

# **Hays County Master Naturalists**

## **Board Meeting Minutes**

**March 14, 2013**

### **Camp Jacob, Wimberley**

#### In attendance:

Delbert Bassett, Guest  
Beth Ramey, Treasurer  
Lin Weber, Training  
Leah Laszewski, Outreach  
Larry Calvert, Past President  
Art Arizpe, President  
Karen Archer, VP  
Tom Hausler, Volunteer Service Projects  
Dixie Camp, State Representative  
Tracy Mock, Secretary

#### **Not Present:**

Richard Parrish, Extension Agent  
Ben Adair, Membership  
Lee Ann Linam, TPWD Representative  
Kim Ort, Advanced Training  
Charles Maxcy, Historian  
Helen Bowie, Host Committee  
Herb Smith, Webmaster  
Lisa Kay, Newsletter

The meeting was called to order at 6:37 pm

The February board meeting minutes were reviewed. A motion was made to approve the minutes, and it was seconded. The motion for approval of the minutes passed.

A couple of items were mentioned to notate as '2013 Accomplishments' to be included in our year-end review/celebration. 1.) The completion & dedication of the Charles O'Dell memorial garden at the Dripping Springs YMCA, and 2.) The new Advanced Training "Tracks" organized by Kim Ort have had good participation & have filled up fast.

A new format of the Board calendar for the website was previewed by Beth Ramey. It is in Excel with various ways to filter information. A discussion followed of how to "share" the document. Rather than put a static document on the website, perhaps Google document sharing since it is a dynamic document. **ACTION: Determine a way to share dynamic Excel document.**

9<sup>th</sup> Annual Naturescapes Photography Contest & Exhibition – Postcards are printed. Entries will be accepted April 1<sup>st</sup> through July 8<sup>th</sup>. The date was moved up a month to capture school aged children before they are released for summer break. A discussion of level of sponsorship followed. It was proposed HCMN increase their level of sponsorship from \$300 to as much as \$500. Larry made a motion to sponsor at the \$400 level. Tom seconded. The motion passed for sponsorship at the \$400 level.

Guest Delbert Bassett came to talk to HCMN about possible partnership regarding the documentation of large, impressive, or historically significant tree specimens in our local area, for example historical trees as told by stories that are passed down from generation to generation, or as identified by reviewing old photos. **ACTION: Need an article from Delbert to Lisa Kay for publication in our monthly newsletter.** Delbert's contact information is 512-858-4923, [dbassett1@austin.rr.com](mailto:dbassett1@austin.rr.com)

Plans for March & April Chapter meetings were discussed. Somehow the March 23<sup>rd</sup> details did not get passed along. **ACTION: Karen will forward the fieldtrip details to Tracy for distribution to the membership via email.**

Budget Review – As of this date, there are 111 paid members. Bank account balance is \$14,432.33. In addition to the \$300 that is already designated for "Chapter Meetings" to pay for venue rental fees and speaker gifts, since some speakers travel a great distance, it was decided to add another \$200 for travel expenses and/or honorariums to be granted on a case by case basis. Lin made a motion to approve the budget. Larry seconded, and the motion passed.

Per the Asset List review, we are still missing one rainfall monitor. It may be with Warren. ACTION: \_\_\_\_\_ will follow up with Warren to see if he has it (I apologize, I didn't get a person assigned to this task... was it Leah?). Our conversation quickly spun off into whether the older units should be tracked down, or simply replaced since they are difficult to transport. Leah has a source for a nice unit that can be more easily transported. ACTION: I believe Leah was going to get a price per unit. It was decided that it is best to do an asset review twice per year. ACTION: Asset review will be added to the Board's calendar to occur in December and in June of every year.

Birder's Checklist – There are still copies of a checklist that HCMN published some years back. ACTION: Larry will get those leftover flyers to Leah to be used by Outreach so she doesn't have to print more.

Lin Weber informed us of the formation of a new MN organization in Guadalupe County. They have been seeking advice on how to set up the organization and the training classes.

Advanced Training update – There was a total of 30.5 hours of advanced training opportunities during the month of March.

Outreach:

- Major upcoming events are Emily Ann-Butterflies, Earth Day, and the Sustainable Expo in May at the Embassy Suites.
- Working on printed instructions for the projection equipment to include MAC or PC
- Peggy Wilfong is creating a companion map to go along with the birding guides.
- Print business cards that point to the website
- Dynamic list of all available presentations has been added to the website, there are 11 topics so far, and 4 more are scheduled
- Need # of people reached for the end of the year report (Direct Outreach)

Volunteer Services – Volunteer & AT Calendars are very full, busy

Lin moved the meeting adjourn and Lean seconded. All agreed and the meeting was adjourned at 7:45 pm

