

# **El Camino Real chapter Texas Master Naturalist**

## **Regular Meeting Minutes July 14, 2022**

### **All Saints Episcopal Church**

Dinner at 5:30 attracted a crowd. I counted 28 people including members, guest speaker, and two visitors that may become chapter members. Thanks go to Catherine Johnson and Kim Summers for carrying the host committee responsibilities and to the many hands that prepared the food, and especially to all that helped to prepare and then clean up the meeting hall.

Don Travis and Donnie Griggs had the video presentation equipment set and running for the guest presentation.

Speaker Cheryl Lewis presented information on “gardening for birds” in the church sanctuary. The air conditioning system in this part of the Episcopal Church is quiet and cool and the acoustics for hearing speakers is better than in the fellowship hall. e did not have a microphone system operational (the machinery refused to cooperate) for this event and it made hearing Cheryl’s soft voice a bit difficult. ECRMN members with hearing deficiencies (yours truly) are encouraged to utilize the front rows in the next meeting.

### **July Business Meeting**

PRESIDENT REPORT, CAROLYN HENDERSON: Called to order 7:20 pm

In further efforts to make leadership roles “Two Deep” Michelle Lopez is now assisting Don Travis. Please continue to send items for calendar to Janice Johnson. Michelle will then upload them to the website.

New class is planned for January 2023. Send any contacts for potential students to Don Travis to add to list. ECRMN is shooting for a class of 10 or more.

Tracy Herbarium trip is 9 days away. Pay attention to emails.

New green shirts are here for those that ordered. They have secret zipper pockets for sugary treats and other contraband!

Field trip to Balcones Canyonlands in October - stayed tuned.

VICE PRESIDENT REPORT, LIZ LEWIS: Speakers for August Gene and Cindy Rek--Bird and Bee Farm topics. Speaker for September Debbie Sorenson “Observations and Lessons on Vultures”.

TREASURER REPORT, MIKE CONNER: submitted by email:

Current bank balance: \$4,014.72, there are no outstanding bills that I am aware of except for a \$100 donation to the church which is due.

38 members have paid their dues this year.

SECRETARY REPORT: Minutes approved as presented by Sue Ann Kendall. Motion Debbi Harris seconded Lolly Lewis

MEMBERSHIP REPORT, LISA MILEWSKI: Four members earn accreditation: Debbi Harris, Gene Rek, Cindy Rek, Eric Neubauer.

MEDIA COMMITTEE, DON TRAVIS: Sound system discussion: Substitute secretary could not hear this discussion very well. Don eloquently explained the microphone glitch in an email to all members just after the conclusion of the event. We take it for granted that these systems are always there and as substitute secretary I am going to speak for all members and say we greatly appreciate Don Travis and Donnie Griggs for carrying the load of responsibility of having these technology systems operational for the chapter. Thank-you both for your technical expertise and hard work.

AT REPORT: none

PROJECTS REPORT none

CLASS REPORT, KATHY LESTER: We have approximately 20 potential students interested in becoming members of the 2023 class. Kathy has emailed to a list of names (compiled by Don Travis) and received 3 responses thus far. All members are asked to personally encourage acquaintances that have an interest to consider becoming a member by taking the January-April class. Kathy Lester will be the primary educator (this will be her 3<sup>rd</sup> consecutive class to lead) and Alan Rudd has accepted role as her assistant to share the work load.

Gene Rek suggested ECRMN have printed materials that members can hand out to interested people. These materials should explain:

- Who we are.
- 2 What we do. 3.
- How to become a member, etc.

These materials may exist in some form already (they do) but they likely need to be updated and gotten into the hands of current members to use in recruitment efforts.

LINDA JO CONN: WOW award goes to Ann Collins for Green heron photo. Yay Ann!!!

#### NEW BUSINESS

Linda Jo Conn makes motion to organize books and printed materials for Master Naturalists to be placed in public area of the new MILAM COUNTY AGRILIFE EXTENSION offices.

Seconded by: Jackie Thornton

Motion was put to the membership by voice vote and was approved. All El Camino Real Chapter members have been invited to attend the grand opening of the new AgriLife Extension offices. See emails for details.

Motion to Adjourn: Kim Summers. Meeting concluded at 8:15 pm.

VMS hours 1.25 AT .75 for business Meeting plus food providers can claim an additional hour of volunteer time

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:

Alan E. Rudd, substitute secretary

Minutes revised and updated by Sue Ann Kendall, Chapter Secretary