**TMN-COT BOARD MEETING**

**Wednesday, February 1, 2023 9:05 a.m. – 11:34 a.m.**

**at Texas AgriLIFE Extension Service, Angleton TX**

PresidentKathy Pittman called the meeting to order, presented the agenda and asked for additions or corrections. No additions or corrections.

**Attendance—**

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| **Elected Members of Board** | **Present** |  | **Appointed Members of Board/Committees** | **Present** |
| Kathy Pittman (President) | 🗸 | Mickey Dufilho (Immediate Past President) | 🗸 |
| Jimmy Salinas (Vice-President/Programs) | 🗸 | John Boettiger (Membership Dir.) | 🗸 |
| Lorna Witt (Secretary) | N | Melanie Hollenshead (New Class Dir.) | 🗸 |
| Don Sabathier (Treasurer) | 🗸 | Larry Peterson (Communications Dir.) | 🗸 |
|  |  | Ruby Lewis (Outreach Dir.) | 🗸 |
| **Chapter Advisor(s)** | | Kristine Rivers (Advanced Training Dir.) | 🗸 |
| John O’Connell (AgriLIFE Extension) | 🗸 | Oron Atkins (Volunteer Service Dir.) | 🗸 |
| Jordan Kieffer (TPWD: Sea Center Texas) | 🗸 | Connie Stolte (State Rep.) | 🗸 |
| **Guests/Other** | | Rose Wagner (Chapter Host) | 🗸 |
| Luanne Salinas | 🗸 | Kate Harris (Class 2022 Class Rep) | N |
| Amanda Gabehart | 🗸 |  |  |
|  |  | **Quorum** | **Yes** |

**Approve Previous Board Minutes—**The January 2023 Board and General Meeting minutes were sent to the Board for review. The minutes were approved as corrected.

**Minutes Approval—**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Motion | Motion to Approve | Motion Seconded | Vote |
| Approve the December Board minutes | Don | John | Minutes as corrected were approved by unanimous voice vote of Board members present |

It was decided that the minutes of the General Membership Meeting would be sent to the membership and would be approved by the General membership at the next membership meeting.

**Motions**—

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Motion | Motion to Approve | Motion Seconded | Vote |
| Motion – The chapter will NOT participate at Brazoria Heritage Days | Mickey | Kristina | 3 yes, 9 no – Chapter will participate. |
|  |  |  |  |

**Action Register – These items have been added to the Action Register Workbook**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Action Items | Who | When | Comments |
| Get volunteers for Pop-up committee | Kathy |  |  |
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**Brazoria Heritage Day** - There was a discussion by each member of the board on the issue of having a booth at the Brazoria Heritage Days. The concern was at the previous Brazoria Heritage Days, the rebel flag was flown at the parade. The issue is the rebel flag is currently associated with racism, slavery, white supremacy and treason and it would be inappropriate for Master Naturalists to support this display by having a booth at the event. Other views - Some members felt that flag was also a part of the heritage and history of the area. The Chapter cannot vet all potential participants in every event we agree to participate in. Members will choose to participate or not. If they personally feel event is offensive, they will choose to not participate.

After discussion Mickey made a motion to **not** participate in the event. It was seconded by Kristina. The vote was 3 yes and 9 no. The chapter will have a booth.

**President’s Report—**Kathy Pittman reported and/or led the discussion on the following:

* **The next TMN Tuesday will be February 14th**. Subject not listed on website. Webex is new platform, and you must register in advance.
* **January Presidents meeting** Tuesday 31st.
  + Governing Docs – 1/3 of Chapters are completed, 1/3 in progress. Extension date for completions – March 1st. Online form for suggested edits.
  + Branding guide – to be updated this year.
  + Temp Covid training policies are rescinded. Follow CMOP sec 4.1 and 5.5. “Encouraged” to get hours in person, but no cap on AT hours obtained online vs. in person.
  + AT from TMN Tuesday or Annual meeting – must be within same Calendar year.
  + Recert and milestone pins – please order monthly. Exception – 4000 hours can only be ordered after completion, due to Michele needing to verify hours before sending to White House.
  + TMN Tuesday – topics will be announced just before each session.
  + “Be the Change” culminated with April 2022 workshop. Materials still available online and Chapters asked to make sure we are following DEI guidelines.
  + 25th Anniversary Storytelling project
  + 21 Chapters with Spring Intern classes. Starting to collect Fall Training info.
  + April National Volunteer Month – we need to plan something for April meeting.
  + Virtual Volunteer Fair – May 2 & 3. Info will be sent shortly on how to engage our partner organizations. Looking for topics a member can do at home.
  + Annual Meeting – McAllen Convention Center, Oct 12-15th
  + WordPress Training - Monthly on 1st Tuesday - Starting March 7th. Tutorials online
  + TMN Branding – we must have approval from State office before we order from new outside vendor.
  + Please publicize State Endowment with members - https://masternaturalistendowment.org
* **Whooping Crane trip** – had 27 signed up at last count, so we did not advertise to other groups.
* Attended AgriLife Interpretation Lunch with John O and other county groups sponsored by AgriLife. Judge Sebesta was in attendance.
* **Thank you** to those who took time to review draft survey. John O will set up and I will send out week of Feb 6th

