Presidents’ Meeting

28 September 2020

1:00pm-2:

**-preview of Webex videoconferencing platform**

 -going to be using this for the Annual Meeting

 -encourage members to download the platform ahead of time

 -video and audio will be switched off when participants join each event

 -rely on Q&A box (*not* chat)

-questions go directly to all panelists, but do not become visible to all participants until panelists answer in the Q&A box

-**Annual Meeting**

 -trying to get as much information out as possible to make it easier to attend virtually

 -Webex platform will look a little different (see above)

 -800+ people signed up!

 -attendee experience

 -use app to find links and schedule of events and registered sessions

 -hyperlink that says “join Webex”

 -MP working on a video tutorial to send to all participants

 -pending projects

 -video intro to the app (MP)

-hosting coffee hours for attendees and members to test Webex and troubleshoot

-Week of Aid

-demonstrate the flow of how an attendee would participate from October 14-17

 -AT for the Meeting

 -sessions watched LIVE will count

 -sessions watched as RECORDINGS will count

 -recordings will stay on the app for six months

 -contact info for instructors will be on those recordings

 -registration

 -800+ registered

 -closes October 2 at 5pm

 -still $55 for the entire meeting

 -swag boxes for first 250 registrants have gone out

 -awards and contest deadlines

 -project fair – October 1

 -chapter advisor, video, and photo/media contests – September 30

 -if a chapter nominated someone for the Chapter Advisor award last year

but they didn’t win, feel free to re-submit again this year

 -Michelle will send last year’s applications back to those chapters

 -Virtual Nature Venture

 -$35 entry (separate registration)

 -fundraiser for next year’s event

 -come up with your own challenge or activity and post photos with your swag

 -print a bib, wear your medal, etc

 -thanks to Gulf Coast Chapter!

 -field sessions day

 -October 13, 9am-5:30pm

 -recorded and shared afterwards

 -also October 8 at 8am – Mercer Botanic Gardens tour

 -TMN AgriLife bookstore has additional items for sale

 -masks, gators, ear pods, water bottles, fleece blanket, etc

-Jr Master Naturalist survey deadline extended to October 1 (Carolyn L – heartwoodpres@gmail.com or heartwoodjrmn@gmail.com )

-request for chapter videos/ pictures deadline is October 4 (Donna Cole – donna@donna2112.com )

 -other chapter events

 -device sharing

 -scholarships

 -virtual socials

 -Town Hall Meeting

 -Saturday at 8am

 -similar to presidents meeting, but for all members

 -will replace the October presidents’ monthly meeting

 -survey to discuss what to discuss (deadline October 9)

 <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/tmn2020townhall>

 -Awards Ceremony

-all milestones from past year (October 2019-October 2020) held Saturday at 3pm

-videos throughout the meeting

-how can the award ceremony be more interactive and celebratory?

**Virtual Volunteer Fair**

 -650-900 participants

 -highlighted 40+ projects

 -recording of the fair is posted on the TXMN website

 - <https://txmn.tamu.edu/virtual-volunteer-fair-september-2nd-2020/>

 -currently updating reporting guidelines for VMS

-will host another fair in spring 2021

**Chapter review of CMOP**

 -not COVID-based changes

 -state office currently reviewing and compiling updates through November

 -anticipate having the final document ready by end of 2020

 -spring updates March-May review period for 2021

**Webex accounts**

 -six regional accounts for chapters to use

 -some are getting very heavy use

 -have had to ask some chapters to move to other accounts to reduce overlap

 -please do not change account name (keep it to regional name)

 -use a region-specific profile photo (not a personal photo) to represent the account

 -check the calendar before setting up meetings

 -multiple meetings can overlap by 15 minutes at most

 -more than 15 minutes can cause one meeting to be kicked off

 -personal room has a “meetings” button to show what’s already scheduled

 -please use this before adding another meeting to avoid overlap

 -how-to training videos for Webex accounts have been suspended for the fall

 -thank you for your patience!

**WordPress Training**

 -suspended until further notice

 -still have access to previous trainings

 <https://txmn.tamu.edu/wordpress-trainings-recordings/>

**Return to Service Guidelines**

 -no changes since last meeting

 -50% capacity of space for group meetings

 -50 people max for all meetings

 -face coverings required

 -follow all local guidelines first and foremost

 - <https://txmn.tamu.edu/welcome/covid-19-response/>

**Citizen Science Guidance**

 -sent July 30

 -introduce ahead of Annual Meeting

**Recertification Requirements**

 -policy hasn’t changed (40/8)

-COVID recognition…what does this look like?

-initial certification policies haven’t changed

**DEI**

 -what are we specifically being asked to do?

 -no specific charge for chapters

 -try to continue the DEI conversations

 -forethoughts, not afterthoughts

 -what can the state office do?

 -quarterly half-day “working groups”?

**EOY Process**

 -how are you handling elections?

 -Martha Cray from Alamo Area will share in follow-up email

 -how are you handling awards banquets/ holiday socials?

 -meeting later/outdoors

 -meeting via Zoom

 -sign-up for members to pick up pins and awards

**Questions**

 -how do we handle annual audit by committee?

 -photocopy of financial records (though a little risky)

 -single shared document with virtual sharing

 -four member group is meeting

 -special Slack channel to discuss

 -are there more VMS trainings available?

 -yes

 -schedule is on VMS helpdesk site

 -are masks required?

 -must follow local ordinances

-we are still under a state mandate to wear masks in public (unless org is exempt)

 -can we have more than 10 people at a volunteer event?

 -refer to local guidelines (50 people / 50% capacity max)

**Upcoming Meetings**

 -no Presidents’ meeting in October

 -Annual Meeting Virtual Town Hall instead

 -November 2 – 1pm

 -December 7 – 1pm

 -will return to Zoom for these meetings

**Brief Webex Platform Demo**

 -direct link is on website, also shared via email

 -login protected

 -must use same name and email used when you registered

 -will send a verification code

 -only active for 24 hours

 -will have to get a new code each day

 -check your profile (add a photo!)

 -hexagon in top left corner takes you back to the home page

 -Activity Feed

 -similar to FB posts

 -add photos, comments, etc

 -social wall

 -#TMNannualmeeting

 -attendee list (all registrants and app registrants)

 -connect with other attendees

 -speaker list

 -contact info, bio, and schedule for all speakers and presenters

 -join sessions

 -click “view webex” button in program description

 -password will be listed by each description