**SUMMARY**

**Robert Laroche**

In October 2021 the proposal “Exploring Tiger Beetle Diversity Associated with Salt Domes Across East Texas,” was approved by the ToD Science Committee. The lead researcher was Robert A.S. Laroche of Rice University with other authors Daniel P. Duran and Scott Egan. $13,080 was approved for funding from the TCEQ account with the standard TCEQ line-item limitations.

Permits were acquired through the National Park Service. An Annual Report and data was sent to the NPS and shared with ToD as required. Johnston has communicated with the researcher on the final documentation needs that are required to close out the project. As the grant nears completion an informal review shows a quality project in the works. Laroche has even achieved publication in scientific journals and earned a Doctoral degree! The ToD looks forward to his final report and hope that he can come to our area to present his final findings to members for the public at a Science Café or present a talk on-line.

Submitted by:

Mary Catherine Johnston,

ToD Chair

April 4, 2024