**Texas Master Naturalist – Rolling Plains Chapter**

**Minutes of the June 6, 2017 Meeting @ River Bend Nature Center**

Meeting was called to order at 7:05pm by President, Terry McKee. 30 members were present along with two visitors and one guest speaker, Chris Jackson.

Terry welcomed the guests to the meeting.

Terry asked if everyone had an opportunity to read over and approve the minutes from the last meeting. Penny Miller made a motion to approve the minutes and Warren King seconded the motion. Minutes were approved.

Larry read a copy of the Treasurer Report. (attached)

**Committee Reports:**

**20th Anniversary Project –** Lynn mentioned that the interviews were completed for the 20th Anniversary Project – Kay Murphy, Larry Snyder, Laura Gillis, Penny Miller, and Jane McGough were interviewed from our chapter.

Now, the state office is asking for photos from our chapter of anything showing the history of our chapter and projects. You may e-mail them to Lynn, but you will need to sign a release form so that they can use your photos.

**Horned Lizard Survey –** We are continuing to conduct Horned Lizard Surveys monthly. Lynn explained that during the last survey, we did spot 1 THL on the private land owner site as well as 1 THL on the Lake Arrowhead State Park site. Next survey will take place on June 25 and June 30. Anyone wanting to help, be watching for an e-mail with the information.

**Nature Tracker – Mussel Watch update –** Penny said that she will conduct a mussel watch at LASP right after the bird walk on June 10 by the dining hall area. Bird walk will start at 8:00am and then mussel watch afterwards.

**Quail Project Report –** Larry explained that we have completed all the required call counts, but one group will be conducting another call count on June 12. We will be working on the dummy nests soon. Everything is moving right along well.

 **Breeding Bird Survey -** Penny Miller reported that the Breeding Bird Survey for Henrietta was completed, but 1/3 of the end of the route was too muddy to get to. She will be conducting another Breeding Bird Survey on June 17 – Megargel area – meet at Sutherland’s at 5:00am. If there is rain, it may be cancelled.

**Old Business:**

**Boy Scout at LASP –** Terry reported that our group presented to Troop 1 at LASP on May 6. Dian mentioned that the boys in the group had very good questions. Lynn said that the troop enjoyed the trip and wanted to thank us for our help.

**Bugfest – May 5** – Kim Mason said that the turn out seemed lower than last year. Dian mentioned that it could have been because of the earlier time for the event. Several members volunteered at the event.

**Pollinator PowWow – May 5-7** – Larry reported on this event that he and Judy attended. He explained that there were very good speakers including Ricky Linex. He mentioned programs on solitary wasp, bats, fireflies, bears, Monarchs in Mexico, Bats and Wind Turbines, and more. He highly recommends this event and encourages others to attend next year.

 **Plant ID -** Terry thanked Ray and Sharon Hyde for allowing our group to come out to their property for a plant ID with Ricky Linex this past month. Everyone enjoyed the event very much!

Terry said that the **Mark Howell Memorial Fishing Rodeo** on June 3 was fun for all who attended. The turnout was low this year. Tami mentioned that there were many other events scheduled around the area on that day.

**New Business:**

**New Meeting Place –** Terry mentioned that the board was considering moving our meeting place to a new location. Our group is growing and is need of a large meeting place. She asked for any suggestions from the group. Lisa Taylor mentioned that she can check with Region 9 Education Service Center about using a room there. Terry also mentioned that MSU may be a possibility.

**June 10 –** “Tour With A Biologist” – Hackberry Flats – Terry explained this event that will count as AT. Meet at Atwood’s at 8:00am to carpool. Event will last from 9 to noon.

**June 10** – Bird Walk with Penny Miller at LASP 8:00am – Mussel Watch to follow around dining hall area.

**June 15 –** Texoma Regional Math/Science Conference booth – 9 to 4 at Region 9 Education Service Center in Wichita Falls. Our chapter will host a booth to explain what we do to area math/science teachers. Sign up sheet was at the back table.

**June 17 –** Breeding Bird Survey (mentioned above)

**June 24 –** Terry discussed two events for this date. Butterfly count will be held at 7:00am at LASP. Meet at the headquarters (entrance). Later in the evening, our group will participate in the Great Backyard Campout at LASP. Meet at the group pavilion area to help with a scavenger hunt, smores, and then owl calling. The event will last from 7 to 9 pm.

**Other Business:**

Terry presented recertification pin to Debra Halter.

Maryruth Prose (not present) – 250 hours pin (will be presented at next meeting).

Lynn Seman was presented her 1000 hour pin.

Penny Miller was honored with earning her 4000 hour achievement. Terry McKee read the presidential certificate (signed by President Barack Obama) and presented the pin and certificate to Penny, as well as a plaque from the chapter. Congratulations!

Larry reminded everyone that they can pick up a seed catalog on the back table.

Business meeting was adjourned at 7:30pm.

**Program**

**Special Guest –** Chris Jackson – DFW Urban Wildlife/Photography

7:30pm to 8:45pm

Chris Jackson’s Facebook Group – <https://www.facebook.com/groups/726012804182335/>

Chris Jackson’s Blog – <http://dfwurbanwildlife.com/>

Local Facebook Urban Wildlife Group - <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1690101861282183/>

Respectfully Submitted,

Lynn Seman

Secretary

June 6, 2017