



Rio Brazos Master Naturalist Chapter Meeting Minutes

August 6, 2015

Somervell Training Center

Guests: Robert Enckhausen, DVSP Manager, tonight's speaker, and Carol Lankford, DVSP Store Manager.

Program: A presentation about the activities going on at Dinosaur Valley State Park, "Volunteers Rule", and about the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department in General.

- About 33% of the Parks Dept. employees are eligible to retire in the next few years.
- There is a new TPWD program titled "Growing New Guardians" to help fill the gaps.
- Discussed the balance between developing new trails/features and maintaining the existing habitat.
- How the park plans to develop community outreach.
- The TPWD Budget and how it affects all of us, both at DVSP and across the state.
- A review of the park's history and the tale of the dinosaur tracks and the care of the tracks.
- A review of the Citizen Park Ranger Academy and when there will be another.
- Carol and Robert brought DVSP cups to give to all present, Thank you for that.

Special: Robert Theimer presented the Founder Award to Carol and Gregg Lee since they couldn't be at the June Celebration.

Business Meeting:

Dayna shared the LANDS Program hand out and noted that there is a good supporting turnout from the Rio Brazos Chapter.

July Minutes are on the web site; they were presented, seconded, and approved.

The treasurers Report was presented, seconded, and approved. Balance was \$ 7847.32 after expenditures for training manuals of \$ 521.65.

Committee Reports:

- Training Committee; the training class is nearing completion and we should have several active naturalists working on certification. Manuals were purchased for future classes.
- Outreach Committee;
 - There has been a good turnout for the bird walks in spite of the hot weather
 - The Comanche Peak Nature trail work day went well, lots of things to clean up. Randy Harding is working to acquire materials for the nature trail improvements.
 - The Comanche Peak Trail Native Arts Day is still in development, Maryann needs more volunteers. There will be a work day on August 29, for those interested.
 - The Monarch Event at ANC is October 16 and 17. The committee had developed a list of activities and who is responsible for that task. The groups are split up on Friday to maintain better control.
 - Wendy ask for Fiber or cardboard, one dozen egg cartons for a project for the Monarch event.
 - The ANC Butterfly Garden is looking great thanks to the volunteers who worked in spite of the heat.
 - The ANC trails interpretive signs are at the printers and should be installed soon.
 - The ANC security cameras are in place and the gate is being repaired so that it can be closed at sundown to help prevent some of the vandalism.
 - The Shrike project at Fossil Rim was a success, special thanks to Billy Teels for helping.
 - The Cedar Creek Lake Field Trip was presented by Cathy Crocker who detailed the planned events for Saturday and Sunday, September 26 and 27.
 - Alan Sarver reported on the Unimin site volunteer opportunities and what is planned.

- Tanner or Andrea were not present so no El Tesoro report, there are several programs at the Camp this fall.
- The Friends of CSP Meeting is Thursday August 20, at the Cedar Lodge at 6 PM.
- There was no Homeschoolers report, Malea is working on the fall schedule.
- Wendy gave a short report on the Education Committee activities and the trunks now ready for use.
- The Volunteer Services Committee has an ANC work day on Saturday August 15, starting at daybreak. This will continue as the Third Saturday routine work day.
- Wanda reminded everyone to report their hours promptly at month end. The new Master Naturalist hours reporting system will start soon. She handed out a new Approved Projects List.
- There is a September 30 deadline for newsletter articles.
- The website is working well, nothing to report.

Dayna reminded everyone of the UPCOMING EVENTS;

August 12, 2015 Acton Friends Meeting 6 pm

August 15, 2015 - ANC Work day

August 19, 2015- L.A.N.D.S. TWA workshop 9-3pm

August 29, 2015- Comanche Peak Trail work day

September 2, 2015 - Education Meeting ANC 6 pm

September 3, 2015 RBMN Board meeting 5 pm

September 3, 2015 RBMN meeting ANC library 6 pm

September 5, 2015 1st Saturday bird walk ANC 7 am

There was no additional new business presented

Meeting adjourned by consensus.

Respectively submitted by Robert Theimer for Scott Taylor.