

Hays County Master Naturalist Chapter Board Meeting
Minutes June 9, 2016, 6:30 PM
Woodcreek City Hall Meeting Room

Minutes recorded by Art Arizpe.

The meeting was called to order at 6:35 pm.

In Attendance:

Beth Ramey, President

Connie Boltz, VP

Larry Calvert, Treasurer

Art Arizpe, Past President

Beverly Gordon, Advanced Training Committee & Calendar

Judy Burdett, Membership, Records Committee

Roxanna Donegan, Host Committee

Mary Dow Ross, Host Committee

Helen Bowie, Outreach Committee

Susan Neill, Training Committee Chair

Dixie Camp, Volunteer Services & State Representative

Not Present:

Tracy Mock, Secretary

Jane Dunham, Webmaster

Tom Watson, Historian

Candy Spitzer, Willett Grant Committee

Gordon Linam, TPWD Representative

Hope Shimek, Newsletter Editor

Order of business

- 1. Call meeting to order – Beth Ramey – the meeting was called to order at 6:35 pm.**
 - a. Review & Approve minutes of previous meeting – There were no corrections needed. Larry moved to approve and Dixie seconded. The May meeting minutes were approved.
- 2. Officer Reports/Announcements**
 - a. President – Beth Ramey – Nothing to report

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- b. Vice President – Connie Boltz - Next chapter meeting: Romey Swanson. Discussion about location of next chapter meeting in July. Decided on McCoy's headquarters.
- c. Secretary – Tracy Mock – absent. She sent Beth an email stating the Remarkable Riparian books are in. She'll send out an email instructing people to send Larry a check for the book. She will be out of the country, June 11th to 21st. Art will cover gmail account.
- d. Treasurer – Larry Calvert
 - i. Financial Report – Reviewed & discussion followed. Dues continue to come in; record numbers. Bottom line assessment from Larry – we should be almost break-even on the budget.
- e. Past President – Art Arizpe – Received Tom Watson's 4000 hour presidential award materials from Michelle. Beth has them now. Received thank you letter from Richard Parrish. Will go into archives.

3. Committee Reports/Announcements

- a. Advanced Training Committee – Beverly Gordon – Hours reporting issues are taking a lot of Judy's time. Many members are submitting hours that have not been previously approved. Beverly will send a description of how to log AT hours.
- b. Calendar – Beverly Gordon – Nothing to report.
- c. Historian – Tom Watson (absent)
- d. Host Committee – Mary Dow Ross & Roxana Donegan – Held a meeting for August 13th Social at the Dripping Springs Ranch. Looking for someone in Dripping Springs to cater. Discussion about what food to provide: pizza, salad, drinks, dessert. Discussion about how much to charge because we've subsidized the meals in the past. Larry moved we set the price at \$10 per person. Helen seconded. The motion was approved. There is also \$400 available because we don't have to pay for the space.
- e. Membership Committee – Judy Burdett – Over 3000 entries, 141 members are logging, 8492.2 hours as of June 9th. 1055.75 AT hours. When the entries are correct, the approval process is quick and easy. The time consuming ones are when there's a problem. Judy is proposing a document that describes the process more thoroughly. **Action Item:** Dixie will ask project leaders to review current projects document and submit corrections to descriptions and opportunity codes to her. **Action Item:** Judy to propose a fun activity for the social to highlight this.
- f. Newsletter Committee and Editor – Hope Shimek (absent)
- g. Outreach Committee – Helen Bowie – Held Wimberley Library kick-off. Reviewed June and July Outreach events. Not much in August. Should pick up in September. Discussion followed.
- h. State Representative – Dixie Camp – Report given. Asking for state meeting presentations. Minnette Marr has agreed to do one. Discussion followed.
- i. Training Committee Chair – Susan Neill – Some challenges last month. Rain caused a site visit cancellation. Move to later this month. Held trip to the Meadow Center; unfortunately the speaker did not come. Tried to show a video of the same speaker, but had technical problems. Sending a link to last year's talk to fulfill requirement. There has been significant attrition on the committee. People are covering multiple roles. 6 total drops since start.
- j. Volunteer Services – Dixie Camp – Plant give-away with Chris Middleton went well. Some educational work as a bonus.
- k. Website Administrator – Jane Dunham – (absent)
- l. Willett Project – Candy Spitzer (absent) **Action Item:** Art to speak to Chuck and provide a project status.

4. Advisor

- a. TP&WD Representative – Gordon Linam (absent)

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5. Unfinished Business

- a. President's Volunteer Service Awards –
 - i. Update – Tom Watson (absent). Beth reports that we're having trouble with the process and getting help. This may not be done by the Social timeframe.
- b. Outreach Event Display – Helen Bowie – No update.
- c. AgriLife Office changes – Beth Ramey – Update given. Discussion followed.
- d. Project update – Camp Cypress – Art Arizpe – EcoBlitz Update given.
- e. Outreach - Texas State University Wildlife Society – Art Arizpe – Update given. Talked to Anne Beckmann, their President. Agreed to create a partnership and discussed ways which we can help each other. **Action Item:** Write a newsletter article.
- f. Upcoming Board Calendar events – Propose a TC chair. Class tuition proposed changes in July.
- g. Field Trips for AT – Connie Boltz – Discussion: try not compete with chapter meetings. Hold in addition to chapter meetings. They should count as AT hours as appropriate.

6. New Business

- a. Chapter Logo – Beth prepared 6 samples. Discussion followed. Larry moved to accept a variation of one. Mary Dow seconded. Motion approved.
- b. Beth - Discussion about having two at-large training class representatives on the board. Proposed term is June to June to provide some chapter experience before attending board and the handing off to new members. Connie moved that we invite two training class members to become at-large board members. Larry seconded. Motion passes. Susan will talk to class.

7. REVIEW ACTION ITEMS

8. **Adjourn – Larry made a motion to adjourn, Connie seconded. Meeting adjourned at 8:51 pm.**