

**LRMN Board Meeting  
Thursday, August 8, 2019  
Agrilife Office**

**Officers present:** Sharon Lamoreaux, Joanie Kochanek, Lori Horne (arrived late), and Laura Clark

**Members:** Fred Lyons

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

Joanie Kochanek, Treasurer, passed out a financial statement covering June and July. The current balance is \$3,576.19.

**Old Business:**

Training Class awards still pending: James Pulliam and Lauren Turner, the last two students needing hours to complete the class, notified us today they now had 40 each. They will be awarded their graduation pins and certificates at the August meeting.

E.O. Siecke Signage Project: Laura Clark reported that the August 9 meeting with Ben Plunkett had been cancelled due to his being called out for fire duty. She will gather all info for signs and get it on a flash drive for delivery to Ben by August 15. Claire has finished the Hardwoods Bottomlands signs and is working on a bird sign. Lori has submitted the snake sign and received comments back. A draft of Fred's Trailhead sign was discussed and minor revisions suggested. Suggestions for renaming the "Tupelo Trail" were discussed. Everyone was asked to think of ideas so we can give Ben options. James Pulliam has committed volunteers from the Scouts and Honor Society to work days in November and December to clear walking paths around low spots, construct a small bridge, and possibly construct a new kiosk and benches.

Sandy Creek Project: Brent Meaux has asked us to mark up a map showing areas where Bald Cypress will be planted. Lori Horne will obtain a map and set a date for us to do that, then will bring it to Denise Kelly for approval.

Jr. Naturalists Programs: Committee chairman Fred Lyons discussed his contact with A&M and further plans for working with Ranger Amy Kocurek. It was decided that we will utilize the Butterfly Fest for outreach, and also invite Amy to present at our November meeting in order to encourage and teach more volunteers to work with youth at the Nature Center doing presentations for them, since we need to have more volunteers involved to prepare for a Jr. Naturalist Program. Sharon will talk to Amy about doing the presentation.

Upcoming Meeting Programs: August 13 will be Bats with Richard Peters, September 9th, Carnivorous Plants with Mike Howlett at St. Michael's with the Master Gardeners, and October 8, Invasives with Dr. Hans Landel.

Deer Expo: Laura has secured 6 exhibitors for the Expo and will meet with Brock today to discuss how to obtain more. Lori, Joanie and Sue will set up the LRMN table.

Saddle/Paddle: Lori will let us know how to volunteer after plans have been finalized.

## **New Business:**

Friends of the Park: Fred expressed some concerns with Chuck Hubbard's plans to temporarily shut down parts of the park due to maintenance and personnel issues, and suggested that we might be able to help them somehow so that they could avoid this. Sharon will speak with Chuck about it. Ranger Amy is pregnant and will be needing lots of help around Spring Break since she will be on maternity leave at that time.

Trash Off Contest/Prizes: The prizes will be awarded in November. Lori and Danielle are taking care of handling those. Danielle will be getting some items donated.

Butterfly Festival Booth: Donald Fralick has volunteered to chair the booth and will do a bracelet activity for the children again. Sharon suggested doing butterfly rings for them. We will put out a request for volunteers at the next meeting.

Farmer's Market: Joanie said that this will be starting back up again in October and would like to see us have a outreach booth at these. This will be brought up at the next meeting to ask for volunteers.

Curriculum Evaluation Survey: Sharon reminded everyone to take this test because the deadline is August 15.

Annual Meeting: Sharon has a \$75 off coupon for this meeting and will offer it at the next meeting. It was noted that the dates conflict with the Butterfly Festival.

Long Leaf Planting: Lori is working with Earline at the Forest Service to get plantings scheduled possibly in October for East of Zavalla. She will let us know.

Logo: Sharon would like for our chapter to have its own logo. It was decided we would have a contest for this and award the prize in November. The logo should be round, and can be black and white and three colors.

The chapter next board meeting will be on September 5, 2019.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:37 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by Laura Clark, Secretary