

Hays County Master Naturalist Board Meeting Agenda
July 10th, 2014 at 6:30 PM
Camp Jacob Watershed Education Center

The meeting was called to order at 6:35 pm

In attendance:

Art Arizpe, President
Larry Calvert, Past President
Tracy Mock, Secretary
Beth Ramey, Treasurer
Dick McBride, Training Committee Chair
Helen Bowie, Host Committee
Leah Laszewski, Records & Membership Committees
Dixie Camp, Volunteer Services & State Representative

Not Present:

Karen Archer, VP
Susan Kimmel-Lines, Advanced Training
Beverly Gordon, Calendar Committee
Gordon Linam, TPWD Representative
Tom Watson, Historian
Herb Smith, Webmaster
Corrine Grieger, Newsletter
Richard Parrish, Extension Agent

Open Position(s):

Outreach Committee
Newsletter Editor

1. President – **Art Arizpe**
 - a. Approve the June minutes – Larry made a motion to approve the minutes as is, Helen seconded, minutes approved.
 - b. Review action items from the June board meeting –1. Per Leah, we were not late sending our quarterly report, so we don't understand why we were on the TMN "tardy" list. 2. Beth needs the amount to give donation to Lutheran Church. Dick says \$75 is the usual. 3. All other action items-allow another month to accomplish since the June minutes were not sent out until July 9th. New **ACTION ITEM – Tracy will create a new email group within the Secretary's email "Project Leads" and then 4. Dixie will provide the message content to blast out to all project leaders. 5. Helen needs list of all 2014 (Monarch) class members ACTION ITEM – Dick will email the 2014 class list to Helen.**
 - c. Announcements –
 - Dick commented that the Ravenstar kayak trip is outstanding.
 - Art shared a slideshow of some of the submissions to the Naturescapes photog contest. 44 photographers from Hays & surrounding counties have submitted 240 entries. 60 will be chosen for the show.

- d. Board Calendar – Summer social plans are underway, quarterly reports done, Training committee chair will continue, Board will vote in August to confirm TC chair. Dick wants to bring up the issue of 2015 tuition discussion. We will discuss further in August when we have more Board members present. Beth wants to know when should we begin discussion of Board member changes for next year. A recruitment table at the social (along with Training Committee) will be a good idea. **ACTION ITEM – Discuss “Recruitment Table” at August board meeting (which is two days before the social).**
2. Vice President – **Karen Archer** (not present) – Emailed report to Art - Brian Davis is confirmed to attend the summer social.
3. Secretary – **Tracy Mock** – Nothing to report.
4. Treasurer – **Beth Ramey** – Working on re-formatting the year-to-date expense reports (expanded detail) in hopes of 1. Satisfying external auditor request, and 2. Eliminating double entry (Quicken and traditional spreadsheet). Everyone agrees transition to only Quicken will be fine. As of June 30th there is \$9,539.44 bank balance. We have been asked to reimburse some expenses related to the Jacobs Well Grand Reopening (Weight station brochure & guide, lamination charges) totals just under \$83. Should this get charged against the Monarch fund? It's probably okay, but need to check with Jeff V. **ACTION ITEM – Art will talk to Jeff to clarify who is responsible for what expenses.**
5. AgriLife Agent – **Richard Parrish** (not present)
6. TP&WD Representative – **Gordon Linam** (not present)
7. Past President – **Larry Calvert**
 - a. Grant status and discussion. Deferred to the end of meeting... See *agenda item 18 below*.
8. State Representative, Volunteer Services – **Dixie Camp** – The Bat project has been approved. Now working on approval of another project (City of Austin-Balcones Escarpment- per Leah). Even though it's a partnership with another organization, there probably needs to be a HCMN Project Lead / Communication Point of Contact. **ACTION ITEM – Beth will ask for an updated project list from Tom and then get with Dixie about updating the pdf on the website.**
Announcement – Dripping Springs has asked for help in performing a trails survey to find out what the community wants.
9. Training Committee – **Dick McBride** – The 8th class is complete. 35 students remain. There may be one more drop, but a graduating class of 34 is still good. At least 7 or 8 have already gotten their hours to certify. A lot of these class members attend monthly chapter meetings. Dick is currently surveying other chapters to see what they are charging for the training class & will share results at a subsequent meeting.
10. Advanced Training Committee – **Susan Kimmel-Lines** (not present)
11. Membership Committee – **Leah Laszewski** – 2nd quarter hours report was recently submitted. Volunteer hours to date = 6,670 and Advanced Training

hours to date = 815 hours. So far this year we are trending to be right on track, & similar to last year. Number of members reporting is 120 people.

12. Web Master – **Herb Smith** (not present)
13. Newsletter Committee and Editor – **Open** – We did talk about the importance of reporting hours and the need for an article to explain how the State benefits from timely reporting. Future **ACTION ITEM – Leah will prepare a newsletter article, publication date to be determined.**
14. Outreach Committee – **Open**
15. Host Committee – **Helen Bowie** – The John Knox bid for our Summer Social was incorrect. There is a revised total – Helen will get the final invoice to Beth when it's time to cut a check. The plan is for members attend for free, guests/family will be \$10 per person. Helen made a motion to approve in advance an amount not to exceed \$1300 to be paid on the day of the event. Dixie seconded. Motion approved. Helen will make an appointment with the cook to discuss food menu. Fajitas are a good choice. Last year Leah and Lin did door prizes. Will that be done again? **ACTION ITEM – Helen will draft a door prize plea & send it to Secretary to blast out.** The venue provides a projector screen, but Helen needs to locate a microphone/PA. Dick says our projector has a microphone, and he may also have a set of speakers that may work. **ACTION ITEM – Dick will check & get back to Helen.** Directional signage to put out before the social – John Montez has the signs. **ACTION ITEM – Dick will get the signs at the next class meeting.** Invitation is for people to show up at 10 am, but setup folks need to arrive earlier, Board members need to show up between 8:30 and 9 am to help set up. **ACTION ITEM – Helen will send the invitation to Secretary to blast out this week.**
16. Historian – **Tom Watson** (not present)
17. Calendar – **Beverly Gordon** (not present)
18. Update on Grant Status – **Larry Calvert & Beth Ramey** – Gordon put Beth in touch with Rudy Rosen, Director of the Meadows Center who was a great resource. www.water-texas.org
Mr. Rosen doesn't think we will have any trouble with our reporting requirements & the amount of this particular donation. The desire of the donor is to elevate the visibility & exposure of the HCMN chapter. We envision an oversight committee to manage the ongoing projects that are funded by this donation. The recommendation is to proceed with application for, and acceptance of the donation. Larry made a motion to pursue the Harry L Willett Foundation (Denver, CO) grant and to submit a summary of the MN program to the foundation for review. Helen seconded, all in favor. Motion passed.
19. Adjourn. A motion to adjourn was made by Larry, Beth seconded, meeting adjourned at 8:15 pm.