

**ACTION ITEMS**  
**Hays Master Naturalist Board Meeting**  
**March 4, 2010**

LARRY  
CDs

BETH  
San Marcos Activity Center

JEAN  
Ask for more information from Kofer - how many volunteers needed, whether it's training or volunteer. Specifics. Will send info back to board so they can decide.

DIXIE  
Talk to Jackie Mattice re the Earth Day in Dripping.  
Dixie is going to call Tom re nomination. Also tell Terry .  
Dixie going to check on Price Center.  
Leah is going to take care of rain simulator

SUSAN  
Will ask someone to handle walk. Find out what is needed and then find someone to do it.

BECKY  
Will check on the ballroom, ask about parking. Kitchen and alcohol cheap and parking. LBJ (November 19)  
Going to send out Extension item

**Hays Master Naturalist Board Meeting**  
**3/4/10 7:00 pm**  
**Camp Jacob Watershed Education Center**  
**Wimberley, Texas**

**Attending:**

President Dixie Camp,  
Secretary Becky Northcut,  
Advanced Training Chair Betty Finley,  
Newsletter Chair Art Arizpe;  
Training Committee Chair Jean McMeans,  
Outreach Committee Chair Susan Nenney;  
Treasurer Larry Calvert,  
Membership Chair Beth Ramey;  
Vice President Tom Hausler,  
TPWD Sponsor Lee Ann Linam,  
Project Chair Walt Krudop,  
Past President Dale Shively,

**Not Attending:**

Kasey Mock , extension agent

Dixie opened the meeting at 7:10 p.m. She asked the board if they wanted to discuss the minutes and agenda, make changes or approve.

**Minutes and Agenda**

Larry moved to accept minutes, Beth seconded. Minutes were approved. The agenda was approved by unanimous consent.

**Officer Reports**

**President**

Dixie told the board that Judy Burdett would handle the silent auction. Judy is going to get necessary resources from Michelle, and she will clarify with Michelle about the amount of the auction proceeds the Chapter retains.

Dixie reported that David Baker had offered two nights at the Dancing Waters Inn for the silent auction.

The next item was a request from Marilyn Kirkus for HCMN to help out with an Earth Day event at the Dragonfly School in Dripping Springs on 20<sup>th</sup> of April. Jean suggested Dixie talk to Jackie Mattice to see if she or someone else from Wimberley Outdoor Educators wanted to handle it.

Next item was the request from Kay Cofer about the Texas Wildlife Association LANDS program at Shield Ranch on RR12.

Dixie was concerned that the TWA has a PAC and political agenda and lobbies. She had contacted Michelle, who said if it was just an educational opportunity, it should be okay. Michelle had been impressed by other projects by LANDS committee. The project in question is an Activity Day for kids at the ranch on April 1, with different stations for kids. HCMN would not have to run a station. Just be on hand to volunteer to help as needed.

Walt asked is it training or volunteer work, and said it appeared to be more advanced training. Susan suggested put it out to membership but not offer hours for volunteers or training. It was agreed that Jean would ask Kay Cofer for more specific information — how many volunteers needed, whether it's training or volunteer. Jean will send info back to board in time for a decision.

Next item: Dixie announced that the Texas State University Geography Department had donated a rainfall simulator and that Leah Laszewski had volunteered to maintain it. Now the chapter has two rainfall simulators.

Next item up was Terry Tull's nomination of Tom Watson for the City of Austin Environmental Award and the fact that Tom doesn't know about it. Dixie asked the board what their opinion was regarding the best method and time of informing Tom. Larry said we should simply just tell him as soon as possible, then also announce it at the chapter meeting, and put it in the newsletter.

Art asked when the awards decision would be made. No one knew for sure. Tom Hauser said there was be plenty of time during the next chapter meeting to announce it. It was agreed that Dixie would tell Tom, and also inform Terry that she had done so.

The next agenda item was a progress report on finding a site for the gala/graduation. Jean had made some suggestions previously and Dixie followed up but prices were too high.

The Wimberley Community Center will be exactly the same price as before.

Jean had suggested San Marcos Activity Center but 19<sup>th</sup> of November is the San Marcos Community Thanksgiving.

No one has yet checked the Price Center. Dixie said that the auditorium is nice.

Lee Ann if anyone has asked about Texas State? She located some info about the ballroom in the student center on her laptop. Becky agreed she would check for more complete information including parking, kitchen/catering, and alcohol.

### **Vice President**

Tom has firmed up schedule, with only one floating open date.

