

Hays County Master Naturalist Chapter Board Meeting Minutes
February 9, 2017 6:30 PM
Woodcreek City Hall Meeting Room

In Attendance:

Beth Ramey, President
Larry Calvert, Treasurer
Dixie Camp, Volunteer Coordinator & State Representative
Roxana Donegan, Host Committee
Beverly Gordon, Calendar & Advanced Training Committee
Susan Neill, Training Committee Chair
Gordon Linam, TPWD Representative
Mary Dow Ross, Host Committee
Jane Dunham, Webmaster & Membership Committee
Candy Spitzer, Willett Grant Committee

Not Present:

Art Arizpe, Past President
Connie Boltz, Vice President
Tracy Mock, Secretary
Jason Mangold, AgriLife Extension Advisor
Hope Shimik, Newsletter

- 1. Call meeting to order – Beth Ramey** – The meeting was called to order at 6:32 pm
 - a. Review & Approve minutes of previous meetings. Jane made a motion to approve the January board meeting minutes. Susan seconded. Board meeting minutes approved.
- 2. Officer Reports/Announcements**
 - a. President – Beth Ramey
 - i. Beth announced that with Tracy and Art are out of town and she attempted to send out blasts but was unsuccessful because she was not authorized.
 - b. Vice President – Connie Boltz Not present
 - c. Secretary – Tracy Mock Not present
 - d. Treasurer – Larry Calvert –
 - i. Financial Report – Emailed to board. Reviewed. Susan moved that the report be accepted and Jane seconded. Financial report was approved.
 - ii. Larry reviewed 2017 budget worksheets with the board members. Discussion took place and the Budget was accepted.
 - e. Past President – Art Arizpe Not present
- 3. Committee Reports/Announcements**
 - a. Advanced Training Committee – Beverly Gordon
 - i. Beverly will begin announcing the new ATs by blasts to make more people aware of the opportunities.
 - b. Calendar – Beverly Gordon – Nothing to report.

- c. Historian – Vacant
 - i. **ACTION ITEM**: Beth will draft an advertisement for permanently filling the position. Lauren Young will act as Interim Historian.
 - ii. **ACTION ITEM**: Lauren and Jane need to determine how and what historical information will be put on the website.
- d. Host Committee – Mary Dow Ross – **ACTION ITEM**: Mary Dow will draft a note to the membership to bring their own plates and glassware to Chapter meetings to make our meetings more supportive of the environment. She will send it to Tracy to be blasted to the membership.
- e. Membership Committee – Jane Dunham – **ACTION ITEM**: Jane will add the new class to the VMS. **ACTION ITEM**: Jane will check with Judy to determine who has not received their pin from last year and mail them out.
- f. Website Administrator – Jane Dunham – **ACTION ITEM**: Art will train Jane on VMS. **ACTION ITEM**: Susan will send Jane a copy of the new class roster.
- g. Newsletter Committee and Editor – Hope Shimek – Not present
- h. Outreach Committee – Vacant
- i. Training Committee Chair – Susan Neill – 42 members in the new class, and only 2 missed. Everyone paid the \$25 registration fee without any complaints. Of the 74 on the original waiting list only 12 actually registered for the class. There were 8 on the new waiting list and people still calling to get on it.
- j. State Representative – Dixie Camp
 - i. The TMN Endowment Fund goal was \$25,000 for 2016 and they got \$12,000.
 - ii. This is the 20th anniversary year for the TMN program; they would like to have pictures of MN activities. Ideas for celebrating the anniversary are welcomed.
- k. Volunteer Services – Dixie Camp –
 - i. Dixie is asking for new and maintained Acres and Miles of trail numbers from the project leaders for the Annual Report.
 - ii. Texas Night Sky Festival on March 18th needs volunteers, so far the response has been great.
 - iii. Dixie is moving all projects to be led by MN members.
- l. Willett Project – Candy Spitzer
 - i. The website is getting a complete review by people who have not worked on it to look for any final changes or omissions.
 - ii. All the listed links will be checked to see if they are operational.
 - iii. One more final revision will be done after the reviews are completed.

4. Advisor

- a. TP&WD Representative – Gordon Linam – No report
- b. AgriLife Extension – Jason Mangold – Not present

5. Unfinished Business

- a. Willett Implementation discussion
 - i. Review Project parameters - Reviewed the original design concept originally approved by the Board.
 - ii. Domain name – **BeautifulHaysCo.org** was offered as a possible name. Larry moved it to be accepted and Roxana seconded it.
 - iii. Web Service - **ACTION ITEM**: Candy will determine if the contractor if Dream Host is a good service to use.

- iv. Support Structure – there was a discussion about how best to move the project forward. It was decided that an initial committee needs to be set up to take over the roll out and the management of the operation of the website. **ACTION ITEM:** Beth wants some Board representation and will develop some ideas of possible Board and other member candidates for staffing the committee.

6. New Business

- a. Letter of support for the San Marcos Watershed Protection Plan (WPP) – After discussion Larry moved we support the WPP and Dixie seconded it.
- b. Changes to the Trainee Application Form – Susan presented the changes she had added for this class. **ACTION ITEM:** Susan will add a statement to reflect Hays Co. as a first selection criteria and any others second. With this change she will delete the *first come first selected* statement. After these changes she will present it to the Board for final approval.
- c. Photo Display Board - **ACTION ITEM:** Beth will e-mail photos of possible boards for Board member input on what to choose and how much to spend. It was mentioned there is the possibility that the Willett Project and/or the TX Night Sky Festival project could provide some of the funds.
- d. Member Survey Results - Beth – The survey was sent to the Board and it will be discussed at the next meeting.
- e. Barnett's Books – Beth – we have decided to accept the books and will find good homes/uses for them.
- f. Curriculum Text Donation to Library- Larry - deferred to the next meeting.
- g. Rack Cards- Jane- Jane showed examples of "rack/push cards" that could be printed for \$160 for 1000 and used at the many Outreach opportunities on the calendar in the next few months. **ACTION ITEM:** Board will send Jane comments within the next 2 weeks.
- h. Annual Report - **ACTION ITEM:** Beth will add The City of Woodcreek to our partnership list and they will be recognized at the 2017 Gala.

REVIEW ACTION ITEMS

- i. Upcoming Calendar events – deferred until the next meeting

7. **Adjourn** – Dixie made a motion to adjourn, Mary Dow seconded. Meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm

