

**Texas Master Naturalist
El Camino Real Chapter
Board Meeting Minutes
November 11, 2014**

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:13pm by Barb Cromwell and was held at the Dancing Bee, Rogers, TX. Members present: Nancy Adcock, Katherine Bedrich, Cindy Bolch, Sherry Colley, Barb Cromwell, Sandra Dworaczyk, Debbi Harris, Kathy Lester, Dorothy Mayer, Don Travis, and guest Clyde Adcock.

Old Business

Nature Fest

A motion was made by Don Travis and seconded by Cindy Bolch to discontinue the Nature Fest. The motion passed. We will follow-up by incorporating our festival activities into other area festivals.

Bobby Meyer Bird Sanctuary at Ledbetter Park

The chapter was given a \$150 gift to be used to promote the bird sanctuary. It was decided to compose a brochure on birds at the park to be distributed through the Chamber of Commerce and other local places of interest. The motion for this project was made by Sandra Dworaczyk and seconded by Debbie Harris. This motion passed. A completion deadline of June 1, 2015, was established.

Background Checks

The Chapter will make certain each member has an appropriate background screening every three years. At this time, each member needs a screening. Forms will be filled out at the next general meeting and submitted to the State Office. Cost is \$10/member, which will be paid for by the chapter.

New Business

Insurance

It was decided that the purchase of additional insurance for the Chapter is not necessary. The Chapter is protected by the Charitable Immunity Laws, which protects participants in non-profit organizations. The exception to this coverage is gross negligence or malicious intent.

Membership Participation

Standing committees should consist of 3 to 4 active participants.

Outreach/Education Committee—A motion was made by Nancy Adcock and seconded by Don Travis to establish this new committee. This committee will be responsible for finding festivals for chapter participation.

An interest survey will be distributed at the Thursday meeting. The results of this survey will be used to develop interest groups to promote more active participation within the chapter.

Wildlife Management Seminar

Proposed by Tim Sigmund, Katherine Bedrich, and Barb Cromwell

Purpose:

To provide landowners with information to develop Wildlife Management Plans as an alternative to an agriculture evaluation of their property

Possible dates:

February 27, 28, March 6 or 7

Format:

30-45 minute informational talks
25-30 minute breaks for demonstrations and booths
Provide light lunch/snacks/drinks

Introduction:

Milam County Tax Appraisal Office (regulations/forms)

Topics: (Speakers TBD)

Habitat Control
Erosion Control
Predator Control/Census
Supplemental Shelter
Supplemental Food
Texas Master Naturalist Program

Possible Demonstrations:

Hog pins
Brush control

Possible Booths:

Bats
Plateau Management
Monarchs

A motion was made by Sandra Dworaczyk and seconded by Kathy Lester to move forward with this seminar.

Committee Reports

Membership—Dorothy Mayer

Historian—Debbi Harris

Reminder to submit articles for scrapbook

Communications—Don Travis

Inquired about total issues to be printed for next newsletter

A.T./V.E.—Kathy Lester

Reminder that A.T. is available on-line

Hospitality—Sherry Colley

Winnie L. Bird Talks—Cindy Bolch

Journaling notebooks purchased to be distributed to residents for record-keeping of bird observations; lap blankets with a bird theme are being made by residents

A motion was made by Cindy Bolch and seconded by Nancy Adcock to fund the Winnie L. Bird Talks up to \$100.

Motion passed.

Floridus Milamexa—Katherine Bedrich

Walking the trail; Linda Jo Conn posting photos on iNaturalist

Milano Junction Demonstration Garden—Debbi Harris

Further growth and development of the garden continues

Adjourn

A motion to adjourn was made by Don Travis and seconded by Cindy Bolch. Motion passed and the meeting was adjourned at 7:45.

Respectfully submitted,
Nancy Adcock