

**Hays County Master Naturalist Board Meeting
Wednesday April 23, 2008, 6:30 P.M.
600 Red Hawk Road**

Attending: President Dale Shively, Vice President Dixie Camp, Treasurer Winifred Simon, Training Committee Chair Jean McMeans, Volunteer Project Chair Walt Krudop, Le Ann Linam, TPWD, Advanced Training Chair Betty Finley, Newsletter Chair Richard Barnett, Membership Chair Beth Ramey

Not Attending: Past President Tom Watson, Secretary Susan Nenney, County Agrilife Sponsor Bryan Davis, Historian Laurel Robertson.

Dale called the meeting to order at 6:40. The agenda was approved.

OFFICERS REPORTS

Secretary – No report. Dale Shively announced that Susan Nenney has requested a temporary sabbatical from her officer responsibilities and an interim Secretary will need to be appointed. Board members were asked to submit possible candidate name to Dale before the next meeting.

Treasurer – Winifred Simon reported we currently have 60 paid members. The Association balance - \$2834.57, Class funds - \$ 6294.14. Jean McMeans submitted an invoice for training publications.

Vice President – Dixie Camp reported she is working on speakers for the May and June Chapter meeting. May's tentative topic is education about managing volunteers and volunteer projects. April's chapter meeting is on the 24th, and the topic is Conserving Local Wildlands amid Urban Growth, presented by Gail McGlamery, Coordinator for the City of Austin's Wildland Conservation Division.

Volunteer Projects Chair – No report. Walt is going to work with the May Chapter speaker to develop an agenda that will help promote our volunteer projects to the members.

Advanced Training Chair - Betty Finley reported she is compiling a complete list of Advanced Training events which she would like to post on the website. The approval process seems to be working well.

Membership Chair – Beth Ramey reported that 90.50 hour of Advanced Training and 679.20 volunteer hours have been reported by members as of April 19th. Student hours are being tracked by the Training Committee.

Training Committee Chair – Jean McMeans reported the class has 31 active members currently. She commented that the class was very active and engaged.

DISCUSSION/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dale Shively distributed copies of the Texas Master Naturalist Code of Ethics. The entire group reviewed the document to ensure clarity on all points.

Betty Finley asked for board review of an Advanced Training request that involved an event a member was participating in as part of their job. After some discussion it was decided if training is linked to job responsibilities or you are being compensated for the time you may not claim AT hours for the training.

Chapter Goals for 2008 – A discussion continued from earlier meetings. The Board adopted a 2008 goal for Volunteer hours of 7500 recorded hours. This is a 25% increase over 2007's total of 5995 hours. Walt will be working on a plan to target a few key projects to ensure we meet the goal.

Annual Reporting – Requirements were discussed. Beth Ramey is going to update the database to ensure we have the data required linked to our volunteer projects.

Awards Guidelines – Guidelines were reviewed and modifications made for a final draft.

Master Naturalist Marketing and Identity Guide – The state publication was reviewed by all to ensure understanding.

Training Committee Chair for 2009 – The board needs to appoint a Training Committee Chair for 2009 before the end of the year. Jean McMeans suggested the board make the decision as soon as possible to ensure enough overlap to allow the new chair to learn about the responsibilities of the role. Dale Shively asked the board to send candidate suggestions to him by the next meeting.

Upcoming Board Meetings – dates and locations:

- May – 14th – Winifred Simon's pool house
- June – 11th – Winifred Simon's pool house
- July – 16th – Winifred Simon's pool house

Send agenda topics to Dale.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 PM.