

TCAFS EXCOM and Committees Meeting Report

Dec 1, 2011, TPWD IF District 3E Office, Snook, Texas

by *Robert Mauk, Secretary Treasurer*

Those attending in person: Craig Bonds, Ken Kurzawski, Robert Mauk, Dan Bennett, and Dave Terre. Remotely via web-conference (Anymeeting.com): George Guillen, Dan Daugherty, Michelle Nations, John Taylor, Brad Littrell, and Mandy Scott

Secretary Treasurer's report: (*Robert Mauk*)

- The current checking account balance is \$26,278.91 as of Oct. 31, 2011.
- 2010 taxes were completed by the accountants and sent to the IRS on Nov 14, 2011 after filing two extensions.

President Elect report: (*George Guillen*)

- Discussed plans for the upcoming TCAFS annual meeting to be held at Moody Gardens at Galveston.
- Finalized announcements for the meeting and various other meeting related details.

Committee Reports:

Awards (*Matt Chumchal*)

- Encourages members to nominate deserving individuals for chapter awards by Jan. 9, 2012.

Continuing Education – (*Dan Bennett*)

- Announced that there will be two continuing education workshops offered at the 2012 annual meeting. On Thursday, Feb 9, from 2:00-3:30 pm, Bob Howells will have a presentation on "Identification of freshwater mussels; with special focus on rare Texas unionids". Following this workshop from 3:30-5:00 pm, Luci Cook-Hildreth will present "Texas invasive aquatic and marine species; with focus on new and potential introductions".
- Dan asked that since Bob Howells is retired and would otherwise have to pay out of pocket to be a continuing education presenter, would it be possible for the chapter to help offset his costs.

Editorial – (*Dan Daugherty and Tim Birdsong*)

- The 2010 Annual Proceedings of the Texas Chapter have been completed.
- The 2011 Annual Proceedings of the Texas Chapter should be completed by Dec. 25, 2011 and the goal is to have them distributed by the annual meeting.
- The committee is accepting abstracts for the annual meeting currently and would like to have all abstracts by Dec. 20, 2011.

Endowments – (*Dave Terre*)

- Dave reports that the endowment fund has had ups and downs this year but is currently higher than it started the year and is at \$125,632.04 as of Oct. 31, 2011.
- The Patsy B. Hollandsworth Family Foundation donated \$15,000.
- The Sportsmen's Club of Ft. Worth is donating \$3,000 to support two 1,500 Harry Tennison scholarships.

History – (Michele Nations)

- North Texas University “Portals to Texas History” is a collection of Texas history that would use some of the chapter’s historical photos but needs a signed release to use them. It was decided that the chapter president could go ahead and authorize their release.

Internet – (John Taylor and Janet Wisian)

- Discussed changes to the TCAFS web page that were made and additional changes that will take place.
- Discussed the TCAFS logo and noted that the Facebook page and the website had similar but not the same logo. Decided that both should have the same logo.
- Discussed offering on-line annual meeting registration.
- In the future, discussed changing the web page to a content management system such as Wordpress that would allow easier access to content and editing.

Issues – (Chris Moret and Niki Ragan)

- No report.

Membership – (Debbie Wade)

- No report.

Newsletter – (Kevin Storey)

- Deadline for Dec. newsletter articles will be Dec. 9, 2011.

Nominating – (John Clayton)

- There have been six nominations received for the president-elect position. Nominees are currently being contacted to gauge their interest in the position.
- Currently, the committee is securing a prize for early voting participation.
- Bios and voting ballots will be available at registration desk at annual meeting for those who did not participate in early voting.

Pond Management – (John Tibbs)

- Craig Bonds announced that in March, 2012, there will be another Bass Tech conference (private pond and lake management seminar) at the TFFC. Podcasts of conference presentations will be made available on the internet. Discussed hosting the podcasts on a pond management link on the Chapter website.

Publicity/Exhibits – (Brad Littrell and Greg Conley)

- Reported contacts have been made for prizes and auction items but few have been received.
- More contacts and follow-ups are planned.
- Considering obtaining a kayak for a special raffle drawing.

Scholarships – (Mike Morgan)

- Contacts have been made and applications sent out to institutions about the scholarship opportunity.
- Applications are due by Jan. 6, 2012.

Student Outreach – (Mandy Scott)

- Bass Brigade members will be manning booths at the TCAFS Annual Meeting and at the Bass Tech meeting.
- Bass Brigade members have been made aware of scholarship opportunities.
- Sam Houston State University is looking into possibly forming a student subunit.
- Student subunits are encouraged to utilize the TCAFS Facebook page.

Old Business:

- We are in the final stages of updating the Procedural Book, which has been divided into four sections (1. Purpose and Goals, 2. Past Presidents and Award Winners, 3. Procedures, and 4. Bylaws) and will be available on-line. This will allow for easier downloading and updating. It can be found on-line under the "About Us" tab on the TCAFS home page.
- The Bylaws have been edited to include comments from the membership. The AFS constitutional consultant has approved the changes.
- A draft of the bylaws can be found on-line under the "About Us" tab on the TCAS web site. This draft will be voted on by the membership at the TCAFS business meeting Feb. 11, 2012. Approval requires a 2/3 majority vote from Chapter members choosing to vote. It then must pass the governing boards of the Southern Division and the parent society to become final.

New Business:

- No new business.