

Rio Brazos Master Naturalists
1st Quarter Board Meeting
March 2, 2017
Camp El Tesoro

Attendance

Dayna Inbody
Chris Inbody
Sara Paulsen

Dave Moore
Henry Bogusch
Tessa Ownbey

Wendy Moore
Valerie Tabor
Billy Teels

Chapter Funding

- Henry Bogusch reporting. Chapter balance is \$10,335
- Friends of Acton Nature Center is giving us a budget of \$3000 for funding of education trunks being made (\$1000 each for mammals, birds, and pollinators).
- 11 members have not paid dues for 2017. After March 31, failure to pay dues constitutes inactive member status.
- Dayna inquired if there was interest in purchasing hand lenses for class use specifically for botany and geology. Cost of lenses is \$4.05 each. BOD committee agreed. 25 lenses will be purchased for chapter stock. Chapter members will be given option to purchase lenses.
- Farewell party for Robert and Nancy Theimer will be at the Langdon's ranch. It is not an official master naturalist event. A cake and gift will be provided by donations from members. A photo book will be presented to Robert and Nancy.

Meetings/Events

- August meeting will be moved to Fossil Rim Education Center due to conflict with VBS schedule at First Baptist Church, Glen Rose.
- CMOP changes have been posted to our website.
- See chapter calendar for information on MLMP, Wingding, Moon Event, FeatherFest, Reptile event, school field trips, Burleson Family Campout, Nature Run, and other events for March, April, and May.

- Gary Hinds is assuming role of lead for the Monarch Event in October 2017. Event may possibly be delayed for one week due to weather changes. Gary will update as event scheduling grows closer.

Training

- Prairie Oaks chapter is working on VMS and starting training soon. Dayna has sent out a chapter email regarding classes and events.
- There are still some possible holes in our speaker rotations that need to be filled.
- Two members from other chapters would like to transfer to our chapter.
- Valerie inquired about a possible thumb drive that could be used when training the entomology class.

Open Forum

- Tessa recently attended a C2S2 (Conservation Centers for Species Survival) convention in Virginia. She presented the Fossil Rim Shrike survey program. A goal was set to form a 501©3 tri-national (Canada, USA, and Mexico) Shrike Force replicating our citizen science program. Hopefully all of our state chapters will participate. Head of the Canada team, Amy Chabbot, possibly may address the Master Naturalists at the state conference. Michele Haggerty needs to be contacted first.

C2S2 is putting together a portfolio of 8 songbirds to begin a North American Songbird Conservation program. More will be added later.

Tessa is taking over the native "winged things" conservation at Fossil Rim, that had been under Curt Decker. These include Golden-Cheeked Warbler, Black Capped Vireo surveys, Bluebird houses, bat houses, and a survey of where various native birds typically can be seen on FR property. She is going to add a habitat survey and this native bird survey into this year's Shrike survey for expedience. This will probably be an iNaturalist project.

Tessa inquired which direction would the chapter like to take regarding the Shrike Force and C2S2. Members of the BOD stated they would like to continue the project.

FRWC will be hosting the C2S2 conference in April, 2017. Members of RBMN Shrike Force have been invited to attend on April 13 for a cost of \$50 per person.

Dayna stated Robert Walker has volunteered his property to possibly be used as a Shrike study site.

- There is a state representative webinar scheduled on March 3. Regarding the Texas Master Naturalists license plate, endowment fundraising of \$12,000 has been received thus far and they are working on developing a volunteer marketing team to carry that fundraising forward. TXMN license tag go fund me project must raise \$9,000 to meet the \$8,000 deposit for tag production by TXDOT to start. Additional \$1,000 goes towards go fund me fees. \$3,600 has been raised by the day of our meeting. All are invited to contribute. Deposit money will go in the endowment fund. If goal is not reached, all funds raised still will go towards endowment fund.
- Valerie inquired if anyone was interested in attending the state convention in Corpus Christi this year.