

Hays Master Naturalist Board Meeting  
Nov. 12, 2009 7:00 pm  
Camp Jacob Watershed Education Center  
Wimberley, Texas

**Attending:** President Dixie Camp, Vice President Ben Adair, Secretary Mary Arizpe, Past President Dale Shively, Membership Chair Beth Ramey, Advanced Training Chair Betty Finley, Outreach Committee Chair Susan Nenney, Newsletter Chair Art Arizpe, TPWD Sponsor Lee Ann Linam, Volunteer Project Chair Walt Krudop, Host Committee Chair Jean McMeans and Chapter member Leo Butler.

**Not attending:** Treasurer Larry Calvert and Training Committee Chair Mimi Boelter

Dixie called the meeting to order at 7:10. The agenda and the September minutes were approved.

### **Officer Reports**

#### President

An audit of our finances needs to be conducted before the gala. The bylaws state that the members of the audit committee will be the Vice President, the Advisor, and the Secretary. Ben, LeeAnn and Mary will need to get the check book, receipts and bank statements from Larry when he gets back in town. The audit needs to be put on the annual calendar.

#### Vice-President

No report

#### Past President/Historian

Dale presented the slate of officers up for election at the November gala. They are as follows: President – Dixie Camp

V. Pres. - Tom Hausler

Secretary - Becky Northcut

Treasurer - Larry Calvert

This list needs to be sent to the membership directly after the meeting.

Members of the historian committee looked into the Master Naturalist files at the AgriLife office.

Dale mentioned that the old meeting minutes are not on the website. Jean said that Bari has the minutes.

#### Treasurer

Larry had written a large check ( over \$500.00) to Beth Watson for the gala food. Walt motioned that we approve the expenditure and Dale seconded. The motion passed. Receipts need to be turned into Larry.

#### Secretary

No report.

#### TPWD Sponsor

LeeAnn reported that Jason Singhurst, a botanist in wildlife diversity, is excited to help with site visits.

Membership

Beth reported that 38 members have been confirmed for recertification.  
The pin this year will be a salamander.

### Awards

6 people will receive milestone awards.

2500 hours - Tom Watson

1000 hours – Ray Franklin

500 hours - Larry Calvert

Jean McMeans

Leah Laszewski

250 hours - Terry Tull

Beth Ramey

Dell and Gerin Hood may have 10 years of consecutive certification but they haven't recertified. Leo will contact them about their hours.

Beth showed the slide presentation for the gala. She asked for more data and photos from partnerships, outreach, volunteer projects, trail miles, etc. Susan suggested that we recognize past award recipients.

### Advanced Training

Betty approved 27 advanced trainings this month.

### Training Committee

The application and acceptance letters for the training class have been revised. The fee will be \$175.00. Jean will work with Larry on the budget. The \$10 fee for background screening will be included in the cost of the class. The papers for the background check will be included with the acceptance letter.

### Newsletter

Art will take photos at the gala.

### Outreach

Jean and Susan gave a 3 hour presentation at the state meeting on creating an outreach plan. They got lots of good feedback.

The speaker's bureau has met twice. They are working on drafts of presentations.

Susan will send notices to local papers about speakers available next year.

Next year the state meeting will be in New Braunfels. It will be our chapter's turn for the silent auction. Note cards from Linda Calvert and wildlife rain guzzlers from Tom Hausler and Randy Garst were suggested as possible auction items.

### Host Committee

Jean asked for people to come to the gala at 5:00 to help decorate.

All preparations for catering have been taken care of. Jamie may do the music.

Each class will be recognized.

The contract for the Community Center was signed and the deposit was paid.

Mimi will get people to help hand out certificates, mugs, and pins.

There will not be a speaker. Jean will have the written program printed.

Susan invited Michelle Haqqerty and Sonny Arnold to the gala.

## Volunteer Projects

Walt has added 1 or 2 new volunteer projects.

The Hays County Water Conservation Working Group will have a rain water harvest festival in May in Dripping Springs. Walt volunteered the Master Naturalists as partners.

Dripping Springs is working to develop a comprehensive plan for water and land use.

There will be a Town Hall meeting November 18<sup>th</sup> at 6:30.

Walt heard Andy Sansom of River Systems Institute speak at the annual meeting and suggested him as a speaker for chapter meetings. He also suggested John Davis who spoke about the value of Master Naturalists.

Walt spoke about background checks. They will be handled through Richard Parrish until the new Ag agent, Kasey Mock, is ready. We will use the state form which we will need in January. The information will be posted on the website. A letter will be sent by email and by post. It will need to be signed and returned. Our responsibility is to inform the membership and potential trainees about the need to be screened. We will keep the letter that states that the members have been informed of the need to be screened and their response as to whether or not they agree to it. The forms with the background information go to the Ag agent. We provide the agent with a list of active members and AgriLife informs people when they need rescreening.

The Ag office may have a machine for postage that we can use.

The next board meeting will be Dec. 10, 2009 at 7:00 pm at Jacob's Well. The meeting was adjourned at 8:57 pm