



TMN-COT BOARD MEETING

Wednesday, July 3, 2019, 9:00 a.m. – 10:56 a.m.

BEES (Brazoria Environmental Education Station), 583 Hospital Drive, Angleton, Texas

President: Kristine Rivers called the meeting to order, presented the agenda and asked for additions or corrections. She asked whether anyone must leave early so that he/she can present prior to leaving.

Attendance—

Elected Members of Board		Present	Appointed/Other Members of Board		Present
Kristine Rivers (President)		✓	Dave Brandes (Immediate Past President)		✓
Bill Ahlstrom (Vice-President/Programs)		✓	John Boettiger (Membership Dir.)		✓
Lisa Myers (Secretary)		✓	John O'Connell (Interim New Class Dir.)		N/A
Don Sabathier (Treasurer)		✓	Neal McLain (Communications Dir.)		✓
			Ruby Lewis (Outreach Dir.)		
Chapter Advisor(s)			Bob Whitmarsh (Advanced Training Dir.)		✓
John O'Connell (AgriLIFE Extension)			Oron Atkins (Volunteer Service Dir.)		✓
Paul Cason (TPWD: Sea Center Texas)		✓	Pam West (Chapter Host)		✓
Guests			Rose Wagner (Class of 2018 Rep.)		✓
			Connie Stolte (State Rep.)		
			Ed Peebles (Speakers Bureau Coord.)		✓
			Larry Peterson (Publicity Coord.)		✓
Quorum		Yes			

Approve Previous Board Minutes—Lisa Myers stated that the June minutes had been sent to the Board for review, and the corrections suggested by board members were made. The minutes were approved.

Minutes Approval—

Motion	Motion to Approve	Motion Seconded	Vote
Approve the June General Meeting and Board Meeting Minutes	John Boettiger	Dave Brandes	Minutes approved by unanimous voice vote of Board members present

Motions—

Motion	Motion to Approve	Motion Seconded	Vote
Allocate \$500 for 2019 ECO Grant Program	Dave Brandes	Oron Atkins	Motion approved by unanimous voice vote of Board members present

Action Register Review was led by Kristine Rivers [see *COT Board Action Register items at end of minutes*].

Treasurer's Report—Don Sabathier presented the June 2019 financial information, below.

1 June – June 30, 2019, COT Treasurer Report

<u>Beginning Balance</u>	\$ 10,095.01
Revenue Summary	\$ 474.14
Expense Summary	(\$ 71.59)
<u>Ending Balance</u>	\$10,497.56

Don noted that expenses were primarily for Constant Contact and Go Daddy fees. The total price for chapter T-shirts will be \$798.

Chapter Attrition—The board discussed ways to fill the upcoming intern class. Rose said that Master Gardeners interview each prospective candidate and has increased enrollment. It was noted that the Galveston chapter has a wait list. Neal will add an adspot to the webpage so that class information can be found on the site easily. It was also suggested that we should post on the Next Door site and place an ad on Facebook.

Grants and Funding Opportunities—Kristine provided information on two opportunities: NRCS Conservation Assistance Funding and the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality. Peggy Romfh has offered to be on a committee to write proposals.

2020 Board Positions—Kristine indicated that she and Dave feel that the size of the board has become unwieldy. We should consider having some positions as non-board coordinators under directors. She added that she and Dave have reached out to someone as a prospective candidate for president in 2020.

BOARD REPORTS and OTHER TOPICS

Programs—Bill Ahlstrom shared the following, upcoming general-meeting speakers:

- **July**—Kristine Rivers, TMN-COT President; topic “Mammal Detectives”; Nature Notes: Barbara Burkhardt, “Habitat Gardening”
- **August**—speaker Dr. Lenard, “Flora of Coastal Islands” (backup speaker is Glen Jones of UT Houston speaking on coastal erosion); Nature Notes: Candace Novak: “Mollusks,” focusing on the animal within the shell
- **September**—Possibly Taylor Bennett at GCBO; Nature Notes: Candace Novak would like to present on frog mating calls
- **October**—Fall Field Day at Quintana Beach State Park with various stations including reptiles, seining, digging for ghost crabs and shrimp
- **November**—Paul Cason suggested a presentation by Sea Center personnel on zooplankton (he will reach out to them and will also tap into TPWD resources for future speakers)
- **December**—No presentations; Lisa to ask Ed Barrios if he plans to host the Hog Wild party (after the meeting, Ed indicated to Lisa that he would host the party).

