



## **Texas Master Naturalist Brazos Valley Chapter Meeting Minutes for September 8, 2016 Brazos Valley Museum of Natural History**

Attendance: Elrey Ash, Olivia Ash, Laura Biddle, Amanda Booth, Amanda Chau, Mary Dabney Wilson, Donell Frank, Cheryl Lewis, Bruce Neville, Betty Vermeire, Deb Wilson.

The meeting was brought to order at 5:37 pm by Bruce Neville.

### **New Business**

Bruce Neville – One person has volunteered to sponsor a section of the BRTC gardens. He will send out another call. He will ask Heather for a drawing and layout.

Bruce Neville – Conservation License Plate Grants. Do we want to do a project? It has to benefit local wildlife. Olivia suggested doing one for a wildlife area that needs the funding. Bruce said he has seen some that do plants. We have to outlay the funds and then get reimbursed. We have until Sept. 30<sup>th</sup> to submit for a grant.

Bruce Neville – He got a call from a member about roadside mowing moratorium. Could BVTMN go in with other groups to put in the request? The Exec Board approved Bruce writing a letter of support on behalf of BVTMN. Donell said they had their butterfly meeting this morning (Butterflies in the Brazos) and they had also discussed not mowing.

Bruce Neville – The kiosk gardens at Lick Creek are being disturbed and vandalized, i.e. large rocks moved or stolen. Bruce will ask Jim Anding about a low cedar rail or fence that looks good and prevents disturbance, specifics of vandalism, and maybe a presentation.

Bruce Neville – Missing June and July 2016 BVTMN minutes.

Bruce Neville – Boonville Days, Saturday, October 1<sup>st</sup>. We can set-up Friday night and they will have security. Olivia and Elrey are prepared to volunteer. Bruce will let Deborah Cowman know BVTMN will participate this year. Bruce will put out a call for volunteers.

Donell Frank - College Station Public Utilities building off Graham Road for a Monarch/Pollinator Patch waystation – Cheryl Lewis is heading this up. Donell passed around some pictures. Water conservation demonstration garden has been requested. Rain garden is possible project for Spring 2017. First meeting (Cheryl Lewis, Jennifer Nations, David Kullman) is tomorrow to discuss

details. Grassy areas can be removed, maybe forked paths. A huge water cistern is collecting roof run-off.

Donell Frank - Update on the butterfly alley out at Lick Creek Park. On hold due to rain. Later in October David Schmidt wants to spray native American seed company special mix.

Donell Frank – Butterflies in the Park community meeting today. Do we want to adopt a park and use it for the pollinator weigh station? There are 29 available in College Station. Amanda Chau suggested we claim Brison if it's on the list because we are already doing water monitoring and trash clean-up. Donell will check. Will be putting project on iNaturalist. We could potentially register with Million Pollinators.

Olivia Ash – Would like permission from the Board to purchase native American seed packets.

Olivia Ash - Donations to the TMN state meeting. If the chapter wants to purchase and donate two Yeti (\$80) or Arctic (\$40) cups and she will donate the painting and dipping. Could do TMN decals. (Arctic is every bit as good only cheaper.) These could then be donated to the auction. One of a kind; worth \$100. Laura Biddle motioned to spend the \$40. The board approved unanimously.

Bruce thanked everyone again that contributed to making the Fall 2016 BVTMN class a success.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:19 pm by Bruce Neville.