

**Virginia Native Plant Society Board Meeting
October 5, 2018
College of William & Mary School of Education
Draft Minutes**

President Nancy Vehrs called the meeting to order at 3:02 p.m. with the following in attendance:

Janet Pawlukiewicz, 1st Vice President
Sally Anderson, 2nd Vice President
Kathleen Stasulis, Treasurer
Betty Truax, Recording Secretary
Peggy Troyer, Fundraising Chair
Mark Murphy, Co-Web Administrator
Johnny Townsend, Director at Large
Cathy Mayes, Director at Large
Erica Gonzales, Director at Large (via phone)
Jan Smith, Upper James River Chapter President (via phone)
Lucile Kossodo, John Clayton Chapter
Ellen Holtman, Blue Ridge Chapter Representative
Karen Hendershot (via phone)

Also in attendance were John Dodge, Emeritus and Sarah Pritchett, Natural Garden in Harrisburg, who is interested in resurrecting the Shenandoah Chapter

Minutes of the June Board Meeting

- Kathleen moved to approve the minutes. Lucile seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Recommendation to post Approved BOD minutes on the website

- Lucile moved to post the approved minutes. Sally seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report

- Kathleen explained the cost of newsletters would be higher next year because we only published three this year but plan to publish four next year.
- Fundraising: Kathleen explained carryover from previous year.
- Cathy moved to present the budget to the membership (annual meeting). Peggy seconded and it passed unanimously.
- Sally moved to hire E.W. Bostain to review our finances (\$800). Johnny Townsend seconded and it passed unanimously.
- Action: Nancy Vehrs will check to see if our grant has a requirement for Audited Statement.
- Chapters will get a 2016 notice from the IRS; tell the IRS how you have been filing. If you have any questions please contact Kathleen.

2017 Fundraiser Status & 2018 Fundraiser

- 2017: Remainder of \$35K still needs to be sent to Natural Heritage (still awaiting presentation of large check).
- 2018: VNPS fundraiser will be applied to Flora updates. Goal: \$25K. Funds will support keeping the Science current on the Flora (Flora of Virginia 2). There have been some discussions on a PC version.

Dupont-Waynesboro Settlement Status, Mount Joy Ponds NAP

- Hopefully we will be settling on October 15th for the purchases of the first approximately 80 acres of property. We will be spending at least \$300K of the grant.

Nominating Committee – Conservation Committee currently vacant

- Lots of positions open.
 - Of particular concern is the Conservation Chair considering the current political climate.
 - Membership Chair, looking for someone who will make new memberships a priority. (Kathleen to confirm chapters get a percentage of lifetime memberships.
 - Bland doesn't want to continue as Publications Chair but may be willing to hold this position for an additional year. Most important part of this is confirming the accuracy of the science in our publications. Johnny is willing to take responsibility for the science portion only. Bland is creating a style sheet for the Society's publications.

Newsletter Editor Position

- Nancy Sorrells will remain in the position. The newsletter consists of 12 pages now (formerly 8 pages).

Annual Meeting 2019

- Piedmont Chapter (Northwest Virginia) reported the Holiday Inn, outside of Front Royal (close to Blandy), has been reserved for Sept. 28-30. Working on potential speakers and hikes.

Update on Field Trips

- There is a long waiting list for the 2019 Texas trip. It was sold out within an hour.
- Bruce Peninsula is not yet confirmed, Sally is looking for a place for participants to stay.

Annual Workshop 2019

- John Hayden has found a larger area, however it is not tiered seating.
- Cathy is looking into Richmond Convention Center to see if it meets our requirements.
- Betty reports that PVCC holds 500 people in tiered seating. Drawback is eating space. Cost would be approximately \$1250 for 9 hours of rental.
- Topic: Forest Restorations

Content for Website

- Mark is asking for member contributions. Email photos/stories to Mark and Caitie so they can load them onto the website and facebook.
- Half of our membership is logged into the new membership system.
- Half of our membership uses mobile devices for access.

Status on Reestablishing Chapters (Fredericksburg and Shenandoah)

- Nothing to report.

Creation of Presenters/Topic for Chapter Use

- Jan Smith would like to have this available for chapter's use.
 - Ian Caton of Woodthrush was suggested as a speaker.
- Action: Nancy Vehrs will send out request for speakers to chapters.

Next BOD meeting: Saturday, December 1, Place to be determined (probably Richmond)

(Betty will not be able to attend)

Adjourn: 4:31 p.m.