Membership—John Boettiger presented the following impact data, VT and AT information, and award recipients, which Pete and Peggy Romfh had provided for announcement at the July General

Meeting. John indicated that he does not have all of the award pins needed; State is not replying to phone and email messages.

Impact Data	# Adults	# Youth	Total
YTD Totals—June 30	9,181	25,956	35,137

Period	VT Hours	AT Hours	# of Volunteers
YTD Totals—June 30	9,373	1,069	98 (of 105 active members)

Recertification 2019 (Warbler Pin)			500 Hours	1000 Hours	Initial Certification
Howard Allen	Rainbo Johnson	Jim Nance	Larry Ruhr	Anna King	Mike Hampy ¹
Anne Bettinger	Jerry Krampota	Pam Peltier	Bob Whitmarsh		
Garry Ellis	Ruby Lewis	Catherine Sweet			
Janet Jackson-Ellis	Debbie Nance	Pam West Lorna Witt			

¹ Awarded at the June general meeting.

Volunteer Project, Public Outreach and Activity Request Review—Oron Atkins noted a few of the following activities:

- **Exploration Green Nursery / Wetland Workday**—July 11, 8 a.m. to 11 p.m.; contact Christie Taylor
- **TCWP at GCBO Workday**—July 18, 8 a.m. to 11 p.m.; contact Chris Kneupper
- **GCBO Native Plant Workdays**—Every Thursday, 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.; contact Chris Kneupper
- **Pearland Natural Resources Workday**—Second Thursday (July 11) this month; contact Cullen Ondracek
- **BCPD Trail Day**—CANCELLED FOR JULY; Hanson Riverside County Park; (third Thursday each month), 8 a.m. to 12 p.m.; contact Mike Mullenweg
- **GCBO Hummingbird Xtravaganza**—September 14 and 21
- **BCLS Summer Reading Program**—Five remaining dates in July
- **Nature Camp Quintana**—July 15 through 18, 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.; contact Mike Mullenweg.

Oron said he had been contacted concerning **Nature Fest at Seabourne Creek Nature Park** in Rosenberg, on Saturday, November 2, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Phil Huxford handled the event last year. Oron will coordinate with Ruby and Phil regarding our involvement.

Oron briefly introduced a GCBO citizen science project concerning loggerhead shrike capture, banding and signal tracking. Volunteers are needed for tracking.

Kristine added that she had heard from Mary Pearl Meuth at state regarding a citizen science drone-survey project involving aquatic vegetation. State provides training and we keep the drone after the project.

Advanced Training—Bob Whitmarsh noted that he will have opportunities to announce at the July meeting. Kristine said that the January 18 Bonus AT Day theme for 2020 is fauna; so far, there are presentations for mammals, mollusks and invertebrates.

Chapter Host—Pam West said that she will send out another reminder about the change of address for the general meeting.

Publications—Neal McLain provided the following information regarding publications:

WEBSITE

Home Page

Added link to July General Meeting with new location cited
Adspots for Summer Reading Program and 2019 State Meeting remain in place

Advanced Training Page

Added a column for location; June meeting hours posted (1.5 hours AT)
Added link to July AT meeting with link to location <http://tmn-cot.org/Advanced/index.html>
Need August AT meeting info ASAP

NEWSLETTER

June Issue went out on schedule http://tmn-cot.org/Newsletters/Chapter_News_2019-06.pdf
July publication schedule: Neal will edit the July issue; Lisa is out of town

BUSINESS CARDS

Business cards with TMN-COT logo are now available for any TMN-COT member at \$16/100 cards + \$4 shipping
To order contact Neal McLain nmclain@annsgarden.com



USUAL MONTHLY REMINDERS TO BOARD MEMBERS

There are three "secret" pages on the website (no password needed):
Minutes of Board and General Meetings 2007-18 <http://tmn-cot.org/Minutes/>
Mugshots (small headshots of members and others) <http://tmn-cot.org/Mugshots/>
Special Forms (forms related to tax exemption) http://tmn-cot.org/COT_Special_Forms

Chapter Advisor—Paul Cason noted that he had hired Arlyne Martinez as Sea Center’s new volunteer coordinator. Arlyne is a member of the San Antonio chapter of TMN. He added that COT is welcome to promote the training class and other events at Sea Center Texas.

