

**Virginia Native Plant Society  
Potowmack Chapter Board Meeting  
January 5, 2023**

The meeting was held via Zoom Video Conference and was called to order at approximately 7:00pm by President Alan Ford. Board members present were Laura Beaty, Jen Brown, Margaret Chatham, Nelson DeBarros, David Gorsline, Scott Knudsen, Donna Murphy and Mark Murphy.

**Minutes**

The meeting minutes from the November 3, 2022 board meeting and the November 13, 2022 annual meeting were approved.

**Next Meeting**

The next board meeting was scheduled for March 2, 2023 at 7pm via Zoom Video Conference.

**Treasurer's Report**

Scott reported that he is still on closing out 2022 and will have a full report at the March meeting.

**Membership**

David emailed the most recent Membership Activity report to the Executive Committee. He noted that as of January 2<sup>nd</sup> the Potowmack Chapter has 665 members and the state organization has 2558. Membership grew by 13% over the past year. The second year of double digit growth.

**Propagation**

Laura noted that the seeds and trays are ready and she will begin planting next week. She is ordering native ferns from Mid-Atlantic Natives for sale this year. The propagation beds will open in mid-March, weather permitting.

Alan reported that Green Spring Gardens has changed the lock on the vehicle access gate and the chapter will not have a key. Vehicle access will have to be coordinated with Green Spring when they are open.

**Board Discussion**

The Board approved providing four \$50 gift certificates (to be redeemed at our plant sales) to Plant Nova Natives for their seminar for Spanish speaking landscape professionals.

Alan reported that he has five cases of the US Fish & Wildlife Service's guide to wildlife restoration. These will be offered to our partners at our cost of \$100 per case. Individual copies will be available to members at a suggested donation of five dollars.

Alan is scheduling the Spring walks. He reported that Alonzo Abugattas is willing to lead a walk at Thompson on April 22<sup>nd</sup>. Nelson also offered to lead a walk at a local seepage swamp in late May or early June. Su Jewell is willing to lead a walk at Meadowwood.

### **New Business**

Mark noted that the winter issue of the Potowmack News had a great article of the winter solstice walk.

The Scholarship and Internship Committee hasn't met yet, Mark said that he would organize the meeting.

Alan noted that Rod Simmons is working with Charles Smith on identifying new registry sites in our area.

Alan also presented samples of new note cards with native plants designed by the Hottenstein's and USDA pollinator partnership cards that describe how to plan a pollinator garden. The note cards will be used for our chapter thank you notes members who make a donation to the chapter. The pollinator cards will be given out to members at meetings.

Nelson showed two plants new to Fairfax County that he has found. One was an uncommon variety of cinnamon fern (*Osmundastrum cinnamomeum* var. *glandulosum*) found in Springfield forest. The other was a subspecies of St. Andrew's Cross (*Hypericum hypericoides*) found near the Franconia/Springfield metro station.

### **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:00 pm.