

Gideon Lincecum Chapter Texas Master Naturalist
Chapter Meeting Minutes
July 20, 2024
Fayette County Ag Building
LaGrange, TX

The chapter business meeting was called to order at 9:30 AM by Sheri Wilcox, president. There were 38 chapter members present and 11 guests. Board members attending were Sheri Wilcox, Ken English, Karen Gardner, Swee Leng Rappatz, Connie Shortes and Betty Scardino.

Minutes for the May 18, 2024 chapter meeting were accepted as distributed.

Treasurer's report: Karen Dean was not able to attend but she provided information to Sheri in advance. The only major expenditure since the previous report was the purchase of the Rainfall Simulator. The funds for the simulator was provided through a grant from the Fayette Prairie NPAT. A full financial report will be presented at the next chapter meeting

Membership report: Chris Morrison was not able to attend but she provided a report to Debra Healy. She reported that 6 chapter members were re-certified since the last meeting and 2 members completed initial certification.

Marketing report: Ken English reported that activities have slowed for the summer but opportunities will start to ramp up in the fall. TMN-GLC will be participating in the Lee County Wildlife Expo to be held at Giddings High School on August 2nd. The chapter will provide 5 speakers on a variety of subjects.

Communications Report: Sheri thanked Nancy Dunnahoe for the improvements to the chapter website. Carol Gaskamp was not at the meeting but asked Sheri to remind chapter members that articles for the newsletter are due on August 2nd.

Education Report: Karen Gardner reported that the team has been working on developing hands on education activities.

Training Class report: Connie Shortes reported that the team is on hiatus for the summer but will be gearing up for planning the new training class soon. Two of the new 2024 interns were recognized for completion of training since they were unable to attend the May meeting

New Business: No new business.

The business meeting was adjourned at 9:45

The Chapter AT presentation for July was a panel discussion regarding Conservation Easements. It commenced at 9:50 a.m. and ended at 11:35 a.m. Members of the panel taking questions were:

Elise Donovan – Nature Conservancy, Coastal Prairie Chapter
Amber Arcineaux – Native Prairie Association
Robert Lehmann – Realtor, Legend Texas Properties
Ronald Banik – Blue Sky Farms
David Bezanson – The Nature Conservancy, Texas Chapter

Following the panel discussion 6 members of the 2024 intern class gave their chapter presentations:

Marie Dahlburg spoke on the effects of nature can have on mental health.
Travis Dunnahoe discussed activities in prairie restoration at a 7 acre pocket prairie.
Nancy Dunnahoe gave a presentation on the Caddo Mounds State Historic Site located in East Texas.
Kent Crowl shared some interesting facts about Beavers.
Cindy Mc Morran discussed the Leafcutter Ant.
Bill Fisher talked about Monarch Butterfly Migration.

Submitted by Betty Scardino
TMN-GLC Secretary