



Cradle of Texas Chapter
Texas AgriLife Extension Service
21017 County Road 171
Angleton, TX 77515-8903
<http://grovesite.com/tamu/tmn>

TMN COT March 10, 2010 General Meeting Minutes

President Carl Dodson opened the meeting at 9:00 a.m.

New Intern Pat Bean was recognized.

Policies and Provisions Revision

Carl appointed Barbara Burkhardt to take over as chairman for this section of the meeting in order for Carl to be able to participate in any discussion. Barbara reminded members of potential contentiousness and to handle the discussion in a non-contentious manner and to wait for recognition to speak. On Carl's behalf, Barbara stated that the proposal is to add three paragraphs to Addendum 13 of the TMN-COT Policies and Procedures Handbook. (*) The proposed changes were read aloud to the membership.

Steve Zilliox made a motion to change "must" to "should" in the introductory statement Number Four. It was seconded and opened to discussion.

Ed Barrios noted that "must" is consistent with the "shall" already in the existing Standards of Conduct, and read the current wording.

Someone noted that only the three points a, b and c in the proposed revision were actually voted on and approved by the board.

Someone suggested the board recommendation be followed to take the current Number Four statement as it already exists and to that only the proposed three points a, b and c.

(*) "Texas Master Naturalist Standards of Conduct." TMN Policies & Procedures Handbook, June 2009, Page 32. <<http://tinyurl.com/TMN-COT-P-P-June-2009>>

To enable this possibility Steve withdrew the motion stated above.

Ed Barrios noted that the procedures for changes to Policies and Procedures are that the Board votes on a recommendation, it goes to the membership, if proposed changes are made (any member can propose a change at any time) and voted on by Membership it goes back to the Board for Board approval of such changes.

Neal McLain made a motion to table the proposal and to proceed with the remainder of the meeting and training.

Carl noted his desire to resolve this proposed revision now.

Dave Brandes noted that the basic problem attempting to be solved is of an e-mail nature and that concern should be the proper use of the distribution list.

Carl commented he believed this was censorship and he does not want anything to curtail the use of the e-mail.

Connie Stolte noted that they did not see how one negates the other (the proposed revision and the communications problems) and saw no reason to not go ahead with a decision regarding the revision.

The question was raised about the motion to table this matter. A vote was taken and the motion passed.

Awards

Jerry Eppner has ten time sheet submissions. He asked anyone with anything remaining from 2009 to please talk to him.

The 2010 Recertification "wood duck" pins are on order and will be received soon.

Four members have recertified and awards will be made upon receipt of pins:

- Dave Brandes
- Laura Brandes
- Gerald Forrest
- Denis Mudderman

Jerry received two time sheets with no name and reminded everyone that you must “rename” the time sheet file with Your Name 2010.

Intern Update

Laura Brandes announced Intern Certification and presented a shirt and name tag to Don Rosebury.

Announcements

Migration Celebration:

Ed Barrios discussed Migration Celebration, April 16th, 17th and 18th. Over 100 volunteers worked last year, and approximately half were TMN-COT volunteers. Due to the rain last year a Bad Weather Policy was developed for this year. Event insurance was also obtained through TDECU. Most of the over \$6000 raised was from the dinner and silent auction and food sales at the refuge. Your time this year will be appreciated. He noted that the number one reason that people attend Migration Celebration is because of the kid activities.

Birds of Prey:

Phil Huxford announced that over 9,500 saw the Birds of Prey shows last year and nearly 40 shows are already scheduled for this year. Contact Phil for suggestions for additional appearances. Flyers are being distributed at schools and 16,000 additional flyers on order will be received in three days for various distributions.

Trash Bash:

Saturday, March 27th. You may register Saturday morning 7:30 -8:00 a.m. at Marlin Marina, or you may register early on Friday the 26th. Marlin Marina is across the CR 227 bridge over Bastrop Bayou.

The event will cover the area from Demi-John upstream toward three bridges. Cleanup will conclude approximately 11:30 a.m. There will be a free lunch and door prizes.

Matagorda Island Trip:

Steve Zilliox has received nine registrations; some have declined; there will be more openings today. If we don't have 20 registered we must cancel the trip.

Columbia Watershed Meeting:

Phil Huxford reminded us of this meeting on March 18th at 5:30 p.m.

Spring Fling:

Carolyn Schlein announced the date of April 25th. The Brazos River County Park has been reserved for the event. The nominal fee will have to be paid in advance. Payments will begin to be received at the next member meeting. You should bring your own cooler with your beverages and your lawn chairs. Rich Tillman is chairman of the cooking for the shrimp boil.

Advanced Training

Topic: Sea Turtle Research at TAMUG

Presented By: Dr. Andre M. Landry, Jr.,
Texas A&M University at Galveston