

Meeting Minutes
New Mexico Herpetological Society
November 5, 2009

President Scott Bulgrin opened the meeting attended by 20 adults. Jean Burt read the minutes from the October 2009 meeting. Garth Graves reported the final bank balance as of 11/5/09 is \$890.84 (no activity since the 10/09 meeting).

Old Business

Scott reported on presentations that he has provided:

- October 8, 2009 - Los Griegos Library – 3-5 year old children
- October 12, 2009 – Preschool at UNM (morning and afternoon sessions)

As a follow-up to the October meeting, Scott will research the free advertising for clubs in inserts of the ABQ Journal (similar to the RGTTTC).

Scott reminded members that the NMHS web site is up and running. The classifieds page is getting some hits and people who have seen the site are submitting questions via e-mail.

New Business

November 11/21-22/9009 - NMHS will again attend the Bosque del Apache Festival of the Cranes. Logistics were discussed. Charlie Painter offered to provide NM Game and Fish Department posters. Scott will contact Charlie.

Jaci Fischer reported that the holiday banquet will be held at Nick's Crossroads Café at 4th and Central on Saturday, December 5 at 7:00. The buffet meal includes salad, bread, soups, pizza, chicken, lasagna, and dessert. The cost is \$15/person. Bob Myers will host the traditional refreshment hour prior to the dinner, beginning at 6:00 at the Rattlesnake Museum. Following the dinner, Lori King and Charlie Painter will provide a presentation on their trip to India earlier this year. A silent auction will again be held; Jean will provide blank silent auction sheets.

Scott suggested that NMHS purchase a digital picture frame to show presentation slides, instead of the current practice of using a laptop computer to show slides. One benefit to the digital picture frame is that it does not need to be monitored and the computer does. Scott will look into the frames available, cost, etc.

A suggestion was made that next year at the Festival of the Cranes, NMHS take digital pictures of children with herps, print them on site, and sell them to the child or parents (this would require purchasing a portable printer). Sue Brown recommended that we check with the Festival staff to ensure that we are allowed to do this.

Lori sent Scott an alert regarding house bill HR 2811, to put a ban on pythons. The bill was discussed in Congress today. Lori asks that NMHS members contact their representatives and keep posted on the status of this bill.

Bob Ashley of the NM Rattlesnake Chiricahua Desert Museum has filed an appeal to the NM Game and Fish, who denied his request to import venomous animals. Charlie believes that the appeal is possibly on the Game and Fish Commission December 3 agenda; this meeting will be held in Hobbs. NMHS members voted to reimburse the cost of gas for any member who wants to attend the meeting in Hobbs. Members also discussed a letter writing campaign to the Chairman of the Game and Fish Commission. It was suggested that the letter could be sent to Todd Stevenson, Director of the Department who could direct the letter to the Commission. Scott will inform members of contact information out and any information about the letter writing campaign.

Members voted to reimburse Bob Myers \$50.00 towards the refreshments that he will provide before this year's holiday banquet.

Members also voted to sponsor two animals at the Rattlesnake Museum. Garth will coordinate with Bob to make payment.

The nominating committee reported on those nominated to serve as officers for 2010:

Scott Bulgrin – President

Ted Brown – Vice President

Tom Eichhorst – Editor

Jean Burt – Secretary

Garth Graves – Treasurer

Dr. Bill Degenhardt – Parliamentarian

Tom will include the ballot in the newsletter along with holiday banquet information.

Tom also reported that he is coordinating with Garth Tietjen, NMHS Member in Los Alamos, who has offered to print the newsletter. This would lower printing expenses.

Ted Brown presented a slide show on the September field trip to the Ojito Wilderness.

The meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by Jean Burt, Secretary NMHS