**Texas Master Naturalist President’s Meeting**

**May 26, 2020, 1:00 - 2:10 p.m.**

**Presented by:** Mary Pearl Meuth and Michelle Haggerty

34 attendees on Zoom meeting

**AGENDA**

**Monthly President’s meetings**

- Monday, June 29th 1:00 p.m. and Monday, August 10 at 1:00 p.m.

**What Nature Means, Mary Pearl**

* 29 videos submitted and 12 written submissions
* Will still take more videos
* Will be highlighting via social media in coming weeks and months
* Take time to view these as they are inspiring
* Will you take more written submissions - yes

**Website Redo, Mary Pearl**

* first region went through the full process
* If your chapter has a scheduling conflict please let Mary Pearl or Michelle know and they will be able to make adjustments
* Final training on July 30th is open to all

**Social Media Takeover, Mary Pearl and Addison**

* Addison Regennitter is managing this project
* Chapter is given edit permission to share all sort of info about their chapter
* Lessons learned, Tips and Tricks
  + Post that are more personal to chapter and members
  + Want to hear personal stories about projects and people
  + not just post facts
  + Pictures and videos are a bit hit, virtual hikes, positive affirmations, knowledge scroll (highlight a subject and post info about it)
  + Schedule posts in advance
  + Engage with the audience - respond to comments
  + Create a call to action
  + Addison can help with graphics if needed
  + Sign up for multiple weeks until the end of the year
  + Contact Addison and she will help you get signed up

**Regional TMN Webex Meeting Accounts, Michelle**

* Working on getting 6 regional Webex Accounts
* Some chapters using their own Zoom accounts or help from Advisors
* Is there any chapter needing an account? yes a couple of them could use one
* Do you need this resource for Fall training?
  + Sue Ann Kendall - El Comino Real - would like to meet with proper area to spread out - allowing spring training to get completed
  + Piney Woods Lake will have fall training - need online tools
  + Elm Fork planning for things as usual
  + Good water finishing up spring training
  + Fall training with virtual and field trips
  + Blackland Prairie will finish spring training open air and classroom and online
  + Will continue to purchase accounts and will forward info when they are available

**Annual Meeting Survey, Mary Pearl**

* 1259 response
* Please remind members to take survey again complete by Saturday May 30, input will help in decision making
* Planning -
  + June 10th is our internal decision date to talk to leadership and then with hotel June 15th, end of June announcement at president’s meeting
  + Costs to cancel contract
  + Challenges with timelines
  + Registration cost planning for chapter members
  + Logistics is complicated (e.g. plated meals instead of buffet and many others)
  + Cost analysis for additional class rooms which will impact # of speakers, sessions , costs for hotel rooms as no sharing
  + Will we practicing social distancing at the meeting? hotel doesn’t have a time line currently, right now Omni is closed, it’s all a slow process
  + We do want to have an annual meeting - we just don’t know what it will look like at this time

**Return to Service Guidelines, Michelle and Mary Pearl**

* TMN is following protocols of TA&M Agrilife, guidelines were sent to chapter presidents in a separate email
* Must follow state, county, local authority
* You (chapter boards) can implement restrictions at a higher level but not at a lower level for your projects
* Three waves based on governor but may change if numbers changes, some counties might have different wave dates
  + May 18 - May 31 - no gatherings
  + June 1 - June 30
  + July 1
* Can we require volunteers to wear masks? Still working on answer
* Can board members be liable if someone catches the virus from work on a project? Still working on answer
* Emily - capitol area - guidelines in Austin are pretty strict - how are handling VMS entries for folks going out - VMS admins are not police - people are doing things according to guidelines
* Some folks are having a hard time finding virtual work - ideas will be shared during the State Rep meeting this Thursday
* Some projects are closed in San Antonio and people are going by themselves to work on a few projects (behind the scenes)
* Mary Jane Brown - encouraging citizen science projects - or work days where folks are socially distanced
* Williamson County - parks are open and folks can work on their own, lots of virtual opportunities
* All sorts of things are happening provided everyone follows safe directions
* Take names of folks that are interacting we should record the interactions should someone become contracted with virus - yes this is a good idea so that contact lists can be created (if needed)
* One chapter is coming up with chapter guidelines. Sign in is required for in person projects - if there is a health issue it is reported to health department
* Crosstimbers - big thing we’re not doing - we aren’t broadcasting opportunities - individual contact so that we don’t exceed our numbers
* Lindheimer - use signup genius but there is a limit on number of people that can signup - VMS can also to do this using Time Slots ( Michelle can provide more training on this feature if folks want to use this )
* South Texas Border - everything is on hold - virtual or individual opportunity volunteering - most places they work at are closed
* Volunteering at parks is park by park specific, some parks are limiting number of people at the park. Parks are making sure volunteers don’t crowd out public visitors
* Concern that children’s camps are going to impacted
  + Some are cancelled and we will miss out on lots of volunteer opportunities
  + Does TMN have a policy for participating in children’s camps - Michelle: it’s up to the chapter and volunteer based on local guidelines and members personal comfort level
* Resource sharing for chapter return to service guidelines based on type of projects?
  + If your chapter creates documents share with Michelle or Mary Pearl and they will share with others
* Has everyone read through the guidelines?
  + Some have read through it
  + Page 12 face-to-face preparations - very helpful to talk through
  + Rich - met with AgriLife folks and will have written guidelines for TMN, TMG and 4-H
  + Dallas - master gardener’s restated what the original said, haven’t heard from the TMN advisor, good to see TMG is following these, our chapter writing up their interpretation of these for their member

**Questions**

Will there be a change to re-certification requirements of 40 hours? Mary Pearl: we do not see this being changed