Minutes for STMN Meeting 5/19/2022

7:00 pm Hybrid meeting

Flour Bluff Intermediate Library or Via Zoom

Speaker introduced by Leslie Albrecht, Vice President

Speaker: Angie Arredondo, Welder Wildlife Foundation

Attendees: Michele Connolly, Leslie Albrecht, Suanne Pyle, Leslie Hoekstra, Cindy Frank, Janice Knezek, Chad Huckabee, Mike Wenzel, Bibi Dalrymple, Art Siebert, Randy Bissell, Phil Woods, Jean Meadors, Kevin Gibbs, Michelle Alvarez, Ann Flanagan, Christy and Chuck Blend, George Gardiner, Holly Grand, Jaquelyn Jones, Janice Ainbinder, Jennifer Pshigoda, Joan Wolfe, Namcy Gettelfinger, Joan Gettelfinger, Paula Baker, Ricky Rodriguez, Dawn Bissell, Grace Lopez, Julie Findley, Toni Briscoe, Steve Cook, Cheryl Wallek, George Woods, ?

Call to Order at 8:10 by Michele Connolly

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.

Visitors and Guests were welcomed:

George Woods, introduced by Kevin Gibbs. He announced that if you volunteer for CCISD you need to register each year. The form is on the CCISD website.

Cheryl, from the From the Texas Outdoor Women’s Network Alamo Chapter. She is also about to do her TMN training.

Awards: Cindy Frank

* Initial Certification – Rebecca Johnson
* Recertifications for 2022 – Chad Huckabee, Jean Meadors, Winnie Shrum, Sue Barley, Jacquelyn Jones, Michelle Alvarez
* 250 Hours pin – Suanne Pyle
* 1000 Hours pin – Ann Flanagan

President’s report: Michele Connolly

* There will not be any more monthly meetings until August. There will be a Board meeting in June.
* The new year kickoff party will be at the Bissell residence on August 13, 2022. All members and new TMN trainees are invited.
* Michele Connolly and Cindy Frank attended Commissioner’s Court on April 27 where the STTMN were honored.
* It is incredible that we have a Texas Master Naturalist in space. The dragonfly inspired NASA patch can be purchased on Amazon.

Vice President Report: Leslie Albrecht

* Steve Cook will be the speaker in August, if you know anyone else who can be a speaker please let Leslie A. know.

Secretary: Suanne Pyle

* We are working on the Members only section of the website. Suanne said she would like to interview some members for biographies on the page. Michelle Alvarez asked if some of the interviews could be taped. Chad Huckabee said he had about a dozen biographies already and to contact him for more details.
* Several members had asked about going as a group to see the movie “Deep In The Heart” which is about Texas Wildlife and Nature. Dates and times were discussed and we decided Sunday, June 5 at 1:45 would work best. Members need to buy their own tickets and provide transportation to the movie.

Treasurer Report: Leslie Hoekstra

* See financial report at end

Immediate Past President: Bibi Dalrymple

* Nothing to report

Advanced Training Director: Chad Huckabee

* ID Plant classes are concluded. Most of the participants were Master Gardeners, very few Master Naturalists attended.
* Chad is working with the Archimedes Floating Classroom planning for a summer excursion

Communications Director: Michael Wenzel

* We are continuing to update website and Members Only Zone. Suanne Pyle will be in charge of the calendar

Membership Director: Michelle Alvarez

* The next social will be at Hazel Bazemore Park, scheduled for June 25, 2022. It will be a kayaking adventure. Randy said a Mid-Coast Master Naturalist is bringing kayaks and other gear.
* Michelle is continuing to work on the Member Directory, the Mentoring Program and the 20th Anniversary Celebration of the Chapter.
* Dawn suggested we set up a private tour of the Welder Wildlife Refuge. Public tours are every Thursday at 3 and must be signed up for in advance.

New Class Director (Initial Training): Phillip Woods

* Phil said they are finalizing plans for the new training class

New Class Representative Report: Katilyn Parker, not present

Volunteer Management Report: Cindy Frank

* No report

Announcements:

* Phil said if you want your friends and colleagues to get in the next training class they needed to do so now
* Julie Findley said her husband saw a life Leatherback Turtle in the Gulf. Paula Baker, Vet at the Ark, said a lot of turtles were being washed up, mostly Loggerheads and a few Kemp’s Ridleys. She said necropsies were done and samples were sent off to be analyzed. The cause of death seemed to be mostly by drowning.
* Jean Meadors said the Wildlife in Focus contest needed some volunteer help. Contact them directly if interested.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:50 pm

.75 hour of AT, 1 hour of Chapter Business

TEXAS MASTER NATURALISTS

SOUTH TEXAS CHAPTER

FINANCIAL REPORT

May 17, 2022

SAVINGS $ 1,821.12

.67 Interest 3/31/22

TOTAL $ 1,821.79

CHECKING $ 5,908.94 Beginning Balance as of April 14, 2022

105.00 Check 1034 – Name Badges

928.54 Check 1035 – Text Books

TOTAL $ 4,875.40

2 YEAR CD $ 4,444.30 Maturity Date: November 14, 2023

3.80 Interest 4/30/22

$ 4,448.10

TOTAL $ 11,145.29

Annual Dues Paid for 2022

56 Renewed (3 in 2021)

19 Trainees 2021

2 Advisors (no annual dues required)

77 Total