

Balcones Canyonlands TXMN

Board of Directors

November 16, 2020

Call to order at 7:15 pm via WEBEX

Attendance: Larry Root, Gene Janulis, Julian Yates, Sheila Endres, Shayla Fleshman, Sheila Putnam, Kelly Kaye, Amy Robertson, Jacqueline Cirincione, Colette Pearce, Tania Homayoun

Minutes were approved.

Julian Yates (speakers): The . speaker for the chapter meeting on December 8 is Melissa Amarello, Director of Advocates for snake preservation, who will be talking with us about rattlesnakes.

Gene Janulis (finance): Gene reports that everything reconciles in the books. He reports that the chapter has an approximately \$2,000 increase from the balance of January 2020; with a current account balance of \$7,154.86 Reimbursements were given for speaker gifts, textbooks, and name badges. [November Treasurer's Report](#)

Amy Robertson (VMS): Amy completed 201 training. From this training, she learned various housekeeping issues, which she is undertaking. She also learned that trainees in class have more time to complete volunteer hours than previously thought. Rather than needing to complete hours by end of calendar year, they have until the end of graduation date of the succeeding class, (which would be April 2021.) Chapter milestone awards will continue to be at the end of the calendar year, and this date is up to the discretion of the board. Sheila has taken training in VMS, but cannot yet log in hours directly.

Sheila Endres (2020/2021 Class): Sheila reports that the class is going well, and that we lost two students due to relocation. There is one student who needs assistance to log in VMS hours. Sheila is going to reach out to see what kind of assistance is required and Amy will be able to override the 45 day rule of logging hours in should the need arise.

Jacqueline Cirincione (Communications): Jacqueline is setting up an INaturalist Bioblitz for the chapter. She plans to send out of trail beforehand. There was question on whether the chapter is a partner with the Stream Team. Gene is going to attend the next meeting and act as a go-between.

Colette Pearce (Directory):The directory is up and a suggestion came up to provide hyperlinks from the board members to their bios. Jacqueline will assist in this.

Stephanie Putnam (Diversity and Inclusion): Stephanie reports that the work of the committee is coming along and that next speaker will be Virginia with Birdability. Discussion came up regarding how do we as a chapter track diversity. The program “Tapestry” was mentioned as a way to track and segment in various ways and will be looked at further.

Julian Yates (field trips): Due to COVID, field trips are currently not being scheduled. Sheila mentioned that since the spring field trip was split into two separate dates due to class size, that there will be room for a limited number of chapter members to attend as well.

There was general discussion on Project Feeder Watch (now through April) and Christmas Bird Count as a way to gain volunteer hours.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00