

Minutes for STMN Meeting 10/19/2021  
6:30 pm Zoom Virtual Meeting

6:34 pm meeting called to order

Speaker: Sara Jose, Oso Bay Wetlands Preserve and Learning Center, Bird Friendly Landscapes

Attendees: Bibi Dalrymple, Suanne Pyle, Nancy Gettelfinger, Joan Gettelfinger, Michelle Alvarez, Joan Wolfe, Phillip Woods, Cindy Frank, Leslie Albrecht, Jean Meadors, Michele Connolly, Michael Wenzel, Bryan Tilley, Matt Hendrix, Lorrie Pierce, Mary Grace Lopez, Lari Jo Edwards, Jason Edwards, Amy Rivers, Ricardo Rodriguez, Janice Ainbinder, Suzanne Smith, Claude Smith, Steve Cook, Winifred Shrum, Art Siebert, Chad Huckabee, Karen Smith, Melanie Hollingshead\*\*, Amanda Gabehart, Ann Thomas, Margaret Taylor, Kevin Gibbs, Rebecca Maestas, Leslie Hoekstra, Sara Jose\*

\*Speaker

\*\*Guest

Call to Order at 7:25 by Bibi Dalrymple

The minutes of our last meeting are posted to our website (<https://txmn.org/st/meetings/chapter-meeting-documents/>). Are there any new corrections to the minutes? The minutes will stand as posted.

President's report:

- Next chapter meetings: November 16, 2021 (final meeting of the year)
- Next BOD meeting: Dec 7, 2021
- Michele Connolly is chairing the Annual Financial Examination Committee. Responsible for conducting the annual examination of the financial records of the Chapter.
- Timeline for officer nominating committee to fill president and secretary positions President must publish slate of candidates to chapter membership in writing 15 days prior to last meeting (Nov 16) – so will be sent in email on November 1.
- The Officer Nomination Committee (chaired by Kimberly Ogden) will present a slate of candidates and conduct the election process at the last general membership meeting of the calendar year – November 16.

State office news:

- 2021 Certification they do not anticipate changing policies
- 2021 Annual Meeting Recorded Sessions can be watched thru April 2022 for AT – must register for annual meeting to have access.

Vice President Report – Kimberly Ogden – not present

Treasurer Report – Leslie Hoekstra

- Same balances as given at BOD meeting

Secretary/Communication Report – Randy Bissell, not present, given by Suanne Pyle

#### Public Outreach

- Earth Science Week Presentation (PO) for Texas A&M Kingsville

#### Facebook Group Progress

- 603 Members
- Some posts reach over 100
- Thanks! to the many Chapter contributors
- The goal is to be consistently a “positive” space on Facebook

#### Website Progress

- Constantly uploading info/maps/documents for the Training Program
- “Blackboard” Calendar on Front Page
- NatureCorps updated with latest interviews
- Makeover planned for 2022

#### Other efforts/ideas

- TNM State Meeting Presentations
  - NatureCorps with Michelle Alvarez on Sat 8:30
  - Oso Bay Wetlands Geology on Friday 10:30
- Update Square Payment Site for 2022 dues collection
- Working with Chad on the newsletter
- Working towards a member directory (PDF) that would be provided to members and be password protected.
- Strengthen liaison network.

#### Membership Report – Michelle Alvarez

- The latest people to be interviewed for Nature Corps are Michele Connolly?, Marie Kieber-Emmons, and Ray Dillahunty
- An email has been sent out to mentors requesting how the program is going. An email will also be sent to mentees.
- There will be an outdoor social on December 4 at Blucher Park. It will be part Bioblitz and Part training. Afterwards we will go to Nueces Brewing Company. More details to follow.
- She is working on a member directory. All members will have the choice to opt in and decide how much information to share.

#### Training Report – Phillip Woods

- Several trainees have gotten certified. There are three more trainings and a cold-stunned turtle training. This Saturday Steve Cook will be leading an Audubon Outdoor Club beginner Birding trip at Hazel Bazemore Park.
- They have had good weather and this is a good group to work with. They are already working on next year.

#### AT Report – Chad Huckabee

- There are 12 programs planned for spring. These include Plant ID workshops where participants will learn to ID 25 plants. We have added a one hour volunteer time so members can count travel time.
- He are also looking at possible classes in seagrasses, algae and invertebrates.
- He will now require registration for classes. Too many are being held with only one or two participants. Instructors put a lot of time and effort into preparing for classes so we need better participation and prior registration.

#### Volunteer Management Report – Cindy Frank

- 250 hours: Michelle Alvarez
- Initial certifications: Anne Thomas, Steve Cook, Nikki Ikonomopoulos
- Recertifications: Jason Edwards, Lillian Bass

#### New Training Class Rep Report – Michele Connolly

- Training is going well. She is talking to trainees about New Training Class Rep for next year.
- Michele requests that everyone turn in all outstanding receipts and fill out check request form before October 31 so the Financial Examination Committee can do their report.

#### Announcements

- Texas Brigades is doing some volunteer work at Oso Wetlands Preserve
- Jack Hodges from Flour Bluff is on Jeopardy. There are several TMS's that have connections to his family.

#### Membership activity – Michelle Alvarez

- Break Out rooms, describe equipment you won't go out without. Cameras and binoculars were mentioned most often.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:08 pm

.75 hour of AT, .75 hour of Chapter Business