

**Virginia Native Plant Society
Potowmack Chapter Board Meeting
7 September 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 Margaret Chatham, David Gorsline, Scott Knudsen, Pat Salamone, and Bob Yacovissi.

Alan informed the board members that the tri-state annual meeting was fully booked, with a waiting list. He also announced that Sue Dingwell is leaving the board and moving to Colorado. We'll miss you, Sue!

MINUTES

The minutes from the 6 July 2017 board meeting were approved.

TREASURER'S REPORT

The proposed fiscal year 2018 budget has been sent out to the members for their review prior to the chapter annual meeting, which will be held on 12 November. Alan and Scott are preparing for the annual audit called for in our bylaws.

Margaret commented that the Wednesday plant sale held the day before the board meeting had been very successful: 71 herbaceous plants and 10 woody plants were sold, for a total of around \$300. The average take at a Wednesday sale is about \$100.

MEMBERSHIP

Bob and David continue to work together to transition the chairmanship. Bob has given complementary memberships to the interns we supported, as discussed and approved at the previous board meeting.

Bob announced the launch of the new NeonCRM membership system. Emails were sent to some 1400 members announcing the new system. At the time of the meeting, some 90 people had already responded by configuring their accounts and there were two membership renewals. All chapters now have read-only access to membership reports including an up-to-date membership roster, a report on recent activity (new memberships and renewals), dues totals, and a report on recent donations. The NeonCRM system also offers a number of other functions for communicating with our members.

PROGRAMS

Alan noted that we need to find a replacement for Donna as programs chair.

OTHER

Alan told the board that some people who are unhappy about Arlington's plans to restore Donaldson Run are looking for supporting material. He said that Rod Simmons, who opposes restoration in general, is among them. Charles Smith, on the other hand, has spoken positively about the Donaldson Run project. Alan raised the question, should our chapter take a public position on this issue? The board discussed the pros and cons of such an action for some time and concluded that:

- While we may have individual opinions on stream restoration, the board is not well informed enough on the whole range of issues surrounding the Donaldson Run project in particular and stream restoration in general to take a position on either one.

- The state VNPS organization may have developed a position, or may be interested in developing one. Alan will check with Nancy Vehrs.
- If asked directly we may refer questions to our two member experts in this domain, Rod Simmons and Charles Smith.

ADJOURNMENT AND FUTURE MEETINGS

The board meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:55 P.M. The next meeting is scheduled for 2 November 2017 at 7:30 P.M.

Respectfully submitted, Patricia P. Salamone, Secretary