

**Hays County Master Naturalists
Board Meeting Minutes
February 14, 2013
Camp Jacob, Wimberley**

In attendance:

Art Arizpe
Karen Archer
Beth Ramey
Larry Calvert
Dixie Camp
Lin Weber
Lisa Kay
Leah Laszewski
Helen Bowie
Tom Hausler

Not present:

Tracy Mock
Richard Parish
Lee Ann Linam
Kim Ort
Ben Adair
Herb Smith
Eva Gomez
Charles Maxcy

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM.

Art asked if there change to the January minutes. Beth noted an error in the reported figures and some text that needed to reflect the change. Beth said she had notified Tracy. Leah moved the January minutes be accepted as revised, and Lin seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Art asked if there were comments or changes to the asset list. **ACTION: Beth will e-mail the current list to the listed keepers of the assets to verify location and contact information is correct.**

Art lead a discussion about the chapters participation with the Hays County Photo Club and asked that HCMN co-sponsor Naturescapes again this year. HCMN wants to co-sponsor again this year and supports the HCPC interest in expanding Naturescapes to additional counties. Leah made a motion that HCMN co-sponsor Naturescapes for at least the \$300 level we did last year, and Larry seconded. The motion passed. **ACTION:**

Art will include discussion of the level of sponsorship by HCMN on the March HCMN agenda. The HCMN Board would like to invite the Naturescape winner we support to the Gala as our guest. ACTION: Art will do the inviting when the winner is selected

Karen said the program for the February Chapter meeting was set. She has attempted to arrange a site trip for the March Chapter meeting to the New Braunfels landfill, where methane is recycled, but has been unsuccessful in making contact. She has the Hill Country Alliance as a back up but will continue to try to arrange the site trip for a future Chapter meeting. Karen also asked about reimbursing a Kingsville, TX speaker's expenses. We agreed to determine an appropriate amount after Karen determines what is being requested. We decided to cancel the July Chapter meeting because attendance is historically light due to family activities and the August Social is so close to the July date. ACTION: Karen will put notice cancelling the July Chapter meeting in the Newsletter and communicate by e-mail.

ACTION: Karen is to plan for a Night Sky program at the Unity Church for the April Chapter meeting if arrangements can be made.

Beth asked for a motion to pay \$???? for class curriculums. Lin made the motion and Leah seconded. The motion passed. Beth's recommended budget for 2013 was reviewed for each Board member area and adjustments were made based on Board discussion. ACTION: Beth will send a revised draft budget in time for the Board members to review it and approve it at the March Board Meeting.

Larry asked if there were changes to the Board Calendar he had sent to the Board for review. There were none and ACTION: Beth will revise it in a more user friendly format and send it to the Board for review. ACTION: Art will include in future Board agendas a review of the calendar so key activities are not missed.

Lin reported that the first class met and there are 38 members in the class. It appears that the class is very active since several attended the first Chapter meeting and several already have worked volunteer hours. ACTION: Lin will send Ben demographic data for the class members. Jean McMeans and Lin have volunteered to help the formation of a new chapter in Guadalupe County.

Lisa told us she had difficulty getting a volunteer for the Newsletter Naturalist's View and thinks she has that problem corrected. We encouraged her to make Board assignments if needed to fill any gaps. ACTION: Lin will send Lisa the name of a possible writer in the class so that we can have Newsletter articles about class activities as we did last year.

Leah reported on the Presenters Bureau progress that has been significant. She is in the process of making a brochure to hand out to interested parties. ACTION: Leah will give Herb the list of topics and speakers to put on the web site.

Leah and Larry discussed progress in developing a Water Specialist certification class, and there was a great deal of support for continuing. At this point a design group is needed to set the class requirements and additional people are needed. ACTION: The names of Jeff Vasgaard, Jim McMeans, and TX Stream Members were suggested and Leah will follow up with them. ACTION: All Board members are to suggest possible candidates for the design committee and notify Leah.

Helen reported that the Social is scheduled for August 10th at Knox Ranch and she is planning to use the Knox Ranch cook to provide the meal. Also the Gala is set for November 16th at the San Marcos Activity Center. ACTION: All board members are to provide menu suggestions for the Gala menu to Helen.

Tom Announced that a new project was under consideration and he passed around the request for Board comment. The Okra project will be celebrated 3/2. Tom is also working with Kim to have AT opportunities entered in the calendar by Kim instead of going through Tom to streamline entry.

Leah moved the meeting adjourn and Tom seconded. All agreed and the meeting was adjourned at 8:33 PM