

**Virginia Native Plant Society
Potowmack Chapter Board Meeting
4 May 2017**

The meeting was held at the Arlington Central Library. It was called to order at 7:35 P.M. by Alan Ford, president. Attendees were Lori Bowes, Margaret Chatham, Sue Dingwell, Scott Knudsen, Michael Reinemer, Donna Murphy, Marty Nielsen, and Pat Salamone.

MINUTES

The minutes from the 2 March 2017 board meeting were approved.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Scott provided the 2016 budget and actuals as well as the 2017 budget and year-to-date totals. Alan noted that we need to begin developing the 2018 budget; ideally we would have it ready by late August or early September so that it can be published in the newsletter at least 30 days before the chapter annual meeting.

The third edition of the Plant NOVA Natives guide needs to go to press. We have enough money in the bank from sales of the guide to cover the cost. Our profit margin for the guide may drop, since we are selling more copies at cost than we had expected to. We still need to recoup about \$1,000 of our original investment but after that the project should be self-sustaining.

MEMBERSHIP

Bob provided a membership report by email prior to the meeting. There was no discussion.

The state organization is implementing Neon CRM, a cloud-based customer relationship management software suite designed for nonprofit organizations; Alan is working on learning this software so the chapter can use it as well. The software can be used for many functions including event registration and sending out newsletters, in addition to membership management.

BOARD CHANGES

Bob has stated his intention to resign as membership chair, so we need to find a replacement. Margaret will place a notice in the next newsletter. Donna would also like to step down so we need to look for a new programs chair as well. Diana Carter has resigned from the board.

Alan noted that we still need to establish a nominating committee as described in our bylaws. Past attempts have stalled because of the difficulty of finding people who want to serve on the committee.

PROGRAMS

Donna is planning for chapter fall events. She has already lined up a speaker for October and board members offered several suggestions for September speakers. The board briefly discussed whether we should continue our tradition of asking Charles Smith to be our January speaker.

ANNUAL MEETING UPDATE

Alan reported that the planning committee has solidified the schedule of walks and revised the budget. We need to get 175 participants to break even. Board members involved in the planning discussed several scheduling issues.

OTHER

The Prince William chapter of VNPS managed to get the Virginia bluebell established as the county wildflower. The board discussed whether we should to establish a county wildflower for Fairfax County, perhaps the coral honeysuckle that is also featured in the Plant NOVA Natives logo. Donna will pursue this.

ADJOURNMENT AND FUTURE MEETINGS

The board meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:55 P.M. The next meeting is scheduled for 6 July at 7:30 P.M. Subsequent proposed meeting dates for 2017 are 7 September, and 2 November.

Respectfully submitted, Patricia P. Salamone, Secretary