

Texas Master Naturalist – Rolling Plains Chapter

Minutes of the meeting June 4, 2019@ Midwestern State University, Room 209

7:00 pm – Meeting was called to order by Terry McKee. Terry asked if members had a chance to look over the minutes of the last meeting and the treasurer’s report. She asked if there were any additions or corrections and the members said no. The minutes and treasurer’s report were approved.

Committee Report – Terry reported that the Birding Classic Regional 2nd place team wen to Sue King, Warren King, and Penny Miller. The team found 74 species in this year’s contest. Congratulations!

Penny Miller announced that the Breeding Bird Surveys will be help this summer on **June 9**, at 5:15am, and on **June 22**, at 5:00am. She requested that if anyone has a vehicle that will do well on tough roads that she would be willing to buy gas because one of the routes is a little harder to get through. If you are interested in helping with this, let Penny know. This event is dependent on the weather and might be canceled so make sure you contact Penny first.

Larry said that we have completed 2 out of the 3 call counts for the Texas Quail Index this year. Sharon and Ray will try to do last count on Friday. Next, the teams will start with dummy nests and with game cameras.

Old Business – Terry thanked all of those who came and helped with the Mark Howell Memorial Kids Fishing Rodeo on Saturday, June 1. There was a good turn out and many photos posted.

New Business –

On Thursday, **June 6**, we will have a booth at the Region IX Education Service Center for the Math/Science Conference from 9:00am to 4:00pm. There is a sign-up sheet if you would like to fill a slot at the booth.

June 8 – Lynn said that Whiteside Museum of Natural History in Seymour will be having a special event to celebrate their 5th anniversary. We will have a booth at the event. See the sign-up sheet for time slots. The event will last from 10:00am to 4:00pm. Our booth will be outside so dress appropriately. There is a sign-up sheet for this event.

Penny will be hosting the Bird Walk at LASP at 8:00am on **Saturday, June 8**. Meet at dump station.

Larry reported on the trails at Comanche Springs Astronomy Campus. Christena Stephens took them on an 8-mile trip through the trails. He said that it actually covered 2 land types and is a fantastic trail for us to be involved with. This is owned by the 3Rivers Foundation. We have a chance for many future projects at this site. We are maintaining a native pollinator garden and helped to plant milkweed.

Lynn reminded members to check on the River Bend Nature Center Camps this summer. There are many of them. If you have a special program or something that you want to help with, contact Leslie Fernandes. She will be happy for you to help out.

On August 10 from 1:30pm to 3:00pm, we have the opportunity to present a Monarch Program at the Kemp Center of the Arts special event called “ArtZeum”. Laura Gillis said that the ArtZeum will start on June 21 and last till August 11. The focus this year is insects. They have interactive areas for kids and adults on these days.

Contact Nancy Scott to help out. Laura Gillis will be conducting a class on June 29 for kids on the skill of nature journaling and for adults on June 30. It will last 3 hours. The cost is unknown at this time, but we will find out.

James Masuoka introduced Brent Sutterfield who will be working on his master's degree at MSU. Welcome to our meeting! We are happy to have guests!

Maryruth had a question about pollinator gardens and using cedar mulch.

Recertification pins and certificates were awarded to Warren King and Sue King. Congratulations!

Norman Mason received his 250 hour pin. Way to go, Norman!

Lynn Seman received her 2,500 hour pin.

Terry announced these other certifications who were not present at this meeting. Laura Clepper, Donna Beaver, Larry Harvey, and Deb Miller.

Our next speaker will be Laura Clepper on July 2 meeting.

Business meeting ended at approximately 7:30pm.

There were 27 members and 1 guest present at the meeting.

Program – Quiz Bowl – Teams answered a series of 20 questions based on master naturalist materials. This year's winning team consisted of Terry McKee, Debra Halter, June McKee, and Penny Miller. Congratulations! The competition lasted to approximately 8:30pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Lynn Seman
Secretary
June 4, 2019