

Meeting Minutes
New Mexico Herpetological Society
April 1, 2010

President Scott Bulgrin opened the meeting attended by 22 adults. Jean Burt read the minutes from the March 2010 meeting. Garth Graves reported the final bank balance as of 4/1/10 is \$1,187.20.

Old Business

Scott reported that no one volunteered to attend the Children's Water Festival on April 29-30 at the Gila Conservation Education Center in Silver City. He will contact the Cantrell's to let them know that NMHS will not attend. He mentioned there might be another event in September that might be of interest to NMHS.

Scott has been unable to get an appointment with an accountant to discuss possible NMHS incorporation. He may have better luck after April 15.

Scott found dark pillowcases at WalMart at a price of \$4.50 for 2. Jaci Fischer will find out how much it will cost to silkscreen the design used on the NMHS t-shirts. Scott suggested selling the pillowcases/snake bags at the July IHS conference in Tucson.

The Mountainair Elementary School is still looking for a volunteer to speak to the after-school program. Scott will be speaking on April 21; Ted Brown said he might volunteer to speak on April 14.

Scott distributed the template for the NMHS web site animal descriptions. When descriptions are drafted, Scott asked members to either bring the draft to the meeting or send to Rebecca. A subcommittee will review the descriptions, distributed through e-mail. The description field should be approximately two paragraphs.

The NMHS will have an educational display at the BioBlitz on Saturday April 24 at the Rio Grande Nature Center. BioBlitz activities will take place from 7:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. The NMHS display will be set up from 10:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. and Scott asked for volunteers for the display and to lead a nature walk.

Members voted on the location for the Memorial Day weekend field trip. Choices included Sugarite State Park, Wind River Ranch, and Bottomless Lakes. Wind River received the most votes; however, NMHS does not yet have permission to camp on the site. Scott will contact the owner/manager before the May meeting. Cerrillos Hills State Park was a possibility mentioned for a future day trip (there is no camping available).

New Business

Tom Eichhorst invited NMHS members to join him at the Bosque School on April 30 from 10:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. for an NMHS educational display. This display will support BEMP which involves schools in field work such as pitfall trap surveys and monitoring stations. The Bosque School is south of Montaña and Coors.

Scott provided an educational presentation at Sunset Mesa School on March 26 attended by 60 students (8-9 years of age). His presentation was 1½ hours, during which time he discovered that kids prefer baby animals.

Scott distributed several articles: One from Wildlife Conservation News regarding the first species of monogamous frogs; one US Fish and Wildlife Service notice regarding the review of 14 species under the Endangered Species Act, and one on the U.S. House and Senate looking at a ban on pythons.

Scott reminded members that NMHS will be putting in 32 pitfall traps in the foothills of the Sandia Pueblo for this year's Sandia Bosque survey. Members who plan on assisting voted to do so on May 8.

Members took a short break to enjoy decadently delicious desserts and celebrate April birthdays including Ted, Bill Degenhardt, Jaci, and Scott. Ted presented slides from a recent field trip that he and Scott made at the four sites to be included in the Sandia Bosque survey.

The meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by Jean Burt, Secretary NMHS