

Minutes
The Cajun Prairie Habitat Preservation Society, Inc.
August 11, 2012

Jackie Duncan, President and Chair, opened the general meeting of the members of the Cajun Prairie Habitat Preservation Society (CPHPS) at 11:50 am August 11, 2012 at the Rocky's Restaurant in Eunice, Louisiana.

Tom Harmeyer, representative of The Central Louisiana Community Foundation (hereafter referred to as CLCF), provided a presentation and accepted questions regarding the establishment of an endowment for the society.

The business meeting was called to order.

Malcolm Vidrine provided minutes from the previous meeting. Marc Pastorek moved for the acceptance of the minutes and Margaret Frey seconded the motion. The minutes were accepted by a unanimous vote.

Patricia Lewis provided a treasurer's report. Margaret Frey motioned for acceptance of the report. Celeste Gomez seconded the motion. The report was accepted by a unanimous vote.

After discussion and distribution of an endowment agreement, Charles Allen made the following motion, which was seconded by Sara Simmonds.

"To adopt the proposed endowment agreement between CLCF and CPHPS with the stipulation that a provision be added that CPHPS, should CPHPS be dissolved, would designate the transferee of the endowment proceeds. A sum of \$10,000 is our initial investment. The Growth Portfolio is our initial investment selection." The motion was unanimously approved.

Patricia Lewis called for dues. Jackie Duncan suggested the website provide options for: 1) paying dues, 2) donating into the endowment fund, and 3) donating into the operating budget of the society.

Charles Allen led a discussion regarding maintenance of the Eunice Prairie. Charles motioned to 'engage a contractor to burn the prairie and empower the treasurer to pay for the contract.' Marc Pastorek seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Sara Simmonds then motioned 'to contact contractors for bids to maintain trails, offer a contract, and empower the treasurer to pay for the contract.' Jim Foret seconded the motion. During the discussion of this need, it was stressed that someone had to do it who knew what he was doing. The motion was unanimously approved.

Jackie Duncan appointed Celeste Gomez and Marc Pastorek to contact the contractors.

Malcolm Vidrine announced that Larry Allain, USGS, had been awarded a contract from the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service to monitor the butterfly community at the Duralde Prairie, while the Eunice Prairie would be used as a 'control site.' The work will continue through 2013. The results will be shared with the society.

Charles Allen announced two upcoming activities: 1) North American Butterfly Count on September 16th and 2) vegetation sampling at the Duralde Prairie. Dates may be changed due to weather.

Jackie Duncan announced that she will attend the PlantFest in Lafayette on September 15th at the old Horse Farm facility at ULL. The event is sponsored by Lafayette Master Gardener's Association. Information is available at www.plantfest.org.

Marc Pastorek discussed the problems with the handrails at the tower at Duralde Prairie. He and Charles Allen will talk with Lacassine Refuge officials regarding its repair.

Sara Simmonds reported that Patricia Lewis advised us of a process she had learned about that protects pictures from fading. She located a firm in Lafayette that does the process and ordered three prints. Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries agreed to print three photos using their process. We plan to see which process holds up better.

Elections for officers of the society for the next two years were held. The results were:

Thomas Hillman—President
Brian Early—Vice-President
Patricia Lewis—Treasurer
Malcolm Vidrine—Secretary

Jackie Duncan remains on the executive committee as Past President. A number of other long-standing officers retain their posts. Among them are:
Charles Allen—Newsletter Editor
Margaret Frey—Education (Margaret also serves as a member of the Education Committee with the Coastal Prairie Partnership)
Marc Pastorek—Board Member of the Coastal Prairie Partnership and CPHPS Representative on the Board
Malcolm Vidrine—Education Committee member with the Coastal Prairie Partnership

Celeste Gomez introduced Marie-Hortense Charier, a visiting expert on water management.

Sara Simmonds commended Jackie Duncan on her service to the society.

Tom Hillman called for a motion to adjourn. Charles Allen motioned and Margaret Frey seconded.

Respectfully submitted

Malcolm F. Vidrine, Ph.D.
Secretary