Cradle of Texas Board Action Register				
Open Action Item	Who?	Due Date?	Complete/Ongoing	Comments
Ask local libraries if they are interested in showing the displays prepared for the Bonus AT Day	Ruby Lewis	Sept.	Ongoing	To share information with the public and for COT PR purposes March: No update (Ruby absent) April: Ruby contacted the library system and they would like to display them at libraries that have space starting in August. Ruby will coordinate a schedule and transport by a TMN member June: Ruby said libraries said fall would be best; they need a container



				to hold the presentation boards for transport between libraries or we can transport; Ruby will work out details in September
Contact Robin Bjork at GCBO about presenting a “mini-AT event” on bird nesting	Oron Atkins	ASAP	Hold	March: Robin has left GCBO; replacement just hired—too early for her to present April: GCBO is not ready but still wants volunteers later June: Taylor Bennett (Robin’s replacement) will contact Oron July: Oron says Taylor is ready to do what we would like; Oron will ask what is convenient; Dave suggested a Nature Note now and field trip in spring
Develop a Monarch Conservation Education Program for Angleton ISD in partnership with Keep Angleton Beautiful	Megan Mainer Ruby Lewis	May and October 2019	October	June: Ruby has possible volunteers for fall program July: Ruby will coordinate
Review benefits/negatives of Constant Contact purchase and decide if needed or not; possibly use an alternate for group email	Kristine Rivers Larry Peterson	ASAP	July	Is the chapter utilizing the service? Do we need to continue the \$20 a month subscription? June: Larry Peterson offered to investigate learning Constant Contact and implementing July: Larry says this is primarily a marketing tool; the board discussed ideas for how it could be useful; Dave will provide name of replacement for Yahoo Groups (he later emailed the name: groups.io)
Recruit speakers to participate in the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute Angleton	Ed Peebles	ASAP	Ongoing	Classes are in Angleton and Galveston on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays in June, July and August. Two-hour morning and afternoon sessions each day June: No update in Ed’s absence July: Kristine says they need instructor(s) for 8-week course; perhaps we could offer the 2018 Bonus AT topics; Dave suggested a mini version of intern training

NEW Action Item(s) Added at July Meeting	Who?	Due date?	Comments
Verify with Ed Barrios if he plans to host Hog Wild party in December; make plans for party on December 11	Board	Dec	Ed indicated that he would be hosting (Lisa notified board via email after the July meeting)

President: Kristine Rivers adjourned the Board Meeting at 10:56 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Ladd Myers, Secretary (from notes provided by Connie Stolte)

cc: Board Members
 Crystal Andablo, AgriLIFE Secretary Crystal.Andablo@aq.tamu.edu



Attendance Date 2019	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Elected Board Members													
Rivers, Kristine	X	X	X			X	X						
Ahlstrom, Bill	X		X	X		X	X						
Sabathier, Don	X	X	X	X	N	X	X						
Myers, Lisa	X	X	X		O	X	X						
Advisor(s)													
O'Connell, John	X	X	X	X		X							
Paul Cason	-	-	-	-		X	X						
Immediate Past President													
Brandes, Dave	X	X	X				X						
Appointed Board Members													
Boettiger, John	X	X	X	X	M	X	X						
McLain, Neal	X	X	X	X	E		X						
Lewis, Ruby	X	X		X	E	X							
Whitmarsh, Bob	X	X	X	X	T	X	X						
Atkins, Oron	X	X	X	X	I	X	X						
West, Pam	X		X		N	X	X						
Rose Wagner (2018 class)	X	X	X		G	X	X						
Stolte, Connie	X	X	X	X									
Peebles, Ed	X	X	X	X			X						
Peterson, Larry	X	X	X	X		X	X						
Guest(s)													
Kneupper, Chris	X												
Cason, Paul				X									