



TMN-COT BOARD MEETING
Wednesday, November 5, 2014, 10am – 12:00pm
AgriLife Extension Building
Angleton, Texas

President Mike Mullins called the meeting to order at 10:00am.

Attending Elected Members of the Board: Mike Mullins (President), Ed Barrios (State Representative), Jerry Eppner (Membership Coordinator), Gerald Forrest (Treasurer), Roy Morgan (Training Coordinator), Becky McClendon (Secretary) and Peggy Romfh (Vice-president).

Absent Elected Members of the Board: None

Attending Advisors and Appointed Members of the Board: Barbara Burkhardt (Past President), Neal McLain (Media Coordinator), Pete Romfh (Volunteer Service Coordinator), John O'Connell (Chapter Advisor, AgriLife® Extension Agent), Joycelynn Grigson (2014 Training Class Representative), and Breana Kitchen (2014 Training Class Representative).

Absent Advisors and Appointed Members of the Board: Mary Holler (LEEP Coordinator), Jerry Krampota (Chapter Host Coordinator), Tom Morris (Advanced Training Coordinator), Ruby Lewis (Outreach Coordinator), and Connie Stolte (Chapter Advisor, Texas Parks and Wildlife Dept.).

Quorum: 11/13 of the Elected and Committee Coordinator members were present; thus a quorum was reached.

A thank you note for the Brazoria County librarians' \$60 donation written by Mike Mullins was passed around for board members to sign on behalf of the Chapter.

Minutes:

Mike Mullins, President, presented the following minutes for approval:

Meeting Minutes	Motion to Approve	Motion Seconded by	Vote
October Board	Peggy Romfh	Jerry Eppner	Minutes approved by voice vote.
October General	Barbara Burkhardt	Jerry Eppner	Minutes approved by voice vote.

Action Items were reviewed and updated at this time in the meeting. Table of Action Items is included at the end of the minutes.



Treasurer's Report:

Gerald Forrest, Treasurer, presented the Treasurer's reports for October.

Date	Beginning Balance	Ending Balance
10/1/14 thru 10/31/14	\$6,234.97	\$6,249.30
Revenue Summary		
Intern payment for 2015		\$100.00
Interest		\$1.35
	Total Revenue	\$101.35
Expense Summary		
Coffee Supplies		\$27.02
Outreach Expense		\$60.00
	Total Expenses	\$87.02

Note: The beginning balance above does not match the ending balance shown in the October Board Meeting Minutes. There was a plus correction of \$6.43 after the bank statement was received.

Mike asked Gerald for the beginning balance of 2014. Gerald reported that in January 2014 we started with a balance of \$5,344.92.

Membership:

Jerry Eppner, Membership Coordinator, reported that the chapter is behind last year's number of volunteer hours but several members have not reported hours. There will be 5 members from the 2014 Intern Class recognized for certification at the November general meeting.

Training:

Roy Morgan, Training Coordinator, reported there are three more potential interns for the 2015 Class. Roy is also securing training presenters for the spring.

Advanced Training:

Mike Mullins reported for Tom Morris, Advanced Training Coordinator. Mike will talk with Tom about AT hours for Audubon bird identification training, titled "Everything Natural Lunch Series."

Nominating Committee:

Past President, Barbara Burkhardt, presented the proposed slate of officers for 2015. They are as follows:

President	Dave Brandes
Vice President	Leo Novak
Secretary	Linda Sluis
Treasurer	Gerald Forrest
Training Coordinator	Roy Morgan
Membership Coordinator	Jerry Eppner
State Representative	Ed Barrios



*New Action Item: Barbara will have a slide for the November General Meeting that presents the proposed slate of officers.

*New Action Item: Barbara will have the ballots ready for the December General Meeting.

Media:

Neal McLain, Media Coordinator, reported the following:

- Newsletter went out on time.
- The media library will be moved to another location within the extension building. The current room will be used for office space.
- Angleton Library donated a leather-bound set of Peterson Field Guides to the TMN-COT library.
- The honor system checkout for the library should be working in two weeks.