Past President - Mickey

* No report

**VP/Programs & Advanced Training Jimmy**

* + Februay: Eagles – Mary Schwartz

**Treasurer – Don**

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|  |  | **COT TREASURER REPORT** | | | |
| January 2023 | |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | **BEGINNING BALANCE** | | $ 8,205.77 |  |
|  |  | Revenue Summary | | 1,596.19 |  |
|  |  | Expense Summary | | 35.99 |  |
|  |  | **ENDING BALANCE** | | $9,765.97 |  |

**About 50% of membership have paid dues**

**Membership—** **John Boettiger**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Impact Data** | **# Adults** | **# Youth** | **Total** |
| **January 2023** | 129 | 104 | 233 |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Period** | **VT Hours** | **AT Hours** |
| **January 2023** | 1042.65 | 57.75 |

\* August only: 1217.10 VT and 45.50 AT Hours

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **Initial Certifications** | **Recertifications** | **Milestones** |
|  | **Gabehart, Amanda** | Mosis, Malcolm (250) |
|  |  | Yoder, Barbara (500) |
|  |  | Pittman, Kathy (1000) |
|  |  | Richardson, Kim (2500) |

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| **2022 TMN-COT Hours and Impact Report - Final** | | | | | | | | | | |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Month** | **Volunteers Reporting** | **Approved Entries** | **VT Hours** | **AT Hours** | **Initial Training** | **Adult Sub Total** | **Youth Sub total** | **Cumulative VT** | **Cumulative AT** | **Cumulative Impact** |
| January | 74 | 448 | 1,089.25 | 170.80 |  | 72 | 64 | 1,089.25 | 170.80 | 136 |
| February | 69 | 508 | 856.65 | 248.55 |  | 287 | 87 | 1,945.90 | 419.35 | 510 |
| March | 82 | 455 | 1,025.95 | 381.15 |  | 1312 | 6975 | 2,971.85 | 800.50 | 8,797 |
| April | 64 | 427 | 1,257.90 | 110.50 |  | 1587 | 8762 | 4,229.75 | 911.00 | 19,146 |
| May | 56 | 350 | 1,178.30 | 68.00 |  | 686 | 1546 | 5,408.05 | 979.00 | 21,378 |
| June | 75 | 466 | 1,482.37 | 54.25 |  | 478 | 478 | 6,890.42 | 1,033.25 | 22,334 |
| July | 71 | 394 | 887.57 | 83.00 |  | 1307 | 1946 | 7,777.99 | 1,116.25 | 25,587 |
| August | 79 | 460 | 1,021.80 | 65.25 | 162.00 | 791 | 1177 | 8,799.79 | 1,181.50 | 27,555 |
| September | 72 | 579 | 1,038.35 | 202.50 | 232.75 | 542 | 199 | 9,838.14 | 1,384.00 | 28,296 |
| October | 74 | 579 | 1,350.75 | 407.40 | 164.50 | 3627 | 2731 | 11,188.89 | 1,791.40 | 34,654 |
| November | 76 | 456 | 1,130.00 | 74.00 | 103.00 | 470 | 604 | 12,318.89 | 1,865.40 | 35,728 |
| December | 70 | 352 | 1,336.25 | 71.50 | 1.50 | 201 | 247 | 13,655.14 | 1,936.90 | 36,176 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Totals** |  | **5474** | **13655.14** | **1936.90** | **663.75** | **11360** | **24816** | **13,655.14** | **1,936.90** | **36,176** |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

* Pins are being mailed in batches on a quarterly basis.

**State Representative – Connie**

* **All Board members need to sign the Conflict-of-Interest form and if needed disclose if they have any conflicts. Connie will send the form to all board members.**
* The Bylaws approved at the December general membership meeting and the December general meeting minutes were submitted to the state office using the form on the TMN state website.
* The Chapter Operating Handbook committee met after the January board meeting and plans to meet after the Feb. 1 board meeting to continue to customize the state COH Framework for our chapter.

