

Minutes  
The Cajun Prairie Habitat Preservation Society, Inc.  
August 30, 2014

Tommy Hillman, President and Chair, opened the general meeting of the members of the Cajun Prairie Habitat Preservation Society (CPHPS) at 12:20 pm, August 30, 2014, at the Rocky's Restaurant in Eunice, Louisiana.

**Guest Speaker:** Jeff McMillian, owner of the native plant nursery named Almost Eden Plants ([www.almostedenplants.com](http://www.almostedenplants.com)), presented a talk entitled 'Native Plants for Louisiana Gardens.'

The business meeting was called to order.

**Minutes:** Malcolm Vidrine provided minutes from the previous meeting. Charles Allen moved to accept the minutes, and Jackie Duncan seconded the motion. The minutes were accepted by a unanimous vote.

**Treasurer's Report:** Patricia Lewis provided a treasurer's report. Charles Allen motioned for acceptance of the report. Mac Myers seconded the motion. The report was accepted by a unanimous vote.

**Old Business:**

Tom Hillman provided an update on his interaction with the Eunice Fire Chief on training for grass fires by burning the Eunice Prairies. If the Eunice Fire Department is unable to burn the prairie by January, an alternative venue will need to be pursued.

**New Business:**

Charles Allen announced a workday to be held at the Eunice Prairie (Northwest Section) in November with a date to be announced.

Charles Allen also announced that the Duralde Prairie was under consideration for a change in management/ownership.

Malcolm Vidrine announced that Dr. R. Eugene Turner and his LSU Ecological Restoration class were to visit the Eunice Prairie on September 20<sup>th</sup>.

Malcolm Vidrine also announced that the butterfly counting project managed by the USGS through Larry Allain is completed.

Charles Allen announced a butterfly count on Sunday, September 21, at Eunice and Duralde Prairies.

Brian Early announced that he would set up a LinkedIn account for the society.

Dawn Allen McMillian announced that the newsletter would be out shortly.

For election of officers, Tom Hillman presented the nomination slate from the last meeting as follows:

President: Brian Early

Vice President: Krislyn Newman

Secretary: Malcolm Vidrine

Treasurer: Patricia Lewis

Margaret Frey motioned that the slate of nominees be elected by acclamation. Jackie Duncan seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously supported.

Charles Allen suggested April 4<sup>th</sup> for the Spring 2015 meeting (watch the website [www.cajunprairie.org](http://www.cajunprairie.org) site for details).

Tom Hillman passed the gavel to Brian Early, as he begins his term as President.

Susan Allen motioned for adjournment, and Patricia Lewis seconded the motion. The meeting promptly adjourned.

Respectfully submitted

Malcolm F. Vidrine, Ph.D., Secretary

Addenda:

After the meeting, a plant auction led by Jeff McMillian and Brian Early was made in order to raise money for the society. A total of \$386 was raised from the sale of plants. It was then obvious to Patricia Lewis that no decision had been made as to where the money was to be deposited. An executive committee including Brian Early, Patricia Lewis, Malcolm Vidrine and Tom Hillman met briefly to decide how to allocate the money. After some discussion, Malcolm Vidrine motioned that half of the money should be placed into the Endowment Fund and half should be placed into the operating funds of the society. Brian Early seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Brian Early then appointed Jackie Duncan as Grants Officer, an ex-officio position as she pursues grants for the society. The committee adjourned.