

**Hays County Master Naturalist
Board Meeting Minutes
February 12th, 2015 at 6:30 PM
Camp Jacob Watershed Education Center**

The meeting was called to order at 6:33 pm

In attendance:

Art Arizpe, President

Larry Calvert, Past President

Karen Archer, VP

Beth Ramey, Treasurer

Dick McBride, Training Committee Chair

Dixie Camp, Volunteer Services & State Representative

Gordon Linam, TPWD Representative

Host Committee, Roxana Donegan & Mary Dow Ross

Tom Watson, Historian

Beverly Gordon, Calendar Committee

Merry Bateman, Candy Spitzer, and Judy Burdett, Willet Foundation Grant Proposal Team

Not Present:

Tracy Mock, Secretary

Susan Kimmel-Lines, Advanced Training

Leah Laszewski, Records & Membership Committees

Herb Smith, Webmaster

Helen Bowie, Host Committee

Richard Parrish, Extension Agent

Hope Shimek, Newsletter editor

1. Willet Foundation Grant Proposal presentation – Merry Bateman and Candy Spitzer

The Grant Committee presented the recommendations resulting from their work.

Following the presentation the Board asked questions and discussed some preliminary actions that will move this project along. **ACTION: Art** will include the Grant project as a specific item for the March agenda. **ACTION: All Board members** be thinking of people to encourage working on and leading the project. Current thinking is co-leaders for this project would be good considering the size and importance of the project to the Chapter.

2. President – Art Arizpe

a. Approve previous minutes – Reviewed the January minutes. Motion to approve was made by Beth. Seconded by Karen. Minutes approved.

b. Announcements – The San Marcos Greenbelt Alliance recognized HCMN as the volunteer organization of the year. Art attended to receive the award that was a custom made walking stick. There was some discussion of how to use the award and it was left unresolved. **Action Art** will write a short article and include the picture of receiving the award. **Action: Dick, Dixie, and Larry** will have the article put in the San Marcos Record, Dripping Springs paper, and Wimberley View respectively.

c. Naturescapes - Art reviewed the Naturescapes budget for 2014 and the HCMN role. Art recommended and moved that the Naturescapes co-sponsorship with HCMN be supported at the \$400 level this year. Karen seconded, and it was approved.

d. Board Calendar – Review of calendar was completed. **Action: Larry** will send Art calendar items related to completing the annual report.

3. Vice President – **Karen Archer** – The February Chapter meeting will be held on the 22nd at the Wimberley Lutheran Church and the Speaker will be Nyta Brown. The March Chapter meeting will be held on March 22nd at the Wimberley Lutheran Church and the Speaker will be Greg Eckhardt. Karen is making arrangements with Gerrad Holmes of Bamberger Ranch, to speak at this year's social..
4. Secretary – **Tracy Mock** –(absent)
5. Treasurer – **Beth Ramey** – Current membership is 122, which is on target compared with last year.
6. AgriLife Agent – **Richard Parrish** (absent)
7. TP&WD Representative – **Gordon Linam** – Checked to see that we had followed up on the prospective new chapter member that Michelle asked us to consider. **Action: Dick** will review the training that will be needed to bring this person up to speed for HCMN Chapter membership.
8. Past President – **Larry Calvert** - no report
9. State Representative – **Dixie Camp** – No report.
10. Training Committee – **Dick McBride** – 36 in the new class after 3 dropped just before class started. **Action: Dick** will touch base with a couple of potential additions to the class.
11. Advanced Training Committee – **Susan Kimmel-Lines** (absent) Susan reported to Art that she is pursuing some new speakers.
12. Membership Committee – **Leah Laszewski** – (Absent)
13. Web Master – **Herb Smith** – (absent)
14. Newsletter – **Hope Shimek** – (Absent) – Art asked Hope to a Facebook page
15. Outreach – **Helen Bowie** – (absent)
16. Host Committee – **Roxana Donegan & Mary Dow Ross** – There was a discussion about food for the Chapter meetings and the Board requested that when Chapter meetings are announced it include a request for those attending to bring a dish if possible; recognizing many are coming directly from work. **Action: Roxana and Mary** will determine how best to handle this request. Since we are trying to increase the number of people attending we are likely to exceed the budget set up for the Host Committee. **Action Karen:** will announce at the Chapter meeting that we have set up a "tip jar" to bridge the budget shortfall.
17. Historian – **Tom Watson** – Announced he needs **the class photo for 2000 in addition to those for 2001 and 2008. Also he needs the PowerPoint presentations for the Galas of 2007 & 2008.** **Action: Larry** will send copies (hard and electronic) of the programs he has.
18. Volunteer Services – **Dixie Camp** – Announced that Richard Barnett is moving to **Victoria** for health reasons. **Action: Dixie** will ask Michelle to provide a letter of support for his inclusion in the local chapter there. **Action: Tracy** – Bring a card to the March Chapter meeting so that the Board can thank Richard for all the work he has done for the Chapter.
19. Calendar – **Beverly Gordon** - no report

20. Adjourn – A motion to adjourn was made by Beth, seconded by Dixie. Meeting adjourned at 8:04 pm