

Hays County Master Naturalist Board Meeting Minutes
April 14, 2016 at 6:30 PM
Woodcreek City Hall Meeting Room, 41 Champions Cir, Wimberley, TX

The meeting was called to order at 6:41 pm.

In Attendance:

Beth Ramey, President
Art Arizpe, Past President
Connie Boltz, VP
Larry Calvert, Treasurer
Tracy Mock, Secretary
Susan Neill, Training Committee Chair
Roxanna Donegan, Host Committee
Mary Dow Ross, Host Committee
Dixie Camp, Volunteer Services & State Representative
Helen Bowie, Outreach Committee
Gordon Linam, TPWD Representative

Not Present:

Beverly Gordon, Advanced Training Committee & Calendar
Judy Burdett, Membership , Records Committee
Tom Watson, Historian
Candy Spitzer, Willett Grant Committee
Richard Parrish, Extension Agent
Jane Dunham, Webmaster
Hope Shimik, Newsletter Editor

The March board meeting minutes were reviewed. Connie pointed out one edit to be made (location of the meeting changed to Woodcreek City Hall). Dixie made a motion to accept the minutes as revised. Larry seconded. Minutes approved.

There was no feedback received regarding the revisions to the Chapter Operating Handbook. Dixie made a motion to accept the revisions as distributed to the membership in the month of March. Larry seconded. Handbook revisions accepted.

ACTION ITEM: Connie will draft the monthly chapter meeting announcements in such a way that folks are encouraged to arrive at 6:30 (during the “social time”) instead of arriving right at 7 pm when the speakers are supposed to start.

Art made a motion that the Chapter designates \$300 towards the Naturescapes Photography Contest this year. Dixie seconded. Motion passed.

Per Tom Watson’s emailed report – the President’s Volunteer Service Awards have been ordered for everyone who was eligible. The awards should be here in time to hand out at the summer social.

ACTION ITEM: Beth will remove the state quarterly reports from our deadlines list because Art confirmed the State pulls the quarterly information automatically from the VMS.

ACTION ITEM: After each chapter meeting – Connie will communicate to Judy and Beverly exactly how much AT hours should be logged for each event, and will Judy will be expected to update the AT calendar so that everyone will know.

ACTION ITEM: Helen needs a filing cabinet moved from the AgriLife building to the storage unit.

ACTION ITEM: Beth will put on the agenda for next month to discuss the AgriLife Office move. Most of our items have already been relocated to the temporary storage unit. There is still a file cabinet that needs to be moved (as mentioned above), but we will hold off for now until we hear a building update.

Art gave an update of the new YMCA Camp Cypress project.

ACTION ITEM: Dixie will update and approve the application to make Camp Cypress an approved volunteer project so that folks can start reporting hours.

Susan N. reports this year's training class has likely dropped from 39 to 35 participants.

Dixie reports over 3,000 people visited the Texas Night Sky Festival in March. Discussions recently have been to make this an annual event. The dates selected for the next two years are March 18, 2017 and March 17, 2018.

ACTION ITEM: Tracy will send email to the membership to publicize the State Soil & Water Conservation grants for enhancing monarch butterfly habitat. See the "Enhancing and Restoring Monarch Butterfly Habitat in Texas". Begins in May 2016 and is open to organizations but also to individuals. Board will discuss again at the May board meeting.

ACTION ITEM: Helen will get quotes for booth informational displays. This expense will go under the budget item for outreach event supplies.

Larry forwarded 2016 budget information to the board members for review. \$1,000 needs to be added to the budget for outreach event supplies (as mentioned in the action item above).

Larry made a motion that we accept the budget as amended. Dixie seconded. Budget passed.

Calendar review – Taxes have been submitted.

ACTION ITEM: Art will seek more information from the Tx St University Wildlife Society to discuss possible partnership.

Connie brought up the idea of an events person to coordinate fieldtrips for the chapter. It probably makes most sense

A motion to adjourn was made by ____, and ____ seconded. Meeting adjourned at ____ pm.