



Board Meeting Minutes

April 14, 2009 Called to order at 7:15p

Board Members Present:

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nathan Melson, Pres. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Scott Lipsett, Past Pres. | <input type="checkbox"/> _____, Pres Elect |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Paula Brennecke, Secy. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> John Howell, Treas. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Faye Wedell, member |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Don Brennecke, member | <input type="checkbox"/> Mary Strickland, member | <input type="checkbox"/> CJ Durbin-Higgins, member |

Guests: _____

Secretary's Report _____

Corrections:

_____ None _____

Treasurer's Report _____

Income \$ _____ Expenses \$ _____ Balance in A/C \$562.37

Committee Reports _____

Fundraising – Nathan has talked to Mike Durbin of CTRA (Caddo Trails Riding Assn.) As set up now, they don't charge because they have a Forest Service grant. Lots of trails. Will work with us whenever.

Scott – CJ's mom is part of several horse clubs and might help. **Lake Fannin** has 3 mi. for biking and hiking. Grand opening in May. Cost is \$75 for non-profits to rent the lodge. Four cabins now ready – \$75 ea. To rent. Work with Sue Page. Scott will call to discuss the possibility of a combination event with Lake Fannin – maybe a "Hit the Trail" event followed by a meal of locally grown foods.

Paula – Will link Lake Fannin site to our site.

Proposed Bois d'Arc Reservoir – Nathan talked with Janice Bezanson. Legislation is really slow now. Not much can be done now. Eventually there will be a contested case hearing. We need to stay on our toes and educate folks. Maybe the eminent domain issue will be on our side. We might contact Sierra Club and NRDC or other orgs. to see if they could help. NRDC has a blog site (?) where we might post something about who we are and what we're up against.

Strategy: Get various special-interest groups interested in the issue. Faye will talk to Ross Griffith (hunting and fishing/wildlife guy) to come talk with us (the board) about what would be lost if the reservoir happens. Also maybe someone from Noble Foundation. Nathan will contact Mike Durban of the CTRA.

Films & Forums – We decided to do our next F&F in June. (Options: 11/23/24/30) and show "The Power of Community: How Cuba Survived Peak Oil" (53 mins.) followed by an organizing meeting for community garden(s), etc. Specifically contact folks from the survey and local elected officials.

Old Business

“Local Food” Surveys – Don will do a category sort of the data we’ve received. Nathan will ask Keith Kissell or someone connected with the Austin College community garden to come. We’ll make assignments next meeting of who will contact whom. It was suggested we ask Jessie Gunn Stephens (Texoma Living Magazine) to do an article about local foods.

Faye stated her case against publicly endorsing the **gas-fired power plant**, informing us that LS (who’s doing the plant) is the same company that is doing the coal plants down by Paul Rolke’s ranch (near Waco?).

Master Gardener’s Expo and VA Expo Reports – Don and Paula reported positive experience at VA. Nearly 30 “Local Food” surveys were completed and two new members recruited. We had a similar response at the MG Expo.

New Business

Earth Day Festival – Sherman, April 18th, 9-5 – Brenneckes will set up the booth and do a shift until 11:00a. Faye/Scott will do the last shift, and John will fill in where needed. Nathan and Faye will try to find others to help

Library – Don will get a page for the CORE Library on the website.

Next Year’s Master Gardener’s Expo – Nathan will talk with the Roger Skipper to suggest that next year’s Expo have a “Green Section”.

New Category for Texoma Grown Directory – Paula brought up suggestion made by Kathy Williams of the Herald Democrat that we add a category for distributors of organic gardening products and organic feed for livestock/poultry. The board agreed for it to be added; Paula will respond to Kathy on the matter.

Letter to Steven Chu, Secy of the US Dept of Energy – Paula brought up request from the CLEAN Network that we sign – as CORE – a letter asking the government to reject a loan guarantee for a financially risky and environmentally hazardous coal gasification plant in Indiana. The board agreed we should sign the letter.

Texas Conservation Alliance Membership – We have received membership forms to complete for membership in the Alliance. We had agreed in January either to give Janice Bezanson a small stipend or to give a donation to the Alliance as a thank you for her speaking at our January 22nd Films & Forums event. Paula did not remember to check past records for the amount, but will do that. John will confirm that he hasn’t already issued a check to the Alliance. If not, then we will include a check with the completed membership forms.

Adjourned at 9:15p