Programs Update/Gallery:

Peggy Romfh, Vice-President, supplied board members with information and handouts about filing for 501(c)(3). Peggy provided explanations of the forms needed and questioned whether we have an independent state ID #.

*New Action Item: Gerald Forrest and Mike Mullins will look into the TDECU account government ID# to make sure it is separate from the county's government ID#.

*New Action Item: John O'Connell will look for paper work on Mid Coast Chapter's 501(c)(3) as an example for TMN-COT.

*New Action Item: Ed Barrios will check with Michelle Haggerty about training for filing 501(c)(3) and other chapters to use as examples.

Photo Gallery:

Peggy shared that the photo gallery has now reached 45,000 views and has a total of 845 identified species to date.

Peggy proposed that the January General Meeting presentation encompass environmental cleanup and recycling with members participating in breakout groups that identify projects for the chapter's involvement.

Outreach:

Ruby Lewis, Outreach Coordinator, was not in attendance. Upcoming events were covered by Mike Mullins. Ruby will have volunteer sign-up sheets for the November General Meeting.

Upcoming Events include:

- November 22 – Festival of Lights in Lake Jackson
- DEEP



Volunteer Updates:

Pete Romfh, Volunteer Service Coordinator, addressed the following VPALs:

- Pete asked about the need for a VPAL for LEEP (Philips). The consensus from the board was that we should continue the VPAL.
- The VPAL with the coastal watershed program needs contact person in TMN-COT. Chris Kneupper was suggested as the contact person.
- Hudson Woods was added to the VPAL with Fish and Wildlife. Jennifer Sanchez is the contact person for San Bernard Wildlife Refuge.

State Convention Report:

Ed Barrios, State Representative, updated the board on items from the state convention:

- ✓ All attending chapters were given table cloths and signs with the Texas Master Naturalists logo.
- ✓ Ed made a contact at Gulf Coast Chapter.
- ✓ There have been some changes in the bylaws. Ed will get info from Michelle Haggerty.
- ✓ Insurance is recommended. More information to come.
- ✓ 2015 Certification pin will be the bluebonnet.
- ✓ Texas Parks and Wildlife is pushing to have gallery pictures downloaded to INaturalists, the global version. Cullen Hanks was the presenter.

***New Action Item: Ed to contact Cullen Hanks to get copy of his presentation from convention for Pete and Peggy Romfh.**

Ed said the Hog Wild Party is planned for the second Wednesday in December.

Host Report:

Jerry Krampota, Chapter Host Coordinator, is working on securing volunteers for snacks at the Christmas Party at the December General Meeting.

Mike Mullins reviewed extraneous items:

- Johnney Pollan will be the presenter at the November General Meeting.
- Nature Quiz will be presented by Roy Morgan.
- November 20 is Sea Center Collection Day

Action Items:

Mike Mullins reviewed existing action items, as shown below and updated to reflect the current status of outstanding items. New action items are included on this table. All new items or updates are highlighted in **yellow**.

- After reviewing the canopy action item, Peggy Romfh made a motion to authorize the purchase of a canopy for TMN-COT by Ed Barrios with an estimated cost of \$800. The motion was seconded by Barbara Burkhardt. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.



***New Action Item: Ed Barrios will order a canopy like the one used by GCBO with an estimated cost of \$800.**

Cradle of Texas Board Action Register July 2014				
Action Item	Who?	Due Date?	Complete/P ending	Comments
Send courtesy note to Harris County Chapters about COT volunteer support for George Observatory, Challenger Learning Center, and Houston Arboretum	Mike Mullins	Sept. 10, 2014	Completed	
Notify members about state rules on volunteer activities that are not covered for VT.	Jerry Eppner Ed Barrios	Aug. 6, 2014	Pending	Ed will contact Michelle Haggerty.
Contact interns from 2014 class to provide coaching on filling out timesheets and to verify that intern has linked up to desired volunteer activities	Roy Morgan, Joycelynn Grigson	Aug. 6, 2014	On-going	
Submit articles of interest to area newspapers such as the <i>Tockonhon Naturalist</i> column and the President's Call to Service Award recipients	Neal McLain, Dick Schaffhausen Chris Kneupper	Sept. 10, 2014	On-going	Neal created a folder in drop box and posted articles there. Dick has access to the folder to use for publicity.
Pete Romfh will renew and update VPAL with GCWR.	Pete Romfh, Sandy Henderson		Pending	VPAL should read 3 hours or time spent per shift on Hotline for VT hours. Awaiting signed agreement.
Ed Barrios will check with Michelle Haggerty concerning legitimate VT hours.	Ed Barrios		Pending	Episodic events and serving on boards of partners.
Ed Barrios and Peggy Romfh will look into paperwork required to file for 501(c)(3) status.	Ed Barrios Peggy Romfh		Pending	Peggy and Ed will fill out forms for application.
Ed Barrios will check with	Ed Barrios		Pending	Ed will look into borrowing



