

Eclipse Round Table Meeting – Q1 2022

January 18

12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.

AGENDA

- 12:00 p.m.** **Welcome, Agenda Review, Introductions**
- 12:15 p.m.** **Eclipse Portal Overview**
<https://hillcountryalliance.org/hill-country-eclipse-portal/>
- 12:45 p.m.** **Local Taskforce Check-In**
- 1:15 p.m.** **Questions, Comments, Action Items**
 Past/Ongoing Business
 New Business
 AAS Eclipse Workshop, April 8-9, 2022 (Virtual)
- 1:30 p.m.** **Meeting Adjourned**

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MINUTES

In Attendance:

Adela Walsleben	Christina Bergmann	Jan Larsen	Mike Portnoy
Adrienne Feild	Cliff Kaplan	Jason Rutherford	Patricia Moore
Alison Withers	Cynthia Dorminey	Jeffery Fincke	Patti Berkstresser
AnaLisa Glass	D'nese Fly	Jennifer Krupa	Rachel Jones
Annabell McNew	Dawn Capra	Julie Davis	Rachel Lumpee
Ashley Boyle	Dawn Davies	Justin Calhoun	Rebecca Stewart
Beth Bourland	Dianna Hodges	Kate Stanford	Richard Chapman
Brent Larson	Dorinda Barrett	Kathy Lewis	Scott Rubin
Carey Reed	Eric Maloney	Kelly Beedle	Steve Perez
Carita Jundt	Fran Badrak	Kim McElhinney	Whitney Walston
Carole Petrovics	Fran Laue	Leanne Beauxbeannes	William B. Thomas
Cassy Siegel	Jack Moseley	Mauri Fagan	

Eclipse Portal Overview - <https://hillcountryalliance.org/hill-country-eclipse-portal/>

- Please feel free to email dawn@hillcountryalliance.org with any eclipse-related content or website links for posting to the portal page.

Local Taskforce Check-In

- Bandera
 - Several smaller meetings have occurred so far
 - Scheduling a joint meeting with the Chamber to bring local businesses to the table
 - The county is researching what to do with Mansfield Park, the largest park in the county
 - The first official county meeting will take place in March with all department heads
 - Brainstorming events to host to get folks in town early and keep them around afterward
 - A new fire marshal will be joining the group soon
- Blanco
 - Next meeting to take place on 2/8
 - Currently changing coordinators
- Burnet
 - In the initial phase of forming a taskforce
- Edwards
 - Preparations are underway for future meetings
 - In contact with Edwards County, the City of Rock Springs, and the Convention and Visitors Bureau

Local Taskforce Check-In (cont.)

- Gillespie
 - The task force has divided into subgroups and has been meeting quarterly, preparing to start meeting every other month
 - Next week will be talking about action items and assignments
 - Creating websites for tourists and residents
 - Preparing 2023 budget
 - Assessing the need to modify ordinances
 - Discussing school closures
- Hays
 - Dripping Springs will start meeting next month
 - Information emails have gone out to 90+ lodging partners
- Kendall
 - The City of Boerne is working on getting more folks engaged
 - The next meeting is planned for Feb/Mar
- Kerr
 - City Council is meeting next week with the city council
 - Working to convene with stakeholders
 - Budgeting begins Feb/Mar
- Lampasas
 - Taskforce formed with the EDC, with the Fire Chief taking on coordinating all safety aspects
 - Created entertainment and website subcommittees
 - Eclipse glasses have been ordered
 - The task force has been giving presentations, and an article was submitted to the local newspaper
 - All RV parks are sold out
 - Vision Lampasas has budgeted to purchase glasses and t-shirts and will use the profit from sales to fund the purchase of more
- Medina
 - A meeting of key players (mayors, city manager, chief of police) was held at the end of last July
 - Each municipality was tasked with determining their level of involvement and the type of events they want to hold
 - The next meeting is set for February
- Real
 - Held first county-wide meeting a few months ago
 - Presented to the commissioner's court last month by invitation (they were a bit shell shocked, but the lodging industry is aware of upcoming eclipses)
 - Working on getting invites to city council meetings
 - Reviewed HCA Partner Guide and working on getting folks assigned to areas of note
 - Meeting quarterly, with the next meeting in March
- Uvalde
 - Coordinating with neighboring communities soon
 - Glasses have been ordered
 - The preliminary website is up, <https://www.uvaldecountysolareclipse.com/>
 - Information email has gone out to lodging owners
 - Working on outlining and proposing a solar eclipse coordinator for the county to serve as the point of contact

Past/Ongoing Business

- American Solar Eclipse Company
 - Festival organizations in the area are not aware that these eclipses are upcoming. Fran is helping to educate them and provide resources.
 - Don't wait until the last minute; order your glasses now.
 - A brand store is being set up on Amazon. Please contact Fran if you have experience with and can aid in setting up an Amazon storefront. (fran@americansolareclipse.com)
 - Information emails have gone out to over 300 wineries

New Business

- American Astronomical Society Eclipse Virtual Workshop is scheduled for April 8-9, 2022
 - More information to follow
 - Click [here](#) to sign-up on their email list
- Survey responses indicate a strong need for resources and direction on budgeting, finance, and marketing. These will be the main topics of discussion at our next meeting.
- Meeting dates for the remainder of the year
 - April 19, July 19, and October 18

Comments/Questions/Action Items

- Jan Larson described for us her experience observing the 2017 eclipse. If you have a past eclipse experience you would like to share and would be willing to let us post to our website or social media, please email your story to dawn@hillcountryalliance.org.
- Commissioner Moseley has been in contact with TXDOT and DPS. He has also reached out to his Austin contact in Emergency Management, asking if they have it in their budget to reimburse for extra police, garbage services, etc., during the eclipses. He will report back what he learns.
- Patricia Moore has reached out to the State Tourism Board and will report what she learns.
- Justin Calhoun reported that the Texas Forest Service had put together an eclipse committee. They attend the Fredericksburg/Gillespie meetings, and he will update us on where they are in their work.
- Texas Parks and Wildlife are coordinating eclipse efforts.
- Please email your eclipse website URLs to dawn@hillcountryalliance.org for posting to the Eclipse Portal

Next Round Table Meeting
Tuesday, April 19, 12:00p – 1:30p