



Texas Master Naturalist Brazos Valley Chapter Executive Board Meeting Minutes for May 8, 2014 Brazos Valley Museum of Natural History

Attendance: Olivia Ash, Elrey Ash, Jim Balthrop, Joyce Conner, Mike Conner, Sarah Laughlin, Cheryl Lewis, Bruce Neville, Amanda Schwede, Steve Simcik, Betty Vermeire

Sarah Laughlin brought the meeting to order at 5:39 PM.

I. Officer and Committee Reports

A. President - Sarah Laughlin –

- 1.** Storage-Starting to amass some things for outreach. Joyce Connor-talked about making a set of pre-organized materials so that someone can go in pick up what they need quickly. Paper products are getting damp, even when in plastic sealed boxes. Found some new boxes that may be more secure. Most literature is not in secure plastic boxes. Area is piled with non-BVTMN stuff. Discussion on renting a unit but expensive. Olivia Ash suggested talking with Heather Prestridge again about purchasing a ~\$250 shed plus flooring to put out there. But temperature and humidity will be just as bad. Mentioned purchasing a portable dehumidifier that is plugged in, used in inside the building, and can be recharged when it runs out. Joyce suggested splitting a storage unit with another organization, but price for size is small with climate control. Elrey suggested silica gel inside boxes to keep moisture out. Olivia will price plastic sheds and report back at next meeting. Elrey will check on silica in bulk. Olivia will ask Heather about a space at the BRTC for a BVTMN shed.
- 2.** Do we need to use county facilities for any educational programs? Most of our activities don't need to use them. Sarah will let him know we don't need to use them for 2015. Betty Vermeire mentioned a junior naturalist program could use it. Olivia said she's spoken with Dwight and he can't devote any time this Summer for junior master naturalist. Millican Reserve has a house they have converted into their offices that could be used for ten to 12 students, plus the acreage. But at this date, unless something is already put together, it can't be done this late for Summer 2014. If we know what buildings are used for Extension in another year, we could potentially use it.

3. Lick Creek Update: City Council Workshop on May 22nd, 6:00 pm- Sarah met with David Schmidt on Lick Creek. It's a discussion meeting. Nothing has been voted on yet. He wanted BVTMN and FOLCP to show up to answer questions and/or show support. Sarah passed around plans and David wants our input. It is what will be presented to city council. Kiosk and bench will not be disturbed. Everything north of the trail, except for the amphitheater. Cement sidewalks. Will have water recycling, solar panels, plugs.
 4. Are we still doing t-shirts? Betty said we will be for the Fall class. If current members are interested, contact Molly Harris.
 5. Millican Reserve outreach/nature walks: May 25th? Asked for participation at their Farmers Market. Nature walk. Sarah suggested animal tracks with Joyce Connor. Probably May 25th but not definite. Olivia will email listserv about specific date and details to get volunteers.
 6. Sarah has post office box key. Gave it to Betty.
- B.** Vice President - Bruce Neville –
- C.** Secretary- Amanda Schwede - Sign in; approval of Apr 2014 meeting minutes
- D.** Treasurer- Amanda Chau –balance of \$3566.46 and a total of 46 "active" members. The financial status on our web page has been updated. If you need to be reimbursed for supplies or speaker honorarium, please scan your receipt(s) and email your request and receipt(s) to me. Please provide me with your home address and I will be happy to mail you a reimbursement check ASAP.
- E.** Committees
1. Outreach – Joyce Conner and Cheryl Lewis, Co-Chairs –Girl Scout request status; Iola Fun Day (9/27/14); UUBCS -looking for lead speaker (6/29/14); draft of brochure ready (looking for dragonfly picture) Joyce-working on brochure. Lots of input on final copy. Will request a good picture of a dragonfly from BVTMN.
 2. Membership – Betty Vermeire, Chair – submit your April hours
 3. Advanced Training –Joyce Conner, Chair – Carter Creek Stream Team (no makeup date yet)
 4. Volunteer Service Project – Mike Conner, Chair –Policy issue. When you're doing something for another organization but if you don't get credit through that organization, then currently getting credit with BVTMN, such as Audobon. Can't be a profitable entity, no double-dipping, fits within TMN guidelines. Mike will write up a short blurb about it.
 5. Host/Social – Melissa Kamerbeek and Jim Balthrop, Co-Chairs – Spring Social, evening of Sat, May 17th. Additional info & sign-up list for potluck dinner available at today's meeting.
 6. Historian – Terry Junek, Chair –
 7. Web – Mike Conner, Chair –
 8. Program – Bruce Neville, Chair –

9. New Member Training – Olivia Ash, Chair –

Meeting adjourned at 6:29 PM.