

Master Naturalist  
Cradle of Texas Chapter  
Brazoria County Extension Office  
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<http://grovesite.com/tamu/tmn>

### **Minutes: Board Meeting, January 2, 2008**

**President Dave Brandes** called the meeting to order at 1:58 p.m., welcomed the group, and reviewed the agenda.

**Present:** Dave Brandes, Laura Brandes, Earl Roberts, Sandy Henderson, Jerry Eppner, Carolyn May-Monie, Carolyn Schlein, Neal McLain, Jerry Krampota, John Boettiger, Joan Simonsen, John Marshall, Justina Dent, Ellis Burkhardt

#### **Agenda:**

##### **Appoint nominated committee chairs:**

The motion was made by John B. and seconded by Ellis, and passed to accept the appointed committee chairs:

- Advanced Training- Earl Roberts
- Chapter Hosts – Jerry Krampota and Justina Dent
- Webmaster- Neal McLain
- Newsletter- Mary Helen Israel

##### **ConocoPhillips & INEOS Update: Carolyn May-Monie**

Last Year 1,234 children, 83 teachers and 32 individual programs were reached with this partner. Carolyn gave out the program-schedule for the spring. She asked for and was given permission for five minutes at the January General Meeting to give an update and request for continued support. INEOS needs an expert wetland head, mentor or team to help design and implement the development of their wetland area. This would not be a continuous commitment, but a periodic one. Jerry Eppner will look into how TPWD developed their wetlands area, and Ellis will check what was done at GCBO for suggestions.

##### **Understanding our Individual Roles: Dave**

Board members were reminded to

- attend meetings of the board and general membership
- help the training committee as requested
- provide newsletter information and
- represent the chapter at all sponsored events.

Upon an added suggestion of advertising by wearing the COTMN shirts to events where help is requested, Ellis volunteered to check into Partner feelings concerning the wearing of MN shirts.

General Committee members were asked to

- report when events were happening
- provide input for newsletters and
- maintain a record of expenses and regularly give to the treasurer.

The decision was made to leave unfilled the Volunteer Service and Outreach Chairman at this time.

##### **John Deere Request: Dave**

Discussion concluded that support with this event gives COTMN an opportunity for outreach. Justina is interested in helping with the Herps/Snakes presentations for an hour a day on April 10 and 11<sup>th</sup>. Ruby may also be interested. If donations are offered, COT will ask for a donation to GCBO or a “used gator” for the Turtle Patrol.

**Varner-Hogg Request: Dave**

The request was made to help identify and care for plants around the plantation. Susan Severance has volunteered. Dave will look into getting someone to help Susan.

**Natural History Interpretation Request: Dave**

Upon discussion of this request, John B. proposed that he would ask Bryan Adams to give or get a presenter for an hour and half AT presentation for a docent.

**General Meeting AT arranged to-date: Justina**

AT training was been made for

Mammals – January with David Heinicke

Prairies – February with David Rosen

**Meeting Calendar: Dave**

The board agreed to have their monthly meetings once a quarter at Sea Center Texas with the remainder of the meetings at the Extension office so that Connie Stolte and Rich Tillman can participate.

Guests are welcome at board meetings.

**April Meeting Conflict: Dave**

Due to a meeting facility conflict the board agreed to move the April General Meeting to the third Wednesday in April.

**Treasure Report: Jerry Eppner**

See the attached report. Jerry reported that COT is doing OK, and dues are coming in already.

**Record Keeping for Volunteers: John Marshall**

John gave a presentation on the new Time Sheet format. The previous column listing of location has been changed to Partner or Event. A noted change was made in the recording of BNWR, SBNWR, and Hudson Woods from being separate listing to USFWS. Projects are listed separately such as Halls Bayou and Buffalo Creek. Events such as Migration Celebration and Xtreme Hummingbird Xtravaganza Count are separate, also. The column People Served was removed because of difficulty in accurate reporting.

John pointed out that 134 people have gone through the program. 93 are listed as Active of which 60 turned in volunteer hours. A problem remains that some people have not been turning in their hours. John will give a list of potential inactives to Dave and Joan.

**Adjournment: Dave**

Upon review of meeting actions the meeting was adjourned at 4 p.m.

\*Carolyn May-Monie will report at the January General Meeting.

\*Jerry Eppner will look into TPWD wetland implementation.

\*Ellis will check into GCBO wetland procedures.

\*Ellis will determine Partner preferences concerning COT shirts.

\*Justina will let John Deere know when she can serve on April 10 and 11<sup>th</sup>.

\*Dave will seek help for Susan Severance for Varner-Hogg request.

\*John Boettiger will talk to Bryan Adams concerning AT training in Natural History

Interpretation for docents.

\*John Marshall will update the Time Sheet and give Dave and Joan a list of potential inactive members.

Respectively submitted,

Joan Simonsen

Secretary

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1/3/08