

TMN – COT

Board of Directors Meeting

Wednesday, December 1, 2010

The AgriLife Building - Angleton, Texas

Attendees: Ed Barrios, Dave Brandes, Laura Brandes, Corrie Bowen, Barbara Burkhardt, Justina Dent, Jerry Eppner, Sandy Henderson, Jerry Krampota, Ruby Lewis, Carolyn Schlein, Connie Stolte

Master Naturalist Advisor

Corrie Bowen announced that he will be the Texas Master Naturalist Advisor. He also announced that due to budget cuts that there will be no Marine Agent until at least November 2011. The County Horticulture position has been eliminated. For now Corrie will be involved with the Pond and Aquatic, Marine and Horticulture activities.

Since there is often only 1 or 2 employees working in the AgriLife Building and for their security and safety, the side entrance door will be locked and the front entrance should be used.

Outreach Display

Connie Stolte offered the use of Sea Center Texas display board to eliminate the Texas Master Naturalists' need to buy an additional one. There is a lighting need for the TMN display board. Dave Brandes volunteered to research and purchase the light source. The cost should be under \$100.00.

Advertising for Intern Classes

Placing TMN advertisements in the *The Facts* was discussed. The decision was made to purchase an offered package of advertising of one ¼-page ad and sixteen 1/8-page ads.

Due to the difficulty of having the *The Facts* run articles submitted by TMN, the decision was made to have AgriLife submit an article on our

behalf. Laura agreed to write an article and she will give it to Stephanie Taylor for submittal to the newspaper.

GCBO was also considered for a TMN article.

Treasurer Report

Sandy Henderson reported that the TMN funds balance is over \$5k.

Video Camera

Earlier in the 2010 year it was agreed to purchase a video camera and Carl Dodson was to research possible options. The topic was revisited today and the decision was made not to purchase this item. The quality of camera needed would be cost prohibitive. The Board also made the decision not to train interns via video.

Membership Report

Jerry Eppner reported the submittal of over 9000 volunteer hours. Fifty two members have submitted hours. Fifty of those members have either certified or recertified.

State Meeting

Barbara Burkhardt announced that the COT chapter will be recognized for its Ten-Year Anniversary at the 2011 TMN Annual State Meeting.

Intern Training

Laura Brandes stated the training has been successful due to the sampling of TMN responsibilities. Marlies Greenwood has agreed to help Laura with the 2011 training program. Laura is hoping to transition the Intern Training to Marlies.

The first Intern Training classes of 2011 will begin February 2nd. Classes will be held every Wednesday with the exception of Chapter Meeting days. Rich Tillman will teach Beach and Wetlands. All instructors have been asked to pair up with a co-instructor. Each intern will write their own training schedule.

Outreach - Ruby Lewis

There were four outreach programs this fall.

Spooktacular

Prairie Heritage Day

AgriLife Open House

Family Day at Hanson County Park.

Hospitality - Jerry Krampota

Jerry reminded people to bring food for the December chapter meeting.

Miscellaneous

Jerry Eppner asked about establishing a memorial for active members who died and former members who died at a later date. A suggestion was made to erect a memorial with the deceased names on the COT wall in the auditorium of the AgriLife building. It was noted that there exists an “In Memoriam” on our website. The Board decided that this topic will be an agenda item for the January 2011 Board meeting.

The suggestion was made that Terri MacArthur may be a good possibility for an Advance Training program on Mushrooms.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:15 pm.