

Louisiana Master Naturalists—Northeast Chapter Third Quarter Members' Meeting Minutes

August 28, 2018

From 6:30PM to 7:30PM, presentations were given by Leslie Albritton and Micha Petty, wildlife rehabilitators.

The Third Quarter Meeting began at 7:30PM

Present: Roselie Overby, Authur Liles, Eleanor Maness, Terri Maness, Stephanie Herrmann, Steve Jones, Jean Jones, Charles Paxton, Amy Ouchley

Chair: Bette Kauffman

Minutes: Kimberly Paxton

T-Shirt Committee

A person or persons are needed to take responsibility for managing and promoting t-shirts for the group. Kimberly designed a tag cloud in the shape of a dragonfly using words describing or associated with LMNA; Bette will email the image to the group for feedback. **[Action for Bette]**

Board of Directors

Bette has received a reminder from the State to file an annual report and a space is available for another board member. The group nominated Suzanne Laird-Dartez and Bette will contact her. **[Action for Bette]**

Certification/Workshops

September 29th at 9AM was chosen for the next workshop: Watershed Dynamics, which will be presented by Dr. William "Bill" Patterson, a faculty member at LA Tech. The workshop will be held in Grambling. Stephanie mentioned that it would be good to have a representative of the Sparta Aquifer to speak at the workshop. **[Action for Stephanie]** The workshop will be approximately two hours in the classroom and one-hour field study. Appropriate footwear (chest waders preferable) and possibly a change of clothes for the field study (although, it isn't necessary to go into the water if you choose not to). Bette to contact people about presenting on mammals/geology/insects. **[Action for Bette]** Terri Maness possibly to speak on birds in January.

Arthur suggests that we may be able to attend a walk in the Upper Ouachita given by John Dillon from Minden. Terri to find out if it is possible. **[Action for Terri]**

Bette will speak to the chair of Camp Hardtner to find out if we will be allowed to thin out the tallow trees that are over-taking the grounds. **[Action for Bette]** Bette also to discuss with Christ Doffett about the camp into the Natural Areas Program. **[Action for Bette]**

Bette reminds us to complete our interpretive project (an interest of our choice); we will discuss it more in the future. **[Action for All]**

Craig Marks may be able to do a butterfly count in our region next summer.

Rendezvous 2019

Next year's event will be from March 15th to March 17th in Fontainebleau State Park, in St. Tammany Parish on the north shore of Pontchartrain. Bette to co-chair the silent auction. Charles to co-chair the photo competition. Everyone is encouraged to come to this fun and interesting event.

Stephanie arranged a selection of books which may interest the group and welcomed us to check out any we like. Bette suggested she have a similar display at the Rendezvous.

Treasurer's Report

Stephanie reported on our financial state. In summary, at the end of December, the balance was \$392.06; the end of the First Quarter, the balance was \$1,103.04 and the balance for the end of the Second Quarter was \$1,758.74.

Bette would like to donate to the Alligator Exhibit at Black Bayou Lake NWR; no oppositions were made to the suggestion. **[Action for Bette]**

Bette also mentioned that future monies might be donated to grants for research students; no oppositions were made to the idea.

Liability Insurance

The State is currently looking for an organization to cover every chapter; in the meantime, Bette is speaking with an insurance representative to try and arrange liability insurance for our group. **[Action for Bette]**

Roselie mentioned that Sierra Club provided liability insurance to another group.

Upcoming Events

ANROSP

The national meeting will take place in New Orleans this year, September 10th through 14th.

Bette will unfortunately be unable to attend but encourages everyone who wishes to go to attend. **[Action for All]**

FOBB Fall Celebration

Friends of Black Bayou will be having their Fall Celebration on October 13th, 9AM to 3PM, we will have a table and everyone should come if they can. **[Action for All]**

Ouachita Green's Water Sweep

A date isn't set yet, but this would be a good activity for our group. Bette to post to the blog when the date is set. **[Action for Bette]**

America Recycles Day

Ouachita Green will hold this event on November 17, 2018 and we are all encouraged to bring our recyclables and spread the word about the event. **[Action for All]**

4th Quarter Meeting

Amy to discuss with her contact the possibility of having our meeting at Poverty Point on December 9th from about 1PM to 4PM. **[Action for Amy]**

Membership Renewal

Roselie to pen a letter for Bette to send to the group. Arthur suggests that a check box be added to the renewal form for \$5 contributions to the Alligator Exhibit; the idea was supported by the group. **[Action for Roselie]**

Stephanie recommends an individual in the group and an organization to be the recipient of an award by Keep LA Beautiful. The group agreed with her proposal and she will proceed with the nomination. **[Action for Stephanie]**

Meeting Adjourned at 8:20pm