our Chapter Advisors was present. We now have only 2 advisors since Mark Currie's retirement. His replacement at AgriLife has not yet been hired.

Secretary's Report: There were no minutes for December as the Board did not meet in December. The November minutes were approved as submitted. Susan moved to approve, Ron seconded.

Treasurer's Report: Ron reported that we had no financial activity in December. Susan moved to accept this report, and Olivia seconded. The report was approved. Ron stated that we need to appoint a Financial Review Board to review 2017 financial activity. It was agreed that he will ask the Clears if they would again be willing to act in this capacity. Ron also stated that he will draft a 2018 Budget and present it to the Board in February.

Membership Report & VMS:

- A. There was no official Membership Report since we do not have an official Membership Chair.
- B. Olivia reported that the Opportunity List for VMS is complete. She will present it to the members at the Chapter meeting this Thursday.
- C. Everyone needs to have their 2017 hours entered by the end of January in order for us to complete our State reports. Sharon needs to complete her online registration in order for us to enter her hours for 2017. We will address this on Thursday as well.
- D. Susan will take over approving Olivia's hours as Admin-2 on VMS. She tried to log in recently but was unable to log in. Olivia will let Brad know that Susan is having trouble logging in.

Vice-President's Report: There was no Vice President's report as we currently have no Vice-President.

President's Report: Timi stated that she has no activity to report this month.

Old Business:

- A. **Storeroom/office cleanup:** For a variety of reasons, the cleanup day planned for December did not take place. Timi will schedule a date in February to get this cleanup completed. We need to have an inventory of our supplies etc. for our annual report.
- B. **Mini-Camp:** We will be holding 3 days of Mini-Camp this year. Possible topics are Pollinators, Bats & Nocturnal Animals, and Aquatic Science. Ron has several ideas for activities on these subjects, including building some bat houses to give to the park. In addition, he acquired some tools thru Texas Stream Team training that could be used for Aquatic Science, and has also obtained a number of resources on Pollinators. Ron suggested that Drue would be an excellent presenter for the Pollinator program. Timi will see if she would be willing to do it. Ron volunteered to conduct the Aquatic Science training. Olivia will do the Bats & Nocturnals class.

- C. **LLFoR:** Ron reported that there will be a slight change in the focus of LLFoR. Due to the fact that many of the water willows placed in the lake have died, it may be necessary to change the approach to a more horticulture-oriented one as opposed to choosing plants and locations based only on a fishing-oriented approach. In the past, TPWD has been the sole source of advice for this project. With recent publicity, a number of experts around the state, mostly affiliated with various colleges etc., have expressed interest in advising on the project. In addition, the plan is to have each of the 10 school districts involved hold its own planting event, plus one large planting with the combined districts.

New Business:

- A. **Aquatic trunk:** Joel would like to meet in February to work on putting together an Aquatic Science education trunk.
- B. **TMN Day at Watson:** Timi stated that Kathleen was asked about the possibility of having a Texas Master Naturalist Day at Watson Preserve. This would involve having several TMN chapters around the area meet and spend a day working at the Preserve.
- C. **Certification & Hours Pins:** We will plan to award pins at the March meeting.
- D. **Basic Training:** Timi would like to structure this year's Basic Training in such a way that we can cover as many subjects as possible in one day. This would involve a couple of all-day Saturday sessions. Possibly we can combine with other chapters such as Jasper and Dayton on this training.
- E. **Membership Status:** Olivia suggested that there should be a Member Emeritus or similar category to allow Bill Keller to remain an active member even though he is no longer able to fulfill TMN recertification requirements. Timi will email Mary Pearl to find out how other chapters have dealt with this situation.
- F. **Books & Supplies:** Ron will have a budget of \$100 to acquire books and materials needed for Mini-Camp and for the Aquatic trunk.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:27.

Respectfully submitted,

Olivia Wood, Secretary