

**HAYS COUNTY MASTER NATURALIST
SEPTEMBER 14, 2006
BOARD MEETING**

MINUTES

In attendance:

President Tom Watson, Vice President Dale Shively, Training Committee Chair Nancy Turner, Secretary Susan Nenney, Treasurer Winifred Simon, Richard Barnett, Newsletter chairman. TPWD representative Lee Ann Linam.

President Tom Watson called the meeting to order at 7:15.

Officers Reports

None

Old Business

Joint Graduation with Training Committee

Nancy Turner reported that the location for the November 10 graduation will be the Silver Spoon Café at Pioneer Town at 7-A Ranch off River Road. The facility seats 80. Use our caterer, have BYOB with buffet. Cost: \$125 plus additional fees if usage of part of kitchen. The Board discussed the budget for the event. Efforts will be made to collect dinner payments before event with a due date of November 4. Volunteers will be identified to help out with decorating, registration, etc.

Awards For Service To Chapter

Dale Shively reported that a subset of the leadership group met to discuss an awards structure to recognize chapter member achievements. He presented a draft list of options for awards and criteria. His research suggests that few chapters seem to have awards so our chapter will have to create a system. The Board reviewed and discussed the list of possible awards. Dale reviewed possible nominations criteria and committee processes, and the group discussed some options. Dale will continue to develop a format.

The bylaws say the President will appoint the committee chair and the committee members. Tom proposed that the 2006 Awards Committee include Dale Shively, Susan Nenney, Nancy Turner, Judy Telford and Walt Krudop. Nancy moved and Dale seconded a motion to approve Tom's appointment of the committee. The committee will now continue to operate as an official function, finalize guidelines, and identify and proceed with nominees for this year's awards. Dale will provide a budget estimate for the Board's e-mail approval.

Ranchland Management Field Day

Tom Watson reported this event will be a fundraiser for the chapter targeting general public and small acreage landowners. The chapter will handle registration, set up and food service for lunch and will require about 10 volunteers. Hours are 8:30 – 4:00pm. Volunteer needs include:

Day before: 4-5 volunteers to set up hay bales for seating.

Day of: registration (2), food (servers), 4-5 to help with concurrent sessions in different areas of the ranch and guide people from one area to the next. A total of ten volunteers working in two shifts. (Orientation needed for those who may have transportation responsibilities.)

The \$15 fee includes \$5 expense for food and the remainder is chapter income. Tom proposed charging members only for \$5. Advanced training credit will be given. Nancy moved and Dale

seconded that chapter members be invited to attend for advanced training credit and \$5 for cost of food. Working volunteers will attend gratis and will receive volunteer hours.

PR – Bryan will send out flyers to papers, various mailing lists. The board proposed posting around Wimberley and the San Marcos newspaper.

November Chapter Meeting and handoff to new board

Tom Watson led a discussion of election procedures and the process outlined in the bylaws. The bylaws state that the election must occur at the November chapter meeting. The past president chairs the nominating process. As outgoing president, Tom will manage the process this year. He will appoint two committee members including Dale – who will not be running for VP – and Judy Telford. They will develop a slate for presentation at the November meeting. The date for the event is set as Thursday, November 30, with second choice date of Weds Nov 29 and 3rd choice of Tuesday Nov 28. Tom hopes to secure space at the Wimberley Community Center. The program will be the awards and recognition activities.

New Business

Policy for Honoraria/Expenses for guest speakers

The Board decided that a decision on reimbursement for speaker expenses would be an issue for the next board. Nancy moved and Dale seconded that this issue will be tabled as a policy for the incoming board to develop.

Revision of bylaws for election of officers and addition of Past President to the Board

Dropped in the interest of time.

TMN & TPWD small grant for State TMN meeting

Winifred reported that the state program offers a \$75 grant for each chapter to give to a member. She recommended that a member of the current class be the recipient. She proposed that interested class members participate in a drawing for the scholarship. Nancy will follow-up with the training class process.

Training Class Promotional Brochure

Nancy distributed a draft brochure promoting the 2007 class enrollment to be distributed at the TPWD Expo. The Board gave her approval to proceed on brochure development.

State Conference Slide Show

Tom will request specific people to submit to him photos for the state conference slide show.

Nancy moved, Dale seconded the meeting be adjourned. The meeting was adjourned at 9:11.