

**LRMN Board Meeting
Thursday, June 6, 2019
Agrilife Office**

Officers present: Sharon Lamoreaux, Lori Horne, Joanie Kochanek and Laura Clark

Committee Members: None **Members:** Richard Peters, Fred Lyons

Advisor: None

The meeting was called to order at 10:07 a.m. by President Sharon Lamoreaux.

Treasurer, Joanie Kochanek, passed out a Financial Statement covering January 2019 through March 31, 2019. No errors were noted, but Richard Peters informed her that he had destroyed the \$10 check to him that was still outstanding and it will be added back into the balance, bringing it to \$4472.96. The Financial Audit for 2018 was conducted immediately after the Board meeting.

Member Input:

Richard Peters discussed having his friend Mike Howlett from Spring do a presentation in September regarding carnivorous plants, which he grows and sells. The Board approved inviting him, paying him \$100 for gas, an honorarium, allowing him to bring plants to sell and purchasing a couple of them for door prizes. Joanie will find out if the Master Gardeners are interested in having a joint meeting, and if so, pick the date as either 9/9 or 9/10 and ask about utilizing St. Michael's church since the MDJSP Dining Hall will not be available for us that month. Mr. Howlett was formerly a ranger at Jesse Jones Park. His contact info is (281) 433-3286 and orders@petflytrap.com.

Fred Lyons discussed his vision for reaching out to the younger generation during their school years to find those who are interested in being naturalists so we can help direct them in their paths towards becoming the naturalist scientists of the future. He proposed a 3-week class on aquatics, watersheds, plant and animal ID for 8-10 kids that would provide camaraderie and education. The Board approved his ideas and his plan to talk to Ranger Amy Kocurek about providing the facilities and helping out with a curriculum. Fred was appointed as head of a Committee to oversee the project, and Sharon Lamoreaux offered her church fellowship hall and grounds as an additional venue, if needed.

Fred also discussed an idea he had while on the Siecke Field Trip for us to make up portable, laminated signs to identify plants or other features on our hiking trails. This ties into the first item on Old Business.

Old Business:

E.O. Siecke Signage Project: Laura Clark provided background and history and said Fred's idea for portable signs might be the way to get this project moving. Fred proposed we put together a list of things we would like to see happen and getting Forester Ben Plunkett to concur or not concur with each item. Laura will draft a list and present it to Sharon, Joanie, Lori and Fred for suggestions/edits and then Laura will schedule a time for us to meet Ben and present our ideas. Fred was appointed to the Siecke Signage Committee.

Longleaf Pine Restoration Partner: Lori has been communicating with Earlene Jackson Forester, Silviculturist, with the US Forest Service and provided her with all of the information about us that she has requested in order for us to assist them with projects. Currently, they are looking at seed cone collection in the fall, and possibly some planting. Earlene will notify Lori when the projects come up, and we will invite her to come talk at one of our meetings about them beforehand, if possible.

Sandy Creek Project: Laura provided background and history on the project and shared that the committee was very excited about inviting the Master Naturalists to get their input at the June 25th open house at the Chamber's Welcome Center. She explained potential projects, including planting cypress trees for erosion control and assisting with planning the wilderness trail through the 65-acre Hart tract that the city is in the process of acquiring.

Sylvia Holmes Transfer: Sharon reported no real progress has been made on this. Laura will draft a letter to Mary Pearl Meuth asking for their advice and send it to Sharon, who will edit it and forward it on the Mary Pearl.

New Business:

Pat Chance Opportunity: Sharon visited with Ms. Chance. She is an 82-year old widow who owns several acres off 63 past the Bishop Chapel church. She feeds birds and squirrels, has a jailhouse that was relocated to her property, and it includes an 1800s cemetery where many of the Bishops, related to Beaver Bishop, are buried. She would like to invite groups to enjoy the land. Sharon will set up a date for those of us who are interested to visit.

Upcoming Chapter Meetings: Sylvia Holmes is scheduled to present Texas Water Resources for July, Richard Peters will speak on Bats for August, Mike Howlett on Carnivorous Plants for September, and Hans Landel on Invasives for October.

Training Class Graduation Ideas: Joanie is checking on name tags. A slide show will be prepared by Sharon for presentation. Kathryn Bowie will print the certificates. Lori said the State didn't have pins on hand, so they will have to be ordered later. Richard will help cook. He will bring sodas. Lori will bring ice, tea and gallons of water. Laura will bring ketchup, mustard, pickles and mayonnaise. Meat and buns will be paid for out of the treasury.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:52 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by Laura Clark, Secretary