

**Virginia Native Plant Society
Potowmack Chapter Board Meeting
2 March 2017**

The meeting was held at the Fairfax County Mason District Governmental Building. It was called to order at 7:35 P.M. by Alan Ford, president. Attendees were Laura Beaty, Lori Bowes, Margaret Chatham, Roberta Day, Scott Knudsen, Donna Murphy, Pat Salamone, and Bob Yacovissi.

MINUTES

The minutes from the 19 January 2017 board meeting were approved.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Scott is working to compile the end-of-year budget report for FY16.

MEMBERSHIP

The state organization is implementing a new software package called Neon CRM for membership and donation management. Neon CRM is a cloud-based customer relationship management (CRM) suite designed for nonprofit organizations. Sue Dingwell has the lead on this. Chapters will have access to this tool.

PROGRAMS

Donna reported that our last event was announced to members first and it filled up fast, before it could be announced to the public. Some nonmembers still signed up; it isn't clear how they found out about it. This underscores the value of these events as a membership benefit. We still need to work to get more, and more accurate, email addresses for our members.

Alan is working the contract with Green Spring for 2017 meetings.

BOARD MEETINGS

We are experimenting with holding our board meetings at alternate locations to Green Spring (e.g., public libraries or county governmental centers) to save money; the cost is about \$90-\$100 per meeting at Green Spring. Lori is working this. She has booked Arlington Central Library for the May board meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Lori moved that we contribute \$100 toward the speaker fee for a 26 April "Hometown Habitat" presentation by Catherine Zimmermann at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Arlington. Laura seconded the motion, which was approved with eight "yes" votes and one "no" vote.

MISCELLANEOUS

- Alan is trying to restart/reconvene the Grass Bunch. He already has several locations in mind and is looking for additional suggestions.
- Alan asked whether we had any topics we wanted raised at the state board meeting on the following Saturday. Laura said we would like to have advance notice of the selected wildflower of the year (WOY) with enough lead time to have plants available for the plant sale. The state board planned to decide on the 2018 WOY at the Saturday meeting.

- Alan would like to populate the Nominating Committee called for in our bylaws. This committee is supposed to have one board member and two chapter members who are not board members. We will solicit help in this and other areas (propagation, newsletter, programs) at upcoming program meetings.
- The revisions continue for the third edition of the Plant NOVA Natives guide. About 12 plants will be removed, leaving room for additional material like Laura's phenology chart and four more sedges. We hope to have the new guide available for the plant sale on 20 May.
- The board discussed a number of upcoming outreach events.
- Lori is still looking for a chapter representative to the state organization's newly created early education program.

ADJOURNMENT AND FUTURE MEETINGS

The board meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:00 P.M. The next meeting is scheduled for 4 May at 7:30 P.M. Subsequent proposed meeting dates for 2017 are 6 July, 7 September, and 2 November.

Respectfully submitted, Patricia P. Salamone, Secretary