

## El Camino Real Master Naturalist

### Board Meeting Minutes

October 29, 2020 – Conference Call

Conference call: 712-770-5505 Code: 581912#

6:00 pm

OOPS. Sue Ann scheduled a Zoom meeting AND a conference call, at two different times. Many apologies for that mix-up! Next time will be more clear!

Attendees: Linda Jo Conn, Mike Conner, Sue Ann Kendall, Kathy Lester, Donna Lewis, Lisa Milewski, Pamela Neeley, Phyllis Shuffield, Don Travis

1. Training Class Graduation – 9 total graduates
  - a. When – Saturday, December 12, at Hermit Haus, 10:30 am
  - b. How – drive-by certification, where Board members line up along the road and give the new members their gifts.  
Gifts – Pamela has made dishes  
Kathy will check with Dorothy about ordering shirts  
Texas Master Naturalist Masks \$9 each on program website – Donna will find out who wants them (we pay for our own, but new members get theirs free)
  - c. Program? No  
Certificates? Yes – Lisa will create them and get them to Suna, then they will be signed by Suna and Floyd Ingram
  - d. Other details – Lisa has ordered nametags, but they are taking a long time. She may order from a different vendor.
2. 2021 Chapter Meetings
  - a. Where? Online Donna moved to do Zoom the first Quarter, Kathy seconded, and the motion passed.
  - b. How? Zoom for the first three months, offer speakers the ability to do it at the Hermit Haus if they want to; move it to hybrid when we determine it is safe.
  - c. When? Second Thursday of the month
  - d. Suggest moving to Episcopal Church starting in April, if safe. Liz Lewis will arrange a tour for people who want to look at it, later.
3. Field Trip Proposals
  - a. Alan Rudd's property – water management and BioBlitz – Board approves – Suna will find out when it's good for Alan to hold it, and we will have two possible days, in case one is too cold.
  - b. iNaturalist observations in neighboring counties and parts of Milam County that have few observations – we will form a committee and talk about it in email (Linda Jo, Suna, Eric, anyone else interested).

- c. Can do purple martins once COVID is under control
  - d. Kathy is doing a monarch thing
  - e. Ask Judge Young if he has any ideas for ways we can help out in the county. Suna will ask.
  - f. Earth Day at Bird and Bee next year, if we can
  - g. How to make a Wildscape, by Donna
  - h. Scheduled additional Wildscape activities
  - i. Let's ask the membership at the November meeting for more ideas
4. Bird and Bee Farm activities
- a. Future plans – they have added a bathroom! Going to add a pavilion for having classes, etc. Add a bird station.
5. Committee Reports –
- Communications: Don would like to know who is interested in joining our chapter or who is inactive but interested, so that he sends email to the right people. He will remove people who have passed away from his list.
6. Issues with iNaturalist reporting
- a. Can we observe on our own property? (Hope to get more information at the next Presidents meeting). Linda Jo will write up something about her passion on this topic.
7. Sharing about the Annual Meeting
- a. Phyllis praised the talk by Doug Tallamy. We recommend you watch it, if you can. If not: [Nature's Best Hope: A New Approach to Conservation that Starts in Your Yard A New Approach to Conservation that Starts in Your Yard](#) (book)
  - b. Linda Jo said they did a great job with the online format.

7:25: Donna Lewis moved to adjourn, Pamela Neeley seconded.

Because of the mix-up on starting times, please figure out your own time to report.