

Balcones Canyonlands TXMN

Board of Directors

Feb 22, 2021

Call to order at 7:11 pm via WEBEX

Attendance: Larry Root, Gene Janulis, Julian Yates, Sheila Endres, Shayla Fleshman, Colette Pearce, Johanna Arendt, Kelly Kaye, Brenda Foss, Tania Homayoun, Wizzie Brown,

Minutes were approved.

Julian Yates (speakers): Speakers are just about lined up for 2021 chapter meeting, with the exception of August, October and September. Here is the link to [2021 schedule of speakers](#) to date.

Gene Janulis (finance): On the date of the board meeting, Gene reported that 25 out of 41 members had renewed and 16 members from previous years had not paid. The board discussed sending out emails directly to those outstanding, with follow up phone calls in March.

Gene reported that the chapter had an ending balance of about \$7470, with \$1299 in Paypal to be transferred [Treasurers Report](#)

Gene reviewed the estimated cost per student for the 2020/2021 class. The estimated cost per student for the chapter is approximately \$128 per student. The fees for each student (minus scholarships) is \$150 per class.

Gene followed up with four other chapters to see what speakers are currently being paid for speaking at chapter meetings. Of the speakers who could receive a stipend, payments varied per chapters from \$50, \$75, \$100 or gift cards. The board discussed increasing speaker fees to \$50.

Sheila Endres (2020/2021 Class): Sheila is taking on the role of VMS Director so that she can stay in better touch with student volunteer hours. So far, there have been 30 people interested in taking the class next fall. There was discussion, with the popularity of the online classes for some students and increased enrollment, that there might be a possibility of a hybrid model for class hours and that this would be discussed at future board meetings. Due to rescheduling due to weather, the next class will be a combination of two speakers sharing time. Class field trips are currently scheduled for April 10 and May 22, with half of the students attending each session.

Brenda Foss (Membership): Nothing new to report for membership.

Colette Pearce (outreach): There was more discussion around creating small groups around interest to support connection among members. There was a discussion to pilot this around the idea of creating pollinator gardens in spaces such as nursing homes, schools, parks, libraries, parks, etc. There was discussion that placing these on privately own properties could affect tax status. Those interested in this group are Johanna, Wizzie and Shayla, with an email to go out to invite participants.

There are opportunities to volunteer at Snowden property and Jeremy Hull will be sending out emails to announce times with sign ups.

Due to scheduling conflicts, the diversity meeting was put off until the following Sunday.