Cradle of Texas Board Action Register July 2014

Action Item	Who?	Due Date?	Complete/P ending	Comments
David Plunkett about canopy for purchase by chapter.	David Plunkett			canopy from GCBO for the Festival of Lights.
Ed Barrios will purchase canopy for the chapter.	Ed Barrios		Pending	Ed will purchase a canopy for an estimated cost of \$800.
Roy Morgan will email potential members' contact information to chapter.	Roy Morgan		Completed	
Peggy Romfh will find out about the status of the Green Ash Borer Project	Peggy Romfh		Completed	Funding is on hold.
Pete Romfh will complete the VPAR and VPAL with Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center.	Pete Romfh		Completed	Neal McLain will put information on website
Barbara Burkhardt will have a slide of slate of officers.	Barbara Burkhardt	11/12/14	Pending	
Barbara Burkhardt will have ballots ready for December meeting.	Barbara Burkhardt	12/10/14	Pending	
Ed Barrios will get Cullen Hanks presentation and pass on to the Romfhs.	Ed Barrios, Pete and Peggy Romfh		Pending	INaturalists information from Texas Parks and Wildlife presentation.
John O'Connell will look for Mid Coast Chapter information on 501(c)(3).	John O'Connell		Pending	
Gerald Forrest and Mike Mullins will look up government number on TDECU account.	Gerald Forrest, Mike Mullins		Pending	
Ed Barrios will check with Michelle Haggerty about training for filing for 502(c)(3) and other chapters as examples.	Ed Barrios		Pending	

President Mike Mullins adjourned the meeting at 12:00pm.



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AGRILIFE EXTENSION BLDG.
21017 CR 171, Angleton, TX 77515-8903
<http://tmn-cot.org>

Submitted by Becky McClendon, Secretary of TMN-COT



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Date	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr.	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Board Members													
Barrios, Ed	1	1	1	1	1	n/a	1	1	1	1	1		10
Burkhardt, Barbara	1	1	1	1	1	n/a	1	1	1	1	1		10
McClendon, Becky	1		1	1	1	n/a		1	1	1	1		8
Eppner, Jerry	1	1	1	1	1	n/a	1	1	1	1	1		10
Morgan, Roy	1					n/a	1	1	1	1	1		6
Forrest, Gerald	1	1	1	1	1	n/a	1	1	1	1	1		10
Mullins, Mike	1	1	1		1	n/a	1	1	1	1	1		9
Romfh, Peggy	1		1	1	1	n/a	1	1	1	1	1		9
Sponsors													
O'Connell, John		1	1			n/a	1			1	1		5
Stolte, Connie	1	1		1		n/a				1			4
Committee Coordinators													
Romfh, Pete	1		1	1	1	n/a	1	1	1	1	1		9
Krampota, Jerry	1	1	1	1	1	n/a	1	1	1		1		9
Lewis, Ruby	1	1		1		n/a		1	1				5
McLain, Neal	1	1	1		1	n/a	1	1	1	1	1		9
Morris, Tom	1	1				n/a							2
Quorum	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	n/a	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y		
Training Class Representatives													
Kneupper, Chris	1	1	1	1		n/a	1	1	1				7
Schaffhausen, Dick	1	1	1			n/a							3
Joycelynn Grigson	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	1		1		1		3
Sherri Wilson	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	1		-	-	-	-	1
Breana Kitchen									1	1	1		3