

HAYS COUNTY MASTER NATURALISTS

MINUTES OF JANUARY 22 MEETING

A Pot Luck meal preceded the meeting at the Extension Office. Eighteen members were present.

BUSINESS MEETING:

Dell Hood, President called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. He introduced the officers for 2004: Randy Moss, Vice President; Betty Watkins, Secretary; and Winifred Simon, Treasurer. He invited all members to contact any member of the Executive Board with concerns or suggestions. Mr. Hood also introduced chapter member Walter Krudop who serves on the State Master Naturalist Board.

Vice President Randy Moss shared the activity schedule for 2004. There will be approximately one meeting per quarter at the Extension Office, the others will be activities at various sites. Most will be on Saturday morning. He noted that there will need to be advanced sign-ups for the Field Trips so enough guides can be available. Some field trips will require fees and some may have a limited number of participants.

Suggestions from the floor included developing a plant collection to be stored at the Extension Office for research; developing a digital collection instead of using plant material; and developing a plant nursery cooperatively with the San Marcos Nature Center.

Treasurer Winifred Simon presented a report for 2003. She noted that the Chapter Treasurer is now responsible for Training Class funds as well as Chapter funds. Dave Schwartz moved to accept the Financial Report as presented. Mary Nabors seconded the motion. It was approved by a voice vote.

Dell Hood introduced the approved Volunteer Projects for 2004. Winifred Simon elaborated on the Natural Resource Snapshot, a new Chapter project. There will be a meeting soon of those who are interested. She asked that if anyone wishing to be included would contact her. Mr. Hood reminded members that volunteer hours cannot be counted for Master Naturalist hours if they are also counted by another organization.

Secretary Betty Watkins introduced the new reporting forms to facilitate recording of information required by the State Office. She noted that if there is a sign-in sheet for any event (volunteer or advanced training), the hours will be entered in your records from the sign-in sheet. Individuals do not need to report them again.

Melissa Brooks will continue as the Newsletter Chair. She and Betty will work together to avoid duplication. Any request for a notice to members will be held until the next newsletter unless a deadline occurs before the newsletter will be sent. Paper copies will be mailed to those who request them.

Dell announced that David Schwartz has agreed to be our Webmaster and will be reestablishing our chapter website.

President Hood recognized the twenty-one members who have met the requirements for recertification in 2003. They will receive their pins shortly.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM.

Submitted by Betty Watkins, Secretary.