January 2023 TMN Presidents and Advisors Meeting Notes

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**Welcome to New Chapter Presidents and Advisors!**

Welcome to McAllen! Michelle and Mary Pearl are in McAllen to get ready for the October 2023 annual meeting!

To make sure the correct people in your chapter (presidents and advisors) receive the invitation to these meetings, please **update or make sure your chapter officers has been updated in VMS.**

**Dates of 2023 Presidents and Advisors meetings via WebEx:**

Meetings will be recorded and posted to the TMN website soon after the meeting.

Usually Tuesdays, 12:00pm Noon CST (except Thursday, October 12 during Annual Meeting)

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1/31 | 2/28 | 3/28 | 4/25 | 5/30 | 6/27 |
| 7/11 | 8/29 | 9/26 | 10/12 | 11/18 | 12/12 |

**Leadership Transition**: Has your chapter had its Board Retreat?

What are our chapters top goals for 2023? What is each president’s top goal for 2023.

Sample answers given on Chat: Strategic planning/improve outreach/establish a 2nd training class; improve communications on volunteer projects.

**Transitions in TMN state office**: **Annabelle Moore** is leaving as Program Aide. She’s a new chapter president for Big Country Chapter!

**Kelley Munde is starting as new Program Aide.**

**2022 In Review: Discussion of adoption of governing documents**

(See Chapter Documents section of website)

About 1/3 of chapters have entirely completed updates of bylaws and COH.

**Target Date for adoption of both documents March 1, 2023.**

Please send feedback, comments, questions on Governing Documents—through website (on chapter documents page)

Timeline: 2025: review feedback and edits; complete updates and send out.

2026: New Documents

**For a review of the changes in the Bylaws, see Michele and Mary Pearl’s presentation from the July 2022 (presidents meeting?) on website.**

**Brand and Marketing Guidelines**: The goal is to update this document in 2023.

<https://txmn.tamu.edu/chapter-resources/tmn-brand-marketing/>

**2023 Training Hours Policy: no longer using temporary Covid policy**

Updated CMOP Guidelines now apply.

For reference: CMOP section 4.1 for basic; 5.5 for advanced training. Anticipate that chapters return to in person training for basic and advanced.

TMN Tuesdays—available for calendar year AT hours **only**, even if you watch a recording.

2022 Annual meeting—time’s up as of 1/31/2023.

2023 Annual meeting—will be changing recording watch length to the calendar year for AT Hours.

**2023 Annual Recertification Pin:** Texas Ecoregions

10 ecoregions pictured.

Please order **only what you need.**

**Ordering Pins:**

Pins will be sent out **monthly**, not counting January 2023.

Orders pulled from website at the end of each month, then process orders and send pins.

<https://txmn.tamu.edu/chapter-resources/chapter-supplies/#pins>

The 4000-hour pin is sent from the White House; processing time is longer than for other pins.

**#TMN Tuesdays 2023:** usually 2nd Tuesday of each month

Watch live or recording for 1-hour Advanced Training credit.

Speakers/topics announced monthly.

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **1/10** | **2/14** | **3/14** | **4/11** | **5/9** | **6/13** |
| **7/11** | **8/8** | **9/12** | **10/3** | **11/14** | **12/12** |

**Some FAQs:**

Are 2022 TMN Tuesday still available for 2023 AT Hours? No.. **Calendar year only**.

Can folks who are not MNs attend? Yes!

Will the programs be recorded? Yes ! and available on the website.

Do I need to register each month? Yes, use the WebEx registration link. NEW for 2023: Register for the entire series with one page!

TMN Tuesday Topics: What do **we** want to hear?

What **training topics** does membership need more AT on?

What **leadership** topics do we need?

**TMN Program 25th Anniversary**

Starting a **storytelling project** to highlight TMN members and conservation work.

**For each chapter—share stories and photos!**

Go to <https://txmn.tamu.edu/25th-anniversary-storytelling-project/>

What made you want to become a TMN? Favorite TMN Memory? Meaningful projects; outreach; conservation events?

Several Chapters are celebrating 15th, 20th, or 25th anniversaries this year!

21 chapters are starting **spring 2023 training** classes.

Send information about fall training NOW!

<https://txmn.tamu.edu/spring-2023-basic-training-classes/>

**April is a busy month**

National Volunteer Recognition Month

Earth Day Saturday, April 22

National Volunteer Week—April 16-23

City Nature Challenge: April 28-May 1 (Identification period May 2-7)

What are each chapter’s plans?

**Virtual Volunteer Fair May 2 and May 3, 2023**

Roles of Chapters: Share proposals request in February with project leaders needing volunteers; statewide focus needed

Save the date; encourage members to attend and volunteer.

Watching the VVF counts as Service—VT hours, not AT hours.

**Save the Date: TMN Annual meeting October 12-15, 2023**

McAllen Convention Center

**Other chapter resources:**

State website <https://txmn.tamu.edu/>

Find and use the Events calendar

Sign up for an use theTMN State Email Listserv

**Regional WebEx accounts** available for chapters who need to use them for virtual meetings, committee meetings, board meetings; presentations;

Michelle manages the WebEx account recording storage load—she must delete recordings older than 30 days. So, download the recording as soon as it’s available and store it somewhere else.

Do **NOT** change the avatar/profile picture and WebEx account Name.

Check the Calendar before setting new meetings.

Michelle can send presidents/advisors a login if you/your chapter needs it.

**TMN WordPress Website Training**

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

**Monthly LIVE** WP trainings will be available this year!

1st Tuesday of each month, 12:00 noon-12:45 pm via Google Meets.

Emails to webmasters pending.

**First live tutorial will be March 7** by Daniel Singletary.

Meanwhile, use the recorded Video Tutorials available:

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

**Meeting OWLS (camera, microphone)** are available from state office for ½ year cycles

https://txmn.tamu.edu/meeting-owl-loaner-program/

**TMN Merchandise**

State offered items vs. local chapter produced items

**Before** producing merchandise with the **TMN registered Logo, Chapters must** get approval from the state office and must follow TMN Marketing & brand Guidelines.

State offered items have official logo, approved design and trademark and are offered with bulk discounts and ordering.

<https://txmn.tamu.edu/chapter-resources/tmn-merchandise-name-tags/>

**Curriculum books available:**



Yes, you can pick up the curriculum books directly from the bookstore to save shipping

**TMN License Plates**: order here https://txmn.tamu.edu/tmn-license-plate/

**TMN Endowment**

See <http://give.am/TexasMasterNaturalist> to give directly or <https://masternaturalistendowment.org>

Mission: to further enhance the Texas Master Naturalist Program, its chapters and volunteers, now and into the future, for the benefit of natural resource education, conservation, and stewardship.

Currently @ ~ $100,000

Individual or chapter gifts, employer gift matching, estate planning gifs are all welcome.

Presidents Corner:

Don’t sign contracts of $5,000 without review and approval of TMN State Office.

Let the State Office know about grants and awards we win!

Liability Insurance information on website: chapter documents