**LINDHEIMER MASTER NATURALISTS**

**BOD MEETING**

**MAY 21, 2018**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Joel Dunnington, Kim Wright, Rich Nielson, Evelyn Nielson, Jeanie Springer, Marilyn McFarland, Mike Hammack, Debbie Kyrouac, Darlene Varga

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Brian Trock, Jim Doyle, Art Williams, Sara Riggs, Troy Luepke

**CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order at 6 PM.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** The April minutes were sent out via email for corrections. Corrections were made. Darlene Varga moved that the April minutes be approved; Evelyn Nielson seconded. The motion passed.

**PRESIDENT’S REPORT:** Rich Nielson showed the BOD a shirt from either the first LMN class or the second class that has the Texas Star logo embroidered on it. We discontinued the logo because State said we had to use their Darner logo. Rich sent Michelle Haggerty an email asking about this rule. Other chapters have their own logos. Marilyn McFarland is working on a new brochure that could have our own logo. Mike Hammack offered that we could have an unofficial logo if State says no to our request.

**OFFICER AND COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

1. **Treasurer---**Evelyn Nielson submitted her report. See report. She said she was going to look up what Texas requires for a 501c3 organization concerning raffles and fundraisers. The rule is that we can have 2 fund raisers per year in the form of raffles. Darlene Varga asked Evelyn if money was taken out of Outreach budget for the storage and Evelyn said it was. There is still over $1000 in the Outreach budget.
2. **Vice President-**--Jim Doyle was absent. Rich Nielson reported that he and Evelyn went on the Cemex field trip.
3. **Past President-**--Joel Dunnington had questions about the Chapter Operating Handbook (COH) concerning certification. Darlene Varga said that the COH states that Outreach is not a Standing Committee, but a sub-committee and not a voting member of the BOD. Joel thinks that Darlene may be looking at an old version of the COH. Joel said he will go back over the COH to check. The State finally sent their changes to the COH and Joel will be making those changes now. Joel said that the Comal County Conservation Alliance will meet May 23 from noon until 2 PM. He will attend this meeting. The Alliance wants to purchase the Boy Scouts of America El Rancho Cima.
4. **Communications-**--Marilyn McFarland sent out her report. See report. She said that Marie Miller is still working on the website. Marilyn is trying to get more people viewing our Face Book page and posting items on it. Joel Dunnington asked if his reference list was on the website yet, but Marilyn said no. He said he has a new, longer version. Marilyn said she is trying to learn Word Press, but it is difficult. Rich Nielson asked about updating our member roster on the website. Rich needs to let Brian Trock and/or Marie Miller know if he has any changes to his information.
5. **Education-**--Debbie Kyrouac reported that there is a field trip on June 30 to Honey Creek. She will have a sign up sheet at the June class. She announced that there will be a Trunk Training on July 12 at Agrilife around 6:30 PM. The goal is to have enough people trained on the trunks so there will be plenty of manpower at events. That way the same people won’t have to keep going to all the events to cover the trunks. Darlene Varga wants to reorganize the trunks to make them more user friendly. She’s working on the Native Plant trunk. Joel Dunnington said that the porcupine quills in the Mammal trunk are disintegrating. Evelyn Nielson stressed the importance of signing the trunks in and out of the storage unit. Rich Nielson said we need to update our inventory list of items in the storage for insurance purposes. Mike Hammack wants to insure that the class attendance roster matches Brian Trock’s VMS records. If a student misses a class or watches a make-up video, they need to notify Mike or Debbie in addition to Brian.
6. **Membership-**--Brian Trock was absent. No report.
7. **Projects-**--Jeanie Springer said it was a quiet month. Three of the projects submitted had prior approval. Joel Dunnington asked if the garden tour at his house was approved for AT. It was approved.
8. **Outreach-**--Darlene Varga asked if the storage code will be given out to everyone or just the ones authorized to show the trunks. It will be given only to those who need to check out other items in addition to the trunks. Darlene said there is a potential meeting with Headwaters of the Comal, Agrilife, and NBU to discuss combining events for next year. Rich Nielson will gather information and coordinate a meeting this summer. Easter Sunday is April 21 next year and Earth Day is April 22. Darlene said that having Earth Day on Easter weekend is a good idea because lots of people will be in town and attendance may go up. Folk Fest is always mid-April, followed by Wein and Saengerfest the first weekend in May. We need to use our manpower along with other groups. Mike Hammack said a June or July meeting with other groups would be highly encouraged. Next year’s new class may or may not adopt Earth Day as their class project, so that issue would need to be addressed.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

April priorities---Folk Fest, Earth Day, Open House, Wein and Saengerfest---Rich Nielson said that Wein and Saengerfest only had 2 tables and that they needed more. He recommended buying 2 more tables. Darlene Varga moved that we buy 2 tables; Marilyn McFarland seconded. Rich said there is $200 left over from Folk Fest and $200 from Open House to cover this expense. Motion passed.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Rich Nielson said that he was very impressed with the Cemex field trip. He wants to see if it would be a fit for us to work with them in their garden, native plants beds, and prairie invasives, and build bird blinds. We could partner with them and be advisors. Marilyn McFarland said it could be like PAL. Mike Hammack asked if a class project is necessary. It is not required, but Darlene Varga said it builds class spirit and unity. The project needs to be self-sustaining though.

Joel Dunnington said that he purchased long tent stakes for the canopies. Darlene Varga said that Barry Brupbacher sent her a design that will hold a trifold display on a windy day. Rich Nielson said that we need to also have 12 plastic jugs that can be filled with water in case we are on asphalt and can’t drive a stake into the ground.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Kim Wright moved that the meeting be adjourned; Darlene Varga seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 7 PM.

Respectfully submitted by:

Kim Wright, Secretary

Lindheimer Master Naturalists