Minutes from the 559th Meeting of the Connecticut Entomology Society

November 20, 2020

Zoom

Social pre-meeting began at approximately 18:30.

**Business Meeting:**

-Meeting began at 19:32, called to order by president Ray Simpson.

**Reports:**

-Reaching out to unpaid members via email seems to have worked, as there were 23 people who sent in dues and donations.

-Went over draft of the revised constitution.

**Old Business:**

-Reminders to pay your dues and that there is merch!

**New Business:**

-Need ideas for April 2021 and November 2021 speakers!

-Student symposium in March!

**Announcements:**

-Future meetings will be on Zoom!

-Peabody Museum Bulletin published something.

**Exhibits:**

-N/A

**Evening Presentation:**

-Laura Bizzarri spoke about hummingbirds, phoretic mites, and flowers. Complex ecosystems are unstable, it seems. Did her research in Costa Rica. The mites get a ride on the hummingbirds to go from flower to flower, and are not parasites to the hummingbirds. The mite abundance varies depending on the species of hummingbird. Hypothesis: do the mites specialize for the hummingbird species, or the host plant? The results suggest that the mites specialize in a subset of plants that are available through being transported by the hummingbirds. It also suggests they specialize on their host plants. There were ideas for future experiments, such as the effects of global warming on mites.

Meeting adjourned at 20:52.

**Note: corrections and additions to the minutes are welcomed. Please email maxengel1@gmail.com.**