Next meeting, March 25: Chris Nice, butterflies.

Mark Klim cannot do June 24 as previously planned; he may be moved to October. Tom agreed to see if Elizabeth McGreevy, Cedar expert, would be available for the June date.

While the food situation still not resolved, there has been more than enough brought each time.

Attendance has been good, with 58 at first meeting, 39 at second. Also, the trainees are coming.

Tom is still looking for other meeting locations. He asked about San Marcos Nature Center? Jean said it had been too expensive in the past. Lee Ann suggested the River Center.

### **Treasurer**

Larry said he wanted to cover a number of things. There were lots of expenditures for February, but related to the class.

He said we had 88 dues paying members.

The grant money has all been spent as of the previous day.

Larry said that some class members who were in couples didn't want to have two sets of books but didn't want money back. He suggested we use that extra to start up a scholarship fund for people who might not be able to afford tuition. Such a fund would be kept it separate so there wouldn't be a chance it would be used. This could be a good use for the proceeds from the silent auction.

There was a discussion regarding whether a need existed. Jean said that in the current class, one new trainee had problem with tuition but can pay in small pieces.

Larry was concerned about having money sitting around, and had checked on CD rates. He suggested short term 6 month CDs so things can stay fluid.

### **Secretary**

Nothing to report.

### **Past President/Historian**

Nothing to report.

### **TPWD**

Lee Ann passed around a map with data from Texas natural diversity database. She said she thought it would be ideal to replicate something similar for citizen level data from site visits, which would be a great venue for doing this.

## **Membership**

Beth said that so far 85 members have reported training and 763 have reported volunteer hours. The current students reported some of the advanced training hours.

Beth also followed up on the previously discussed question of whether the training year counted toward certification. The consensus of the board was to not count the training year on the certificate. Jean said we should keep the bylaws the way they are. Dale said there no need to vote on it since no change. All agreed.

## **Advanced Training**

Betty reported she had approved 23 trainings.

## **Volunteers**

Walt said of the 56 projects on the active list, 30 were charged with 40 hrs or more, 17 of them had more than 100. There were 12 with no hours, and 11 with 40 hours or less. Walt said he would send emails out to those with 40 hours or less see if they are still active.

## **Training**

Jean reported that the first class, featuring volunteer project presentations went over well. All trainees seem enthusiastic so far. Carter Kairns and Minette Marr are scheduled for the next two classes. Next class will be at the extension office, and the following one at the Episcopal Church in Dripping Springs.

Walt asked Jean about demographics. Jean said that the ages are more spread out but trainees are still all white. 12 or 13 people were turned away after registration was full.

Beth asked if we should put demographic data on the registration form. Jean said possibly next year.

Dixie asked if there had been questions about security clearances. Jean said one trainee had asked if he could use a check from someone else. Someone on the training committee had said no, and the final answer was that it depended on where they had the check done. Governmental agencies tend to do more thorough checks.

Larry asked Jean if she wanted board members at the classes. She said board members were welcome anytime.

The visit to Canyon Lake Gorge is scheduled for Sunday, March 28<sup>th</sup>.

### **Newsletter**

Art reported. Becky did most recent column, and Kasey is up next. Art is going to feature Cara and the Patsy Glenn Center. He asked the board what they thought about Steve Carter and the Chaparral Wildlife Management Area, halfway between San Antonio and Laredo.

### **Outreach**

Susan said there was not a whole lot to report.

Stephen Brueggerhoff needed help with Wildflower Center Spring Festival/40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of earth day. He wrote to Tom but since Tom was not officer, he sent it to Dixie, and then it went to Susan. Steve had wanted Tom to do a walk, but Tom cannot do that in April. Discussion re what about having a table at the festival, and perhaps Ray could do the walk. Larry said we had been there every year, but that it wasn't much of an opportunity. Susan agreed, if visitors were there for plant sale, they were not interested in anything else. Larry said we had been more successful at Brookshire Brothers. Susan said that it looked like we might not need to try and do the plant sale.

The Amphibian watch training is full, with 25 and one extra for the 17<sup>th</sup>, 5:30 -9:30. Susan is going to send out a reminder to those enrolled.

There was no outreach meeting in February. Will meet in March and continue to plan a calendar.

Dixie asked, regarding the next board meeting, if the board wanted to continue at Camp Jacob? Did the board want to change the way the agenda is done? Board was okay with meeting place and agenda.

Dixie adjourned the meeting at 8:45 p.m.