

El Camino Real Master Naturalist Chapter

The annual El Camino Real Master Naturalist Chapter meeting was called to order by President Phyllis Shuffield on December 9, 2016, at 7:10 pm at the home of Edward and Sandra Dworaczyk. There were 29 members and guest present. President Shuffield expressed her delight in the opportunity to serve at president and looks forward to 2017. President Shuffield said she wanted all the members to understand that she will not be able to attend all the committee meetings as she still has a full time job. She will keep in touch with the committee chairs and with the committees through e-mail, notes and calls.

President Shuffield asked the membership for any sightings and/or nature reports. Sheri and Wesley Sweet reported seeing a Blue Heron and a Great Egret. Sandra And Edward Dworaczyk reported having more than 100 robins in their yard over the past weekend. Billy Moore reported the butterflies of all kinds have been on several plants like Lantana, Flame Acanthus, etc.

President Shuffield said the minutes were on the website and asked for and corrections, hearing none, she asked for a motion to approve. Motion was made by Debbi Harris, second by Janice Johnson. Motion passed.

Barbara Cromwell is the new Treasurer and due to a family emergency could not attend. The treasurer's report is on the website. Members are asked to view it. President Shuffield said hearing no questions the report will be filed for audit. Members were reminded that 2017 yearly dues of \$20.00 are due no later than February 1, 2017. They can be mailed to Barbara Cromwell, paid at the January meeting or given to Sandra Dworaczyk tonight.

President Shuffield introduced Debbi Harris as the new Membership Director. Debbi said she is not able to answer questions or check input of hours until she finishes the training course for VMS where members enter hours, which she hopes to complete in the next few days. Debbi announced the following:

Recertifications: Barbara Cromwell - June
Debbi Harris – July
Lynn Hagan – October (received new member certification also)
Don Hagan – October (received new member certification also)

Debbi also announced several members are really close to receiving new hours threshold.

Members were reminded if they wanted to go on the January 28, 2017, trip to Houston the reservation and money needs to be in no later than January 12, 2017. The trip cost for the bus is \$46.00 and a minimum of 30 people. Additional money will be paid by members depending on what they choose to see on that day.

Donna Lewis thanked President Phyllis Shuffield, Treasurer Barbara Cromwell and Membership Director Debbi Harris for stepping up to take leadership roles. Members in attendance added their thanks.

Don Travis announced the 2016 newsletter booklets are available and there is a three page picture tribute to Katherine Bedrich. Price of the booklets is \$5.00 each. Don also asked if members were interested in going on a guided tour of the Inner Space at Georgetown to let him know what day would be best. A set date will be announced in the near future.

Hearing no further business, motion to adjourn was made by Pat Holley, second by Sheri Sweet. Motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 7:40 pm