

TENNESSEE HERPETOLOGICAL SOCIETY
Annual Membership Meeting Minutes
9/27/12

Location: University of Tennessee Martin, Martin, TN

Time: 1805 – 1830 hrs CDT (David Withers, President, Called Meeting to Order)

Kevin Hamed, THS Secretary, stated that election results from 2011 were not included in the minutes. Updated minutes will be distributed to members for approval.

Treasurer Report (Chris Simpson)

Checking Account Balance =	\$9,489.13
CD (Chad Lewis Scholarship Fund) =	\$11,614.34
 Total Current Assets =	 \$21,103.47

New Business

- Chad Lewis Scholarship
Chris Simpson stated that the CD was collecting minimal interest and funds raised from the auction would be needed to provide a \$500 scholarship each year. Members agreed to designate auction funds for the yearly scholarship until the CD interest rates increase. Amanda Allison, University of Tennessee, was the Chad Lewis Scholarship recipient for 2012. It was suggested that scholarship information be placed on the website.
- Elections
 - Nominees:
 - President = Tom Blanchard
 - Vice-President = Danny Bryan
 - West Tennessee Representative = Rob Colvin
 - Middle Tennessee Representative = John Niedzwiecki

Nominees were selected during the meeting. Tom Blanchard was nominated by David Withers and the nomination was seconded by Danny Bryan. Lisa Powers nominated Danny Bryan for Vice-President and the motion was seconded by Stephen Nelson. Rob Colvin was nominated for West Tennessee Representative by Floyd Scott and the motion was seconded by Lisa Powers. John Niedzwiecki was nominated for Middle Tennessee Representative by Floyd Scott and the motion was seconded by Lisa Powers. Voting results for all offices were unanimous.

Committee Reports

- Membership Committee: No Report
- Education Committee: Lisa Powers presented information on Project Noah and their Snake Week Project. Participants were encouraged to report snake observations from September 15-23. Lisa stated that the organization has data available on its website www.projectnoah.org for researchers to use.
- Conservation Committee: No Report
- Chad Lewis Scholarship Committee: Report made under New Business
- Robert M. (Bob) Hatcher Conservation Award: No Report
- Commercial Turtle Harvest: No Report
- Amphibian Task Force of Tennessee: No Report
- Library/Achieves: No Report
- Newsletter / Journal: No Report
- Website: Lisa Powers has updated some species profiles and is in the process of updating other profiles.

2013 Meeting

East Tennessee – John Copeland (Lincoln Memorial University) has expressed interest in hosting the 2013 meeting. David Withers discussed the potential of having a joint meeting with the Virginia Herpetological Society (VHS). Kevin Hamed who is also a member of the VHS thought a joint meeting might provide greater attendance and a chance to network with individuals that are typically not at a THS meeting. The TOS and VSO had a very successful joint meeting in East Tennessee in 2012. This meeting could be patterned after this joint meeting. Pete Wyatt suggesting inviting VHS but not calling it a joint meeting. Kevin Hamed will contact VHS to gauge interest and report back to the board where a final decision can be made.

Conference Appreciation

Tom Blanchard was recognized for his outstanding effort planning and hosting the 2012 conference. The University of Tennessee at Martin was also recognized for the use of their facilities.

Meeting Adjourned by David Withers at 18:30 CST

Prepared by: Kevin Hamed (THS Secretary)