



TMN-COT GENERAL MEETING
Wednesday, September 12, 2018, 9:02 a.m. – 11:56 a.m.
AgriLIFE Extension Building, Angleton, Texas

Bill Ahlstrom, Vice President, called the meeting to order and reminded attendees to sign in and silence their phones. Bill noted that the first COT training class started on this date 17 years ago. Phil Huxford provided some background information on that meeting.

Attendance—69 members and interns were in attendance and no guests.

Host’s Report—**Pam West** thanked today’s snack team: Ed Barrios, Barbara Burkhardt, Jerry Krampota, Neal McLain, Lisa Myers, George Velasquez, and Pam West.

Bryan Frazier—Brazoria County Parks Director, provided a brief update on the status of FEMA funding for Hurricane Harvey repairs. He stated that it has taken a year to complete the engineering report that represents \$8 million in damage; repairs can begin when FEMA approves the funds.

Jimmy Salinas—Provided a brief report on dolphins recently seen in Oyster Creek. One was filmed by a resident and Heidi Whitehead (last month’s speaker) was going to Oyster Creek today to see if she can spot the (likely sick or injured) dolphin(s) so that arrangements can be made for rescue.

Treasurer’s Report—**Don Sabathier** presented the financial report for August.

1 August – 31 August 2018, COT Treasurer Report

<u>Beginning Balance</u>	\$ 8,153.61
Revenue Summary	\$ 24.71 ¹
Expense Summary	(\$ 278.41) ²
<u>Ending Balance</u>	\$ 7,899.99

¹ Includes interest and a monthly donation from a member

² Includes \$225 for president’s Annual State Conference registration and speaker travel expense

Membership—**Pete and Peggy Romfh** presented the following impact data, VT and AT information, and award recipients. To date, 71 members have recertified.

Impact Data	# Adults	# Youth	Total
YTD Totals—August 31	10,539	30,849	41,388 ¹

¹ Missing data from Ruby Lewis



Period	VT Hours	AT Hours	# of Volunteers
YTD Totals—August 31	12,584	1,324	96

Recertification 2018 (Ocelot Pin)	4000-Hour Milestone (Polished Gold Dragonfly with Ruby Pin)	5000-Hour Milestone (Polished Gold Dragonfly with Diamond Pin)
Sandy Henderson Edward Peebles	Pete Romfh	Peggy Romfh

Peggy also announced that Robert Salzer had completed requirements for the Texas Waters Specialist certification.

Outreach—On behalf of **Ruby Lewis, Ed Barrios** solicited volunteers for the event listed below and circulated a sign-up sheet.

- **KBR Kids Day at Guadalupe Plaza Park**—October 13, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Bryan Frazier mentioned that volunteers were needed for BCPD Trail Day, which will commence on September 20 and will be a monthly event at various locations (see listing under Volunteer Project, Public Outreach, and Activity Request Review).

Volunteer Project, Public Outreach, and Activity Request Review—Oron Atkins

shared the following, upcoming projects, outreach and/or status updates via a PowerPoint slide and highlighted several items. See detailed and updated information via <http://tmn-cot.org/Calendar/Calendar.html>.

- **GCBO Native Plant Work Days**—every Saturday until further notice, 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.; contact Chris Kneupper
- **San Bernard NWR Trail Extension**—check Calendar
- **GCBO Smith Point Hawk Watch**—daily, through November 15, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.; contact Sue Heath
- **MD Anderson Demonstration Wetland**—October 4, 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.
- **Exploration Green Nursery / Wetland Work Day**—September 13 and 27, 8-11 a.m.
- **TCWP at GCBO Work Day**—September 20, 8-11 a.m.; contact Chris Kneupper
- **Pearland Natural Resources Work Day**—First Thursday each month; contact Cullen Ondracek
- **BCPD Trail Day**—Hanson Riverside County Park, September 20 (and monthly), 8 a.m. to 12 p.m.; contact Mike Mullenweg
- **Adopt-a-Beach Cleanup at Quintana** (contact Patty Brinkmeyer or Krissy Plunkett) and **Surfside Beaches** (contact Mike Mullenweg)—September 15, 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.
- **Coastal Heritage Preserve, Galveston, Fall Bio-Blitz**—October 6, 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.; RSVP via Calendar



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- **Brazos Bend State Park Butterfly Count**—October 7, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.; contact Rich Jespersen; \$3 charge
- **Seabourne Nature Festival (with Fort Bend Chapter)**—Rosenberg, November 3, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Oron noted that Mary Carol Edwards is leaving TCWP (now known as Texas Community Watershed Partners) to start a wetland-supply business. A replacement has not yet been named.

Bryan Frazier added that BCPD needs volunteers for the following two fishing events and he circulated sign-up sheets.

- **Kids Fishing Event and Workshop at Pamona**—September 22, 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.
- **Pearland Fishing Event at Bass Pro Shops**—November 3, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.; he would also like COT to provide displays (reptiles, mammals, etc.)

Advanced Training Opportunities—Larry Ruhr announced the following:

- **Floodwarning Seminar, Lake Jackson Civic Center**—September 27, 7-9 p.m.
- **Gulf Coast Birding at Glasscock School of Continuing Studies, Rice University**—September 27 through October 25, 1:30-3:00 p.m., \$220
<http://glasscock.rice.edu/courses/gulf-coast-birding>
- **GCBO, Kevin Carlson Photography Keynote: Birds of Prey**—October 5, 7:30-8:30 p.m.
- **GCBO, Photography Workshops by Kevin Carlson**—October 7 and/or 8; fee to register for one or both days
- **Webinar, Role of Agroforestry in Supporting Pollinators**—October 23, 1:00 p.m.
- **Texas Invasive Plant and Pest Conference, Ladybird Johnson Wildflower Center, Austin**—October 23 to 26.

Intern Training—Carolyn May-Monie introduced the 12 new interns and a group photo was taken.

Speakers Bureau—Ed Peebles indicated that he is still looking for volunteers to give and/or produce presentations.

Nature Notes—Mike Mullenweg, “Microplastics and What’s Next.”

Bill announced a 15-minute break and asked those interns who were not photographed last week to do so during the break.

Guest Speaker—Dr. John Jacob, Director, Texas Community Watershed Partners, Professor and Extension Specialist, Texas AgriLIFE Extension Service, speaking on *Green Infrastructure*.



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The meeting adjourned at 11:56 a.m. Time codes allocated for the presentations and general meeting were:

- Presentations Code: "AT: I Received Training," 1.75 hours
- Chapter Business Meetings Code: "CB: Chapter Meetings and Admin," one hour + travel time.

Respectfully submitted,
Lisa Ladd Myers, Secretary, TMN-COT