

Rio Brazos Master Naturalist Chapter

January 3, 2013

Old Business

December minutes posted on website. Minutes from Dec. approved. Dave Moore thanked Maryann Mathews for her work as secretary the last two years.

Treasurer's Report

The treasurer's report was given and approved. The audit committee met Jan. 2, 2013, reviewed and accepted the books as being correct. Dave Moore thanked Ken Coy for his work as treasurer for the last two years.

Service Awards

Service pins and awards were presented to those not receiving them at the December meeting.

Notices

A BOD quarterly meeting is planned for 3 to 4 weeks and the date will be posted on the website.

Members list passed around to update contact info.

Guideline for chapter donations posted on website.

Committee Reports

Training Committee: Robert Theimer

There will be a spring training class with the schedule being posted next month.

Volunteer Services Committee: Ken Coy

Work day Jan. 19, 2013. Bring hoes to remove invasive Scotch Thistle and Bastard Cabbage. Ken thanked Maryann Mathews for the refurbished signs at the Acton Nature Center.

Outreach Committee: Billy Teels

Acton Nature Center. Bird Walk will be held first Saturday at 7:00am.

Nature Walk will not be held in February. Instead the Great Backyard Bird Count will be held at the Acton Nature Center on February 16 and 17 and there will also be a presentation on warblers at the Acton Library at 10:00am on the 16th.

New Business

In lieu of a program, there were three presentations on outreach opportunities.

1. Valerie Tabor presented a possible future outreach opportunity for the Fort Worth Prairie Park located SE of Lake Benbrook, if the property is purchased for preservation. She passed around a signup sheet for those wanting to be kept informed of any progress.
2. Becky Mason from Camp El Tesoro said that 11 18-24 year old AmeriCorps students will be at El Tesoro for two months. She is looking for Master Naturalist volunteers to provide additional training for 4 hour courses in fossils (week of Jan. 14), trees (week of Jan. 21), animal habitats, tracks and signs (week of Jan.28), wildflowers (week of Feb. 4), birds (week of Feb.11), insects (week of Feb. 18), and orienteering (week of Feb. 25). There are also future volunteer opportunities at El Tesoro.
3. Billy Teels presented an option to the monthly Nature Walks at Acton Nature Center. He proposes having 6 Nature Walks or other programs at Acton Nature Center and introducing 6 field trips to new destinations. For example going to Comanche Peak to see the Comanche Peak Prairie Clover. The first field trip is scheduled for March 30, 2013 to try and see Golden Cheeked Warblers at Dinosaur Valley State Park. A signup sheet was passed around to form a subcommittee.

Jim Crocker said chapter dues are due.

Guests were recognized.

Ideas for future programs were suggested. Ideas can be sent to Joe Langdon.

Billy Teels said last call for articles for the January newsletter.

Carrie McLaughlin presented information on advanced training on "Whoopers and Hummers" and an Astronomy Night at the Chisholm Trail Museum. More information will be put on the chapter website.

Next meeting February 7, 2013 at Somervell Training Center, 6 PM.