

**Hays County Master Naturalist Board Meeting**  
**Tuesday June 10<sup>th</sup>, 2008, 6:30 P.M.**  
**600 Red Hawk Road**

**Attending:** President Dale Shively, Vice President Dixie Camp, Volunteer Project Chair Walt Krudop, Training Committee Chair Jean McMeans, Advanced Training Chair Betty Finley, Treasurer Winifred Simon, Membership Chair Beth Ramey.

**Not Attending:** Past President Tom Watson, Secretary Susan Nenny, County Agrilife Sponsor Bryan Davis, Newsletter Chair Richard Barnett, Historian Laurel Robertson.

Dale called the meeting to order at 6:38 PM. The meeting agenda was reviewed and approved.

**Officer Reports**

Secretary's report – None

Treasurer's report – The current balance in the association account is \$2800.00. The class balance is \$5638.77.

Budget question from Dale Shively -is fundraising something we need to pursue on a regular basis? Currently the Gala is our single greatest expense.

Winifred Simon commented; unless we have something specific to do, we don't really need to do fund raising.

Jean McMeans asked: How do we get printing done? Answer - Bryan Davis at the County AgriLife office can print for events if we provide the paper.

Determined - We need to do more outreach which requires more handouts. We need a plan for that expense. We should supply brochures with the display every time it goes out.

VP report – The last chapter meeting was well received; 30+ attended. Walt did a great job getting key folks to come and talk about their projects. Meeting was 1.5 hours long and many stayed and talked. Kay Beth gave us \$200 for work volunteers did for Hays Central appraisal district–

Next chapter meeting is a field trip featuring Joe Lapp and a spider talk. Meeting will be June 26<sup>th</sup> @ 6:30 at the Patsy Glenn refuge, includes a nature walk to look for spiders. This is an AT opportunity. Other possible topics were discussed for future meetings. Topics included: Solar, Green building, oak wilt, Holistic resource management, Wildscaping, biodiversity, land fragmentation and TOWMA.

Membership Committee – Volunteer hours reported to date: 1547.80, Advanced Training hours reported to date – 179.9. With the lag in reporting, it is difficult to determine if 2008 is going to be dramatically different than prior years.

Advanced Training – Events approved for AT hours - 7 in May, 6 in June. Betty is having some problems with requests coming in after events have been attended. A discussion ensued regarding how to best communicate the procedure to members.

Determined: Preapproval must be obtained for events that fall outside the chapter boundaries. Not all partner events automatically qualify for AT. Parks and Wildlife and AgriLife events that do support the chapter will qualify but should be submitted for approval prior to the event.

Determined – stress procedure and yet still review and grant credit where appropriate.

Determined – Partner groups will be notified of our requirements for AT and volunteer standards.

Volunteer Projects – Walt is reworking the volunteer project lists to be more user friendly and reflect only current projects. He will pare the project list and will change the page on the front of the website to the User Friendly list. Identified organizational generic events or areas that generally align with our principles and objectives will be listed under generic project numbers. The Board will review the activities list annually and remove inactive projects from the list.

It was decided to create a template for members who want to put a volunteer project together so they know all the procedures and steps.

Walt will create FAQ page regarding volunteer projects.

Walt will work on Recognition of Volunteers – other than Gala – examples; start sending thank you notes, put articles of appreciation in the Newsletter.

### **General Topics**

Using Master Naturalist affiliation to complement a business interest is a violation of the bylaws. The two must be separated.

Members can get AT for field trips, site visits and classes with speakers that you they not heard before.

Training – Site visits were well attended; remainder will be in September.

Pioneer Town will be site of graduation. We should have 30+ graduates.

Service Project – H2Oasis (nonprofit) will administer Charles Curtis' private grant to rehabilitate his property. The MN Board had a problem with conflicts in handling this grant.

The Training Committee Chair needs to be decided for 2009. The board is still searching and wants to get someone in place early so they have time to get familiar with process and responsibilities under Jean's tutelage.

We will need several Officers for 2008. Start talking to members about the positions to stimulate interest.

Next Meeting – July 16, 6:30 PM, 600 Red Hawk Road

Adjourned – 9:00 PM