

**Hays County Master Naturalist Board Meeting  
October 9, 2008, 6:30 P.M.  
820 Red Hawk Road**

**Attending:** President Dale Shively, Vice President Dixie Camp, Advanced Training Chair Betty Finley, Membership Chair Beth Ramey, Secretary Susan Nenney, Training Committee Chair Jean McMeans

**Not Attending:** Treasurer Winifred Simon, Past President Tom Watson, Newsletter Chair Richard Barnett, Historian Laurel Robertson, Volunteer Projects Chair Walt Krudop, Training Host Committee Chair Margaret Baker, AgriLife sponsor Bryan Davis, TPWD sponsor Lee Ann Linum

Dale Shively called the meeting to order at 6:38 PM.

**Approval of agenda**

The meeting agenda was reviewed. Jean McMeans moved and Beth Ramey seconded a motion to approve the agenda as amended. The motion passed.

**Officer Reports**

Secretary's report – Susan Nenney reported on progress in finding /correcting e-mail addresses. Those we are unable to contact will be dropped from the e-mail list.

Treasurer's report – No report.

VP report – Dixie Camp reported on the upcoming October 30 chapter meeting, a panel on land conservation easements. About 30 Hays County Master Naturalist volunteers turned out for EXPO. The trainees did a great job representing the chapter. The group discussed strategies for improving interest and education in the MN exhibit.

Membership Committee – Beth Ramey reported 378 Advanced Training hours and 3,395 Advanced Volunteer hours have been logged to date.

Advanced Training – Betty was out of town recently and had no updated report.

Volunteer Projects – No report

Training Committee – Jean McMeans reported that the last session for the 2008 Class was held last Tuesday. She estimates that about 23 will graduate and about 19 will receive state certification. Graduation is Oct 24. Chapter members are invited. Dixie will represent Dale at this event. The group discussed the outcomes of this class.

TPWD sponsors – No report

President

**Discussion Items**

**Training Class Graduation** – Dixie will represent the Board at the event and will participate in the ceremonies on Dale’s behalf.

**Training Class 2009** – Jean McMeans moved and Susan Nenny seconded that the 2009 Training Committee be approved by the Board. The motion passed. The Committee is as follows:

Mimi Boelter -	Chairman
Linda Webb	Vice Chairman
Marianne Reese –	Speaker Contacts
Leah Lawzeski and Sandy Lucas	Recorders
Debbie Wright	Secretary
Randy Garst	Media
Jamie Kinscherff/ Ann Connell	Site visit coordinators
Karen Archer	Nature Watch
Lyn Weber/Jean McMeans	Food

The committee plans to rearrange some speakers but will not change the process as established. The class will move as stated in the guidelines between at least two places. Training class applicants will be given clear expectations on the number of training hours, the number of classes (some on Saturday), and will be told classes will meet at multiple locations in the county. Some locations will be set based on class members locations. Field trips are set at various locations i.e. Bamburger Ranch, Knox Ranch, Butterfly Bootcamp. Feedback from the current class was that they liked meeting all over the county.

**MN Chapter Gala November 21 Friday**

Susan will convene and host one meeting of a chair-less Gala Committee on October 2 at 5:00. Jean will ask Karen to hold the grasses from the graduation. Nancy will be asked to get ball moss.

The cost will be \$10 a person. Jean will check with Beth on her catering availability. Beth Ramey is in charge of pins, Dale will do certificates for awards. There will be no speaker. The schedule was roughed in as follows: Happy hour 6pm, dinner at 6:45, awards presentations to follow.

Susan will create a printed program formatted as last year’s. Cleanup will be accomplished by the Wimberley Community Center staff.

**2009 Board**

The Board discussed possible nominees for the incoming 2009 Board.

The proposed slate but be mailed to the membership at least 15 days before the November 21 annual meeting; thus it must be mailed by November 5.

### **Awards guidelines**

Dale led a discussion of the Awards guidelines developed in 2006. Once finalized by the Board, they can be put out to the membership for comment and added to the operating handbook in Section E, Standing Committees. Section F- . Ad Hoc Committees are listed as Audit, Nomination and Other ad hoc committees. Dale proposed that the Board add the Awards guidelines under Section F as well.

The 2006 awardees are posted on the Hays MN web site but not the 2007 recipients. Dale will ask Herb to post them.

The group discussed the Awards process and possible edits for the existing language to make the intention more clear and precise.

The Board reviewed the itemized Awards Nominating process which produced the following edits to items 1, 2 and 3:

1. Award committee composed of 3 members will nominate qualified candidates for awards.
2. Leave item 2 as is.
3. Drop item 3.

The Board discussed Award Types and made the following edits/changes:

1. All award recipients other than awards for years of service ( Award #5 as listed) are presented on a wooden plack.
2. Strike Item 2
3. Strike Item 3
4. Renumber item 4. Recertification recipients will receive certificates for years in folder.

Beth Ramey will work up the members' certification qualifications for #5 (Recertification certificates).

The Awards Committee will include the membership chair and two others appointed by the Chapter President.

The secretary will call for nominees for awards from the membership including a 25-50 word justification once the guidelines are finalized.

The Board will vote electronically on the proposed Awards guidelines once edits are made to this document.

### **Other**

### **Next board meeting**

The next board meeting will be held Nov 6 Thursday 6:30 at 820 Red Hawk Road or (alternatively) November 10, Monday.

**Adjourn**

A motion was made to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 9:04.