**Training Director**—**Melanie Hollenshead**

* Currently 11 interns have registered.
* Training will start Feb. 18 and graduate May 13
* Need more volunteers on the training team and need mentors.
* Survey will go out to membership to get mentors.
* Melanie has developed a guideline for intern training refunds.
* Melanie emailed a schedule to the board.

**Volunteer Service Director**—**Oron Atkins** reported on and/or updated the following opportunities:

* **Exploration Green Workday** – every Wed, 8:30 AM to 11:30 AM – contact Christie Taylor
* **Trash Collection/Disposal Analysis Project** – self-directed.
* **Beach Sweep** – 2/6 & 3/6 - 8 AM to 10 AM, Quintana Fishing Pier– contacts Jimmy/Luanne Salinas
* **TBCPD Trail Work Day Hanson Park** – ??? , 8 AM to 12 PM – contact Mike Mullenweg
* **Pearland Parks & Recreation Natural Resources Workday** – First Thursday, Locations TBA, 8 AM to 11 AM
* **Nurdle Beach Patrol** – Jace Turnell – self-directed
* **Brazoria County Comprehensive Spider Survey** – Melanie Hollenshead - self-directed.
* **Adopt a Loop for TMN** – contact Debbie Nance - self-directed.
* **Boardwalk Maintenance & Construction** – TBA – contact Oron Atkins
  + Quintana Beach Park boardwalk is complete.
  + Big Tree boardwalk – materials are ordered and will be delivered next week. Construction will begin as soon as weather permits.
* **Nest Fest** – 3/14, Time ????? – contact Jo Monday
  + In conjunction with Turtle Patrol there will be a beach clean up on Follet’s Island. Volunteers are need to man 4 stations on the island for volunteer check in.

**Outreach Director**— Ruby

* **DEEP at BNWR Discovery Center** – 2/28, 8 AM to 2 PM – contact Ed Barrios
* **Family** **Fishing Day** – 2/25, 8AM to 2 PM – Lakeside Park, 1234 Enchanted Oaks Dr, Angleton, TX, 77515. Contact Harbria Gardner
* **Spring Open House** – 3/11 thru 3/19, 11 AM to 4 PM – contact Ruby Lewis
* **Introduction to Fishing Basics** – SCT – 3/4, 9 AM to 3 PM – contact Mason Gilfoil
* **March 4** – Brazoria Heritage Day
* **April 15** – Booth at Brazos Mall

**Pop Up Outreach** – Open – nothing scheduled.

* Kathy will get a team together to work on this.

**Chapter Host**—. Rose

* Ordered name tags at $.75 each

**Communications Director – Larry**

Graphical user interface, chart, application, line chart

Description automatically generated

**Class 2022 Representative** – Kate Harris

* No report

**Chapter Advisors**

* Jordan Kieffer said Sea Center could use volunteers during spring break.
* John O. will start up Water Wednesday the 3rd Wednesday, staring in March and will hold session every other month.
* John will get the Water Team together to discuss topics.

New Business – none

General Meeting Agenda –Next meeting Wednesday February 8th, 9:00 am. Please SEND ME ANY ITEMS BY SUNDAY EVENING February 5th.

**President:** Kathy Pittman adjourned the Board Meeting at 11:34 AM

Respectfully submitted,

Lorna Witt, Secretary

cc: Board Members  
 Crystal Andablo, AgriLIFE Secretary [Crystal.Andablo@ag.tamu.edu](mailto:Crystal.Andablo@ag.tamu.edu)

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| **Attendance 2022** | **Jan** | **Feb** | **Mar** | **Apr** | **May** | **Jun** | **Jul** | **Aug** | **Sep** | **Oct** | **Nov** | **Dec** | **Total** |
| **Elected Board Members** | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Pittman, Kathy | X | X |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Salinas, Jimmy | X | X |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Sabathier, Don | X | X |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Witt, Lorna | X |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Advisors** | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| O'Connell, John | X | X |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Kieffer, Jordan | X | X |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Immediate Past President** | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Mickey Dufilho | X | X |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Appointed Board/Committee Members** | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Atkins, Oron | X | X |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Boettiger, John |  | X |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Harris, Kate | X |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Hollenshead, Melanie | X | X |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Lewis, Ruby |  | X |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Peterson, Larry | X | X |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Rivers, Kristine | X | X |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Stolte, Connie | X | X |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Wagner, Rose | X | X |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Guests** | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Luanne Salinas | x | x |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Amanda Gabehart |  | x |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |