

**VNPS Potowmack Chapter
August 13, 2015 Board Meeting Minutes**

Minutes from the May 7 meeting were approved.

Treasurer's Report

Maureen Pardue said use of the portable credit card reader (Square) was a success. There was a \$32 fee for using the device.

Membership

Member number holds steady at 440 members. Because there are 80 family memberships, that probably translates to 525 individuals who are members. Bob Yacovissi is looking into better understanding which members fail to renew. We send out three membership renewal reminders to each member.

Programs

Donna Murphy discussed several ideas:

October:

Paulette Royt (retired GMU prof) fern lecture Thurs Oct. 8.

Fern tour Saturday Oct. 10. We need to find a place (Hidden Oaks Nature Center, Mason District Park?)

November:

Nov. 1: Trees of Frasier Preserve led by Margaret Chatham.

Nov. 8: Membership meeting with speaker Marcia Mabee about owning a nature preserve.

December:

Dec. 5 Rock Creek Park walk with Melonie Choukas-Bradley.

Other speaker ideas that were discussed

- The native plant expert at the National Museum of the American Indian native garden (Mike McLaughlin?)
- Gardner or native plant expert at National Botanic Garden
- Casey Trees
- Arlington's urban forester, Vincent Verweij
- "Native Plants 101" – a talk for novices seeking practical advice, to draw in new people (use our own speaker talent)
- How to use native plants in problem landscapes
- Alonso Abugattas – it would be good to have him back
- Role of native plants in climate change adaptation for Virginia's ecosystems
- Health of No.Va. local streams
- Look at past programs over recent years
- Study what nearby chapters are doing programs

New Business

Donna wonders whether we should purchase a projector for presentations that incorporate PowerPoint or other visual media that need to be projected onto a screen. She gathered information on a couple projectors including an Epson EX7230 which costs about \$550. A ViewSonics would be cheaper but not as good. Should we vote on this idea at the next meeting?

Board membership:

Need to fill open slots.

- Margaret Chatham is open to the idea of being Vice President.
- Jenn Truong has a student in mind for technology chair.
- Can we ask people who have served as president in the past to come back? There are a number of talented people who we might want to ask.
- Announcing the vacancies and calling for nominations doesn't get the positions filled.

Minutes taken or mis-taken by Michael Reinemer.

Attending the Board Meeting:

Donna Murphy

Maureen Pardue

Jenn Truong

Margaret Chatham

Bob Yacovissi

Michael Reinemer

Laura Beaty

Roberta Day