

Roanoke Valley Master Naturalists
Quarterly Meeting
Sunday October 16, 2011
Girl Scout Headquarters

Attendance: Beth Hawse, Lynda Calkins, Ann Stinnett, Nancy Fabian, Bill Fabian, Jim Bush, Fred Walters, Pat Taylor, James Clark, Christina Koomen, Dennis Woodson, Denny McCarthy, Scott Spangler, Laurie Spangler (14)

Call to Order: The general membership meeting was called to order at 3:06 PM.

Old Business

- ✓ **Secretary's Report** – The July minutes were discussed and any additions requested by Lynda Calkins. Bill Fabian seconded the motion to approve the July minutes. The minutes were approved with all members in favor.

- ✓ **Treasurer's Report (Ann Stinnett)** Ann reported the previous balance of \$ 1182.44, deposits and deductions. The current balance is \$ 658.53

7 ball caps have sold so far of 25 (an 8th cap was sold after the meeting). These can be purchased from Ann at Kudos or at the meetings.

- ✓ **Other Old Business** Denny McCarthy discussed certificates and pins being mailed out (the pins are for recertification years) as certifications are completed. Members should get their volunteer hours to our advisor, Denny McCarthy by December 1st. The Secretary can work with Denny on annual report contents.

Denny has received the VAMN brochures for presentations/outreach.

New Business

Beth asked if there was any new business. Bill Fabian brought up the Save our Streams class training as a future class project and advanced training.

It was asked if we can claim travel hours as volunteer time. Travel time cannot be considered as volunteer hours per the Virginia Master Naturalist Volunteer Policy Handbook (www.virginiamasternaturalist.org/documents).

Beth Hawse asked if there were any communications or correspondence to discuss. There were none.

Subcommittee Reports

- ✓ **Executive Committee Report (Beth Hawse)** – Laurie Spangler has requested to step down as Secretary for the remaining 6 months term. Bill Fabian graciously offered to fill in until the next annual meeting when we will vote for officers.

We will mail a letter to members with an update on each member's needs for completion of their certification. Letters will go out by Dec 1 so they can verify hours and class needs to complete certification.

- ✓ **Curriculum Committee Report (Lynda Calkins)** We will meet soon (by January) to begin planning Fall 2012 class. We will have makeup trips and classes in spring for members still needing to complete their certification.

Bill Fabian and Ann Stinnett expressed interest in participating on this committee. Additional members interested in participating on the committee may contact Lynda for details.

- ✓ **Membership/Marketing Committee Report (Christina Koomen)** We discussed considering venues like Roanoke Outdoor Circus for future educational booth displays for our VAMN chapter. Beth Hawse offered use of pelts, skulls and other artifacts (with Douthat State Park brochures) for display. Lynda Calkins suggested a tri-fold display like the Allegheny Chapter's display which was very nicely done. Christina will get the foam tri-fold board and will get suggestions for material. Lynda Calkins moved to allocate up to \$ 100 for Christina to develop a display board for marketing, Nancy Fabian seconded the motion. All present were in favor, none opposed. Nancy Fabian also volunteered to assist the marketing committee with the display board and booth set-up at local events.

Beth requested a volunteer to get a Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries (VDGIF) collections permit for chapter. Dennis Woodson volunteered to get a permit from VDGIF in the name of our Chapter to cover collections of flora and fauna for educational display.

Members should be aware that a separate state display permit is needed to display live reptiles and amphibians. Permit information can be found on the VDGIF website (<http://www.dgif.virginia.gov/permits/>).

Christina has communicated with Rob Miller regarding our Facebook and Internet web site. She asked what we would like to see on these sites. Beth mentioned photos (make sure that membership media release has been signed on initial application). Chapter members can send Christina photos or other activities to be placed in media.

Denny McCarthy will work with Christina on getting proposal links on the website. Christina asked about removing the calendar and blog from our website. Would a News and Events section be more appropriate? Discussion ensued. Laurie Spangler suggested web address links on our website for members to search for advanced training and volunteer opportunities.

Beth Hawse reminded us to keep our Virginia Master Naturalist Program state coordinator, Michelle Prysby, in the loop with our media relations activities. Michelle likes to receive links and copies of interviews and other Master Naturalist publicity.

- ✓ **Advanced Training/Project committee report (Fred Walters)** Fred discussed next week's advanced training with Dr Seiler on Oct 22 at Pandapas Pond near Blacksburg. Some of the group will be meeting at the Girl Scout Headquarters for carpooling to the training.

James Clark is working with Bill Hunley to do an advanced training on botany on Jan 15 2012 in conjunction with the membership meeting. He will ask Bill about preferred times for program presentation (130 or 4 pm). This meeting will be held at Denny McCarthy's office in Salem.

- ✓ **Volunteer projects** – Icimani needs were discussed. Jim Bush does trail work on Tuesdays. Some weekend workdays will be scheduled so members available on weekends can assist with trail work. Fred will send out email to coordinate workday on weekend.

Beth Hawse discussed some other volunteer advanced training ideas such as rain barrel workshop, stream cleanup and composting.

Meeting dates for 2012 (third Sunday of listed month)

Generally, the Executive committee meets at 2:30 and general membership meeting is at 3 PM

Jan 15 (at Virginia Department of Forestry Salem office) Time to be announced due to Advanced Training program.

Apr 15

July 15 tentative graduation picnic

Oct 21

Adjournment of Meeting

Beth motioned to adjourn the meeting, Ann Stinnett seconded the motion. All members were in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 4:37 pm.

Minutes recorded and submitted by

Laurie Spangler, Secretary
Roanoke Valley Master Naturalists