



TMN-COT BOARD MEETING

Wednesday, April 12, 2012 AgriLIFE®, Angleton, Texas

Attendees: Barbara Burkhardt, Marty Cornell, Jerry Eppner, Sandy Henderson, Mary Holler, Mary Helen Israel, Jerry Krampota; Neal McLain, John O'Connell.

The meeting was called to order at 10:17 am by President Barbara Burkhardt.

Minutes from the March board meeting, as revised through e-mail comments, were approved after a motion by Sandy Henderson and a second by Jerry Eppner.

Action Items from the March board meeting were reviewed by Barbara Burkhardt. Most of the action items were completed. Issues outstanding were:

- Barbara Burkhardt will recruit a member to be responsible for managing shirt orders. Joan Simonson and Janet Clemenson agreed to take on this task.
- Mary Holler will ask Kathy Speights if she would accept the position of Chapter Historian with the proviso that the records be electronic and kept on our web site. This issue is still pending.

Treasurer's report: Sandy Henderson reported that only one check was written in the past month, resulting in a balance of \$5484.86. The report is attached hereto on Page 4.

Intern Training Class: Barbara Burkhardt noted that three people in Brazoria County contacted Michelle Haggerty through the TMN state website to request information on the Master Naturalist program. Michelle then passed these names on to Barbara who had in turn sent each of these intern candidates information on our chapter and training program.

Training Chair Ed Johnson was conducting a training class and did not attend this board meeting, however he did e-mail this message to the board:

TO Barbara (for the Board Meeting 4/4/12)
FROM Ed Johnson:

NASH PRAIRIE PRESERVE:

[Secretary's note: Mary Holler has scheduled Barron Rector for the Member Meeting AT class.]

However, Mary asked me to respond to you regarding the Nash Prairie Field Trip since I arranged that part of the day. Everything is still in order pretty much straight forward according to the TMN Calendar Agenda and guidelines; the volunteer guides are all still committed; all seems ready. Katy Emde is the only one who responded to me that she will meet us at the Prairie. The volunteer guides were all invited for the meeting, or, to meet us at the Prairie site, so some of them may show up for the meeting and AT lecture.

NOTE: You all will need to decide whether to divide those who are going to the field into 3 or 4 teams at the AgriLife meeting, or, wait to form groups at the site. (It seems to me it would be better to decide on a way to take a few minutes to divide into teams at the Meeting at the AgriLife building.)



2012 INTERN TRAINING CLASS:

- Everyone already knows that Intern Gale Smith dropped out last month.
- On 3/27/12 I received a call from Rhonda Ckudre that she had too many serious health issues to be able to continue. About three weeks ago she had to be taken to the hospital due to lung and breathing difficulties, and she stated that she has very serious asthma / breathing problems that she must focus on and address immediately.
- Of the 10 Interns in progress, they are still as committed and involved as at the beginning! They are extremely cooperative and make all the instructors happy with their excitement and enthusiasm!
- Eight of the Interns are possibly all on track to complete the Class & Field training May 9th. The other two are the couple, George & Anne Bettinger, who are in the same condition, and they also will only be missing one class & field, "Birds & Bird Migration", by May 9th. This couple has exhibited a dedication to making up the courses they will miss in April, making lengthy trips and attending night and all day classes that I have arranged for them to attend. I feel confident that we will be able to find that one makeup class shortly after May 9th.

(Is it out of order to ask if I could recognize them (maybe with that one class qualification) with the others on May 9th, or do I just need to wait until the class is actually completed?)

- The only credit I am having them [the interns] record from Intern Training classes is 2.5 hours AT from the first Intro class, 2/1/12. I have discussed this with Tom Morris. Normally this should have been about a 3 hour class and in my enthusiasm I had them receiving instruction 5.5 hours! They deserve the 2.5 hours; received quality, extensive scientific method information and website and time-keeping instruction, etc.
- Name Tags - Barbara, you asked me about your making the name tags for the Interns - I hate for you to have to do that extra work, but I accept your offer, unless something has changed and you need me to take care of it, just let me know.
- May 9th Intern Field Project Reports is still planned for Intern recognition for completing the Intern Training.
- Having a lunch that day is up to the board consensus. If that is decided on I will be glad to help and do whatever it takes to get it done.
- I will plan on trying to have the name of an Intern rep. for the board by 2/11 [sic. Probably 11April]
- Inventory of Items in the COT store room:

SHIRT INVENTORY	
Small	3 COT 2 Dark TMN
Medium	1 COT
Large	4 COT 1 Dark TMN

STATE CURRICULUM AND 3-RING BINDERS	
3-Ring Binders =	4
State Curriculum Packets =	10
Four of these curriculum packets are in the four binders and the other six curriculum packets are in a cardboard box.	

