We met at the American International Rattlesnake Museum in Old Town Albuquerque, New Mexico. At 7:10 PM President Josh Emms opened our meeting and welcomed 17 adult herpers.

OLD BUSINESS

Secretary Cosmos read the Draft Meeting Minutes of November 2 and December 9, 2017. The Secretary's Minutes were approved as read by members present.

Treasurer Letitia Peirce reported that the balance in our NMHS checking account as of January 9, 2018 the balance is $2,057.66. Checks will be issued to members for travel to events out of Albuquerque, to Sue and Ted for refreshments provided at Meetings and to the Rattlesnake Museum for the upkeep of four snakes on display in 2018. The Treasurer's Report was approved as read by members present.

OLD BUSINESS - OUTREACH

November 18 and 19. Festival of the Cranes at Bosque del Apache National Wildlife Refuge. Ted Brown reported that 523 guests visited our NMHS displays. Attendance is down from previous years. Ted and Sue and friend Nona stood at one display of herps. Tom Eichhorst and friend Jack stood at another. Cosmos suggested that to help visitors find the NMHS exhibit in the Firehouse eye-catching colorful enlargements of the Society's logo be attached to the sandwich board signs provided by the Refuge.

December 9. Mixer at the American International Rattlesnake Museum and December Banquet at Church Street Cafe in Old Town Albuquerque. Attendees reported that mixing, eating, bidding in the Silent Auction and Matt Cage's slide show of wildlife in Peru were successes. Cosmos suggested that a much larger (8' x 10') projection screen be used at our 2018 Banquet.

NEW BUSINESS

In 2018 our Society will sponsor four snakes on display at the Rattlesnake Museum.

Date? Jerry Tuttle will present "A Day in the Life" and show live snakes, lizards and parrots to kids in the Reading Circle at Barnes & Noble Bookstores in Albuquerque at Coronado Center and Cottonwood Corners.

January 13, Saturday. Josh Emms and Jerry Tuttle will put on a program for Boy Scouts ages 11 to 18 who are working on merit badges.

February or March. Jerry Tuttle will put on programs for 150 7th-grade students at Martin Luther King,
Jr. School in Rio Rancho.

Date? Jerry Tuttle will put on a program at a Senior Center.

Starting April 4. Josh and Katie will lead training sessions in the Frog Watch New Mexico program at the ABQ BioPark Botanic Garden classroom 6-8pm. On April 4- orientation and frog calling interpretation. April 11- Field Scope and Frog Watch protocols. April 25- practice exam and make-up session. May 2- exam.

April 14. Tray is planning to put on a herp program at the high school he attends. Jerry offered to help.

NEW BUSINESS -

Memorial Day Weekend Field Trip - May 28. Josh suggested that a planning group come up with destinations and dates other than May 28th.

Lorrie said that the BioBlitz at Rodeo, New Mexico will again be held in August and could be our Field Trip.

Cosmos suggested that NMHS field trips could take us to areas being studied by graduate students in herpetology from New Mexico's universities and colleges. We would accompany the grad student and offer to help with the field work.

February 7 Meeting. Keith Crow announced that Matt Eschenbrenner of our Albuquerque BioPark will be our speaker and bring us up to date on the Cataphractus Project in Cote d'Ivoire, Africa.

HERPS AVAILABLE: Josh said that a person in Angel Fire, New Mexico has a Leopard Geckoe to adopt out.

MEETING ADJOURNED at 8:05pm for BREAKTIME

Thank you very much Bob and Lorraine Myers for hosting us in your American International Rattlesnake Museum in Old Town Albuquerque, New Mexico.

NEW MEXICO HERPETOLOGICAL SOCIETY OFFICERS – 2018

PRESIDENT Josh Emms
VICE-PRESIDENT Keith Crow
SECRETARY Cosmos
TREASURER Letitia Peirce
NEWSLETTER EDITOR Garth Tietjen
PARLIAMENTARIAN William G. Degenhardt