

Hays County Master Naturalist Board Meeting Agenda
February 13th, 2014 at 6:30 PM
Camp Jacob Watershed Education Center

In attendance:

Art Arizpe, President
Karen Archer, VP
Larry Calvert, Past President
Tracy Mock, Secretary
Beth Ramey, Treasurer
Dick McBride, Training Committee Chair
Helen Bowie, Host Committee
Beverly Gordon, Calendar Committee
Leah Laszewski, Membership Committee
Dixie Camp, Volunteer Services & State Representative
Gordon Linam, TPWD Representative

Not Present:

Susan Kimmel-Lions, Advanced Training
Ben Adair, Records Committee
Herb Smith, Webmaster
Richard Parrish, Extension Agent
OPEN, Historian
OPEN, Outreach Committee
OPEN, Newsletter

The meeting was called to order at 6:37 pm. A correction to the January minutes was made by Beth. Motion to approve the January minutes was made, seconded, and approved. A motion to approve the November minutes was made, seconded, and the minutes were approved.

1. President – **Art Arizpe**
 - a. Announcements – Welcome two new board members, Beverly Gordon and Gordon Linam. Welcome to our guest, Dianna Tupa who is currently in the training class. A thank you to Dixie for her work on the gala in November. Thank you also for carrying out recent TCEQ presentation on Jan. 31st regarding our nomination to represent the whole state MN organization for Environmental Excellence. A team from TCEQ visited several urban & rural sites. Also – Dripping Springs was awarded recent accommodation for International Dark Skies.
 - b. Board Calendar – Covered all action items from last meeting. A few calendar updates were made.
 - c. Naturescapes – A review of Hill Country Photographic Clubs 2013 Financial Report shows overall loss of -\$67.98 This amount, plus their time to plan, set up and hold the show is considered HCPC participation costs which they are willing to bear. A motion was made to increase HCMN donation from \$400 to \$500 for this year since it's the 10th anniversary of this event, seconded by Dick, motion passed. It was suggested to do more advertising this year, ie in the Tx Parks & Wildlife

magazine. Per Gordon, **ACTION ITEM: Per Gordon Linam, the TPW photographer is Chase Fountain. Art will follow up with Chase.**

2. Vice President – **Karen Archer** – January meeting canceled due to inclement weather. Merry Bateman has now been rescheduled for Feb. 27th chapter meeting. Karen is taking suggestions for March meeting. The April speaker will be Craig Wilson from Texas A&M who will give a talk on Monarchs.
3. Secretary – **Tracy Mock** – The email address for Travis Lee is failing...per Dick, it's okay to remove him from my address book. **ACTION ITEM: Please include a sentence in the signature line asking folks to reply if they wish to be removed from the mailing list.** **ACTION ITEM: Need to reconcile the MN Secretary's email contact list with the membership directory.**
4. Treasurer – **Beth Ramey** – Budget modifications made per January board meeting discussion. Okay to approve this budget? Dixie would like to request an additional \$100 budget for volunteer projects service expenses, and adding \$400 for webmaster, to a total of \$500. Larry motioned, Leah seconded. The 2014 Budget was approved.
5. AgriLife Agent – **Richard Parrish** (not present)
6. TP&WD Representative – **Gordon Linam** – Welcome, and thank you for serving.
7. Past President – **Larry Calvert**
 - a. Annual Report – Herb suggested prior annual reports on the website...now have 3 years available online.
 - b. Updated member directory is now on the website. **ACTION ITEM: Larry, please send 'hard copy' to MN Secretary. The new pw is *****.**
 - c. The Hays Co. Birding project made the news in the Austin American Statesman and Larry has been contacted by other MN chapters who are interested in similar projects. From the Design Group, a model for a bird blind has been developed.
8. State Representative – **Dixie Camp** – Would like to talk about training for Project Coordinators. Another challenge is how to record acreage & mileage on projects for reporting on the annual report. Suggestions for people who would be willing to organize & carry out the training for how they manage & organize projects.
9. Training Committee – **Dick McBride** – 37 out of 38 folks made it to the first class two nights ago, on Feb. 11th. Great group. Dick would like to have the authority to grant make-up classes via advanced training. The board feels like there are already two adequate options available, so we don't want to open the door to AT serving as alternatives to training class. The upcoming Canyon Gorge field trip is already full.
10. Advanced Training Committee – **Susan Kimmel-Lines** (not present) – There is about 40 hours of AT approved so far this year. A lengthy email with several opportunities went out today.
11. Membership Committee – **Leah Laszewski** – Beth helped get all the reporting caught up, 2013 pins have ordered for everyone we missed.

12. Web Master – **Herb Smith** (not present)
13. Newsletter Committee and Editor – **Open** – Art received three folks interested in the position.
14. Outreach Committee – **Kim Ort** – Due to enrolling in masters program, Kim will have to step down, so we have an opening.
15. Host Committee – **Helen Bowie** – Has chili frozen from January meeting, ready for the rescheduled date in February. Kudos to Leah's outreach group who has touched the Wimberley Garden Club and actually have three garden club members in the current class.
16. Historian – **Open** -
17. Volunteer Services – **Dixie Camp** -
 - a. TCEQ Meeting – Update given at the beginning of the meeting when we went over 'Announcements'.
18. Calendar – **Beverly Gordon** – Events calendar is up to date, but will be out of town next week and make updates when she is back in town. Susan updates her own AT calendar.
19. Dixie – TCEQ folks asked how many project have children involved. Difficult to track. Also hard to outreach into other schools due to their packed schedule. Have we looked into the Junior MN program? Yes, but a lot of the content is covered by 4-H programs. Seems like a lot of work to undertake, especially if 4-H already had the infrastructure in place.
20. Adjourn – Beth made a motion to adjourn, Larry seconded, meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm.