Minutes The Cajun Prairie Habitat Preservation Society, Inc. May 14, 2016

The business meeting was called to order at Rocky's Restaurant in Eunice, LA at noon on May 14, 2016, by Brian S. Early.

Chris Reid (State Botanist, Louisiana Natural Heritage Program, Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries) presented 'Conservation of Coastal Prairie Rangelands in Southwest Louisiana.'

Old Business:

Malcolm Vidrine provided minutes from the previous meeting. Marc Pastorek moved for the acceptance of the minutes, and Suzanne LaHaye seconded the motion. The minutes were accepted by a unanimous vote.

Patricia Lewis provided a treasurer's report. Marc Pastorek motioned for acceptance of the report. Mac Myers seconded the motion. The report was accepted by a unanimous vote.

Marc Pastorek reported on a variety of topics. Much work has been done on the north side prairie with herbicides and tree removal. A prescribed burn is planned for June 6th, weather pending. If you want to stay in touch and participate, follow <u>cajunprairie@gmail.com</u>.

Margaret Frey gave a brief report on the education extension efforts with local schools.

Brian reported on the progress at the Episcopal High School in Youngsville prairie restoration project. Some hiccups in the project, but it is underway.

New Business:

Brian reported on the Southern Plains and Prairie Conference to be held at McNeese State University in Lake Charles, LA on September 24-25. It is sponsored by the Coastal Prairie Partnership and the Cajun Prairie Habitat Preservation Society.

Patricia Lewis motioned that \$2000 be appropriated for the conference by the society. Tommy Hillman seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously carried.

Brian reported that an online committee vote by the Board of Officers provided for conference fees for Charles Allen, Marc Pastorek and Malcolm Vidrine for the

North American Prairie Conference in Normal, Illinois, on July 17-20. Fees of \$150 per participant were approved. Additional attendees may submit requests.

The selection of a nomination slate for new officers was held. The following names were placed onto the slate.

President—Margaret Frey Vice-President—Stephen Nevitt Secretary—Malcolm Vidrine Treasurer—Patricia Lewis

Annette Parker Kahn moved for the acceptance of the slate for approval at the next meeting. Tommy Hillman seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Charles Allen motioned that the next meeting be held in conjunction with the Experience Louisiana Festival at LSUEunice on October 22 (details pending). Margaret Frey seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Brian presented the Charles M. Allen Award for Outstanding Volunteer from Louisiana (a clear plaque with suitable inscriptions) in the preservation and restoration of prairies as sponsored by the Coastal Prairie Partnership and the Cajun Prairie Habitat Restoration Society to Margaret Frey. Congratulations to Margaret were extended by the society members. (see picture below)

With no further business at hand, Marc Pastorek motioned for adjournment, and Sonie Milton seconded the motion. The meeting was adourned and followed by a plant auction.

Respectfully submitted Malcolm F. Vidrine, Ph.D., Secretary www.cajunprairiegardens.com



Brian S. Early presents award to Margaret Frey (May 14, 2016).