



Society members at tour of Eunice Prairie. (photo by M. Vidrine)

Minutes

The Cajun Prairie Habitat Preservation Society, Inc.
September 8, 2018

The business meeting was called to order at Rocky's Restaurant in Eunice, LA at 11:30 AM on September 8, 2018, by Margaret Frey.

Old Business:

Malcolm Vidrine provided minutes from the previous meeting (read by Annette Parker). Charles Allen moved for the acceptance of the minutes, and Helen Peebles seconded the motion. The minutes were approved by a unanimous vote.

Patricia Lewis provided a treasurer's report. Jake Delahoussaye motioned for acceptance of the report. Steve Nevitt seconded the motion. The report was accepted by a unanimous vote.

Margaret Frey acknowledged Atticus Maxwell for handing out the meeting agenda. She also acknowledged Eric Vanbergen for his new project—a demonstration garden at his school. And finally, she acknowledged Celeste Gomez's providing the screen and extension cord for the meeting.

Eric Vanbergen requested help in planning and development of his demonstration garden.

Margaret appointed a committee of Tommy Hillman and Steve Nevitt to paint the sign at the restoration site in Eunice.

Margaret called for a vote on the nomination slate of officers for 2019-2021:

President: Steven Nevitt

Vice-President: Josh Soileau

Treasurer: Patricia Lewis

Secretary: Marc Pastorek.

The motion to accept the slate by acclamation was made by Celeste Gomez and was seconded by Mac Meyers. The motion was unanimously accepted.

New Business:

A discussion based upon a letter from Brian Early from Raymond Bertholet (Office of State Parks) that suggested that the Cajun Prairie Restoration Project in Eunice be included as part of a walking tour was followed by a motion to table the topic until the society had information on liability insurance. The motion was made by Patricia Lewis and seconded by Mac Meyers. The motion was unanimously accepted.

Steve Nevitt motioned that the next meeting be held on April 6, 2019. The motion was seconded by Patricia Lewis. The motion was unanimously accepted.

A discussion followed regarding the events at the April meeting, and suggestions included asking Eric Vanbergen to speak about his project and a tour of Vernon Fusilier's Shallow Lake prairie restorations.

Margaret announced that the executive committee had decided to cooperate with Malcolm Vidrine on a new book. Malcolm then announced the publication of a new book named ***The Cajun Prairie Restoration Project in Eunice, Louisiana***. The book is available at www.blurb.com.

Charles Allen announced the 2019 North American Prairie Conference in Clear Lake City, Texas.

Bette Miley opened a discussion about making T-shirts for the society. No action was taken.

Steve Nevitt made a motion to adjourn, and Josh Soileau seconded the motion.

Joshua Soileau, NRCS District Conservationist, Lafayette Field Office (337-262-6601 ext. 3), provided a powerpoint talk entitled:

Opportunities for Cost-Share Assistance for Native Prairie Establishment and Management Through the Natural Resources Conservation Service.

Respectfully submitted
Malcolm F. Vidrine, Ph.D., Secretary



Future and current presidents of the society (left to right: Vice President Josh Soileau, Jake Delahoussaye and President Steve Nevitt) (photo by M. Vidrine)



Group photos of society members by M. Vidrine.



Eric Vanbergen and the illusive albino flowered *Liatris pycnostachya* (Kansas gayfeather or Blazingstar)(photo by M. Vidrine)



Mowing as a maintenance experimental method for reducing invasive briars and bushes on the southeast corner of the prairie (photo by M. Vidrine)