

**Hays County Master Naturalist
Board Meeting Minutes
January 8th, 2015 at 6:30 PM
Camp Jacob Watershed Education Center**

The meeting was called to order at 6:50 pm

In attendance:

Art Arizpe, President

Larry Calvert, Past President

Karen Archer, VP

Tracy Mock, Secretary

Beth Ramey, Treasurer

Susan Kimmel-Lines, Advanced Training – Left at 6:50 pm due to family emergency

Dixie Camp, Volunteer Services & State Representative

Leah Laszewski, Records & Membership Committees

Gordon Linam, TPWD Representative

Not Present:

Tom Watson, Historian

Herb Smith, Webmaster

Dick McBride, Training Committee Chair

Helen Bowie, Host Committee

Richard Parrish, Extension Agent

Beverly Gordon, Calendar Committee

Open Position(s):

Volunteer Coordinator

Outreach Committee

1. President – **Art Arizpe**
 - a. Approve previous minutes – Reviewed the November minutes from the annual meeting at the gala. Motion to approve was made by Leah. Seconded by Larry. Minutes approved.
 - b. Announcements – None.
 - c. Board Calendar – Review of calendar, nothing due at this time.
 - d. Slate of committee chairs presented and approved.
 - e. Willett Review Committee plans to meet prior to the February Board Meeting.
 - f. Regarding a technology purchase requested by Dick via email in December, **ACTION ITEM:** hold to discuss at the February meeting when Dick is present.

2. Vice President – **Karen Archer** – January chapter meeting is 22nd in Dripping Springs at the Episcopal Church of the Holy Spirit due to AgriLife Office is

- booked for most of the month. The February chapter meeting is hopefully Rain Hail & Snow collection all over the world. Karen is supposed to get in touch with the contact person for CoCoRaHS (Community Collaborative – get name from Richard Parrish. Time to bring back Cindy Luongo-Cassidy to talk about night sky & light pollution.
3. Secretary – **Tracy Mock** – Bounced emails – update given by Leah, thank you. I've received several replies that I need to forward to Dixie, but otherwise up-to-date on secretary emails.
 4. Treasurer – **Beth Ramey** - \$31,768.42 bank balance. 2014 Actuals and 2015 Budget disbursed. There are some line items in the budget that have increased over the past few years. Discussion needs to occur about raising dues, Charging for the meal at the gala, or other items so that our income will be able to cover our costs. For budgeting, and role modeling reasons, Beth would like to make a motion to recommend that MN's be used to facilitate the training class site visits (instead of using professional speakers). Larry seconded the motion. Motion approved. No other comments or questions on the 2015 budget. Larry made a motion that the budget be approved as presented. Leah seconded. Budget approved.
 5. AgriLife Agent – **Richard Parrish** (absent)
 6. TP&WD Representative – **Gordon Linam** – Nothing to report.
 7. Past President – **Larry Calvert**
 - a. Annual Report – coming along fine. Lots of requests made. Work in progress.
 - b. By-Laws Training – There are new bylaws recently made available. Larry will review them in depth, and then decide what type of training to conduct. One option is to let old members simply review the changes and give new members full detailed training, but if there are significant changes then perhaps a full training for all would be appropriate. Possibly schedule this for March.
 - c. Cindy Luongo-Cassidy has asked HCMN to co-host an event (with IDA Texas and the City of Dripping Springs), *Texas Night Sky Festival* to be held at a future date. Our chapter would need to provide a committed volunteer to sit on this committee. Larry moves we accept the offer, Beth seconded. Motion passed.
 8. State Representative – **Dixie Camp** – The state MN convention has been announced – Oct. 23-25, 2015 at Horseshoe Bay. Nothing else to report.
 9. Training Committee – **Dick McBride** (absent) – Report given by Leah – there are 27 applicants and we will continue to accept more into the class even though the deadline has passed. The other issue is the perspective student who needs a signer, but it's too cost prohibitive.
 10. Advanced Training Committee – **Susan Kimmel-Lines** (absent)
 11. Membership Committee – **Leah Laszewski** – As of now, we have recertified 88 folks for 2014, including quite a few Monarchs.

12. Web Master – **Herb Smith** (absent)
13. Newsletter Committee and Editor – **Hope Shimek** (absent)
14. Outreach Committee – **Helen Bowie** (absent)
15. Host Committee – **Roxana Donegan, Mary Dow Ross**
16. Historian – **Tom Watson** (absent)
17. Volunteer Services – **Dixie Camp** – Serves as City of Dripping Springs advisory committee to give recommendations for trail building guidelines. There are some exciting trail building initiatives happening. Let by National Park Service.
18. Calendar – **Beverly Gordon** (absent)
19. Adjourn – A motion to adjourn was made by Larry, seconded by Dixie. Meeting adjourned at 7:50 pm.