I am anticipating a full but enjoyable day with the Interns at Quintana! - Sorry I can't be at the board meeting.

Ed Johnson
TMN-COT 2012 Intern Training Chair



Considering items in Ed Johnson's message, the board agreed that Nash Prairie attendees would be divided into four groups at the general meeting.

Marty Cornell agreed to prepare a chicken casserole for serving at the May 9th General Meeting between the morning general meeting featuring the intern project presentations and the afternoon training session on the state of the bay data base. **Marty will circulate a signup sheet at the April 11th general meeting for help with salads, tea, and desserts.**

Ed Johnson is to inform the board of the intern class member chosen to participate in board meetings.

Membership Chair Jerry Eppner reported that year-to-date about 1370 volunteer hours have been submitted, and that three more members have re-certified. Four interns have submitted time sheets.

Outreach: Barbara Burkhardt noted that the Brazoria County Parks Department has agreed to change the timing of the summer program at Camp Mohawk to the week of June 4th. David Brandes noted that GCBO has enough volunteers for their birding program that will take place this same week. [The Camp Mohawk activity is not on the COT calendar; those in charge should provide the details to Andy Smith, calendar editor.]

Migration Celebration: Volunteer needs were reviewed by Marty Cornell, who commented that, with good weather, record crowds were expected. He noted that staffing of the COT display was up to our chapter to do. **Barbara Burkhardt will request volunteers for this purpose at next week's general meeting.**

Junior Duck Stamp selection occurred last month at the Aransas National Wildlife Refuge, and was attended by Barbara and Ellis Burkhardt. 250 submissions were made this year, down from the normal 500 entrants; most of these came from the art programs of private schools. Barbara commented that competition from the Houston Livestock art program was probably a major factor in the diminished participation in the Junior Duck Stamp contest.

With no other items to cover, the meeting was adjourned at 11:12 am.

Marty Cornell

Secretary,

Texas Master Naturalist Cradle of Texas Chapter



CRADLE OF TEXAS 2012 INCOME AND EXPENSE BUDGET

Through April 4, 2012

INTERN CLASS REVENUE/EXPENSES	2011 Actual	2012 Budget	2012 Actual
Revenue			
Class fee	500.00	750.00	600.00
Intern manual payment	240.00	450.00	360.00
Total revenue	740.00	1,200.00	960.00
Expenses			
Intern Manual purchases	0.00	700.00	492.32
Social expenses, name tags, postage, shirts	231.90	400.00	275.85
Ad for TMN Training	325.50	0.00	0.00
Total Expenses	557.40	1,100.00	768.17
Intern Class Net Gain (Loss)	\$182.60	\$100.00	\$191.83
NON-CLASS REVENUE/EXPENSES	2011 Actual	2012 Budget	2012 Actual
Revenue			
This year's dues paid this year	210.00	200.00	260.00
Next year's dues paid this year	445.00	450.00	0.00
Matagorda Trip revenue	1,000.00	0.00	0.00
Interest Income	16.82	20.00	2.35
Misc. Income	32.00	0.00	25.00
Total revenue	1,703.82	670.00	287.35
Expenses			
Administrative Expenses	531.71	100.00	0.00
Drinks and supplies for social events	41.28	200.00	0.00
Officer badges	23.80	42.00	0.00
TMN Meeting Registration	81.20	90.00	0.00
Matagorda trip expenses	980.00	0.00	0.00
Misc. Expenses	282.22	100.00	31.96
Expenditures approved during board meetings	665.69	200.00	0.00
Total Expenses	2,605.90	732.00	31.96
Non-class Net Gain (Loss)	(902.08)	(62.00)	255.39
Chapter Profit / (Loss)	(719.48)	38.00	447.22
Carry over from previous year	5,757.12		5,037.64
TMN-COT Account Balance	5,037.64		5,484.86