

MN Board Meeting
Sunday, September 16, 2007
2-4pm
820 Red Hawk Road

IN ATTENDANCE: President Dale Shively, Hospitality Chair Jean McMeans, Treasurer Winifred Simon, Secretary Susan Nenny, Training Committee Chairperson Nancy Turner, Newsletter Chairperson Richard Barnett, Vice-President Dixie Camp, Public Relations Chair Walt Krudrop, Bryan Davis, Hays County Extension Agent.
ABSENT: Judy Telford, Leann Linum, Laurel Robertson

The meeting was called to order at 2:00.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Dixie Camp moved and Jean McMeans seconded that the agenda be approved as presented by Dale Shively.

TREASURER

Winifred Simon reported that the class account balance is \$ 4,340.84, and the chapter account balance is \$2,244.40. Income of \$87.25 at the last chapter meeting included plant sales and donations. For comparison, recent past chapter balances were January 06: \$2,224 and January 2007: \$1,721.4. The 2006 gala cost \$1, 081. The dues will be raised to \$15 from \$12 in January 2008.

FOOD COMMITTEE

Jean reported the committee will provide tea and cookies for the three days of the Citizen Wildfire Ecology training. Chapter members usually donate their cookie costs when asked. The group discussed the advantages of making all chapter meetings open to the public, and providing tea and cookies. The elimination of meals provides more flexibility in opening meetings to the community.

The group discussed recruitment to the program. Bryan Davis refers interested people to the MN web site and encourages them to attend a meeting. This helps keep people engaged until the next class is announced.

FIRE TRAINING PROGRAM

Walt Krudop reported that publicity for the Citizen Wildfire Ecology Specialist Program will begin soon for the three sequential training dates of Nov. 3, 10 and Dec 1. Dixie described the program overview and said that this may become a statewide program similar to the Master Naturalist and Master Gardener Program. Certification will come through the U.S. Forestry Service. Publicity will focus on the lead up to the first meeting.

PROGRAM REPORT

Vice President Dixie Camp reported that the next chapter meeting September 27 on Wimberley area water resources will be the last regular chapter meeting of the year. Remaining events are the Class Graduation and the End-of-Year Gala. She also reported

on plans for volunteer participation in EXPO Oct 5-7. She would like two more volunteers for each afternoon and for Sunday morning.

TRAINING COMMITTEE

Nancy Turner reported that Knox Ranch class Saturday went well with three stations operated by TPWD staff. The last class is October 2. Topics will be land stewardship and the role of the interpreter. Class members have adequate advanced training but need more volunteer hours. Nancy does not have a current reconciliation on the chapter budget. The make-up lesson process is not running smoothly due to equipment limitations. Last year's tapes are being used.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Training Class Workshop, October 3, 6:30-9:30pm, Wimberley Community Center Cypress Room – All interested parties can attend to discuss the plan for the training program and committee structure. Dale will create a list of points for discussion. The group discussed meeting format, process and outcomes. Dale noted that committee structure will be a major point, creating a basis for operation with some built-in flexibility.

Those with suggestions who cannot attend the meeting can e-mail their comments to Dale Shively.

Elections

The Board discussed the upcoming election and nominations process. Winifred moved and Nancy seconded that Jean McMeans be one of the Nominations Committee ad-hoc committee members. By November 1, a proposed slate of nominations must be published to the membership.

ACTION ITEM: Susan will draft and send to Dale a general call for those interested in holding office to notify Dale. The notice will include job descriptions and a request for interested persons to contact Dale.

Gala November 16

Susan Nenney will chair the Gala Committee. Committee volunteers are Jean McMeans, Nancy Turner, Dixie Camp.

ACTION ITEM: Susan will recruit additional committee members for the Gala.

Seed Collection

Bryan Davis reported that Robert Edmondson with Texas Forestry Service has contacted him to request that HCMN volunteers help with a seed collection process for native pecans and flame leaf sumac, seeds to be dropped off at the Extension Office for delivery to the Lubbock Nursery. There they will be germinated and returned to the local area for plant re-establishment.

Seed collection as a volunteer opportunity will fall under the Extension Office volunteer code #402. Bryan will draft a description for distribution to the membership.

State Master Naturalist Meeting Walt has some photos for the state meeting, and Nancy will provide additional shots of program activities.

Jacob's Well Project Dale will meet with Walt about determining our role in the project.

School children workshop A teacher in Lockhart has requested volunteers to work with school children. It was determined that this activity was outside Hays County and there did not seem to be much interest in working on this from any Chapter members.

ACTION ITEM: Susan will draft notices on the Training Workshop and elections for Dale's approval.

Awards Committee

Dale led a discussion of the Awards Committee and process for the end of the year.

ACTION ITEM Susan will consult with Judy Telford and send a note requesting all AT and volunteer hours to be submitted by a specific date

NEXT BOARD MEETING Wednesday October 10, 7:00pm 820 Red Hawk Road.

Jean moved and Winifred seconded that meeting be adjourned. The meeting concluded at 4:30pm.

S Nenney