



Roanoke Valley Master Naturalists Quarterly Meeting Minutes
Sunday July 21 2013
Fabian House, 134 Yarrow Lane, Fincastle

Attendance: Nancy Fabian, Bill Fabian, Beth Hawse, Sharon Vest, Larry Bradfield, Pat Taylor, Ann Stinnett, Linda Calkins, Laurie Spangler, Scott Spangler, Dennis Woodson, Jaslyn Gilbert, Jon Beard, Pat Malotte, Phil Mundy, Diane Mundy, Carl Reed (17)

Call to Order: The general membership meeting was called to order at 2:44 PM by Beth Hawse.

Old Business:

- **Secretary's Report (Bill Fabian):** The minutes for the July 2013 meeting had been forwarded to all members who attended, and corrections made according to comments received. The final minutes were forwarded to all members and posted to the VMS. Linda made a motion to accept the minutes as distributed; Sharon seconded it, and the motion passed unanimously.

- **Treasurer's Report (Ann Stinnett):** Ann reported as follows:

- ✓ Total balance of the checking account as of July 21st, 2013 was \$ 2,416.79.
- ✓ \$100.00 was deposited since the last meeting from sales for Plant Guide books and hat sales. .

Bill motioned to accept the report; Larry seconded the motion and the motion was carried unanimously.

- **Other old business** –

- Beth announced that the new Virginia Plant Guide was still available for purchase at \$2.00 (roughly the cost to the Chapter), if anyone was interested. Those wishing to purchase a copy should contact Nancy Fabian. Copies of the guide were made available as handouts for the last basic training course, and would also be used for the upcoming course in the spring.

- Christina Koomen had followed up on contacts with Christine Elder of the Mill Mountain Discovery Center, who was looking for volunteers. She had also talked to Liz belcher of the Greenways commission who would like to solicit volunteers for interpretation on the trails, e.g. wildflowers, trees, wildlife, etc. She thought we might be able to coordinate with other groups like the wildflower association and Bird club. We could put up signage and bill the commission for our expenses.

- Sharon Vest had coordinated a project event to trim overgrown azaleas at Happy Hollow Garden in Roanoke County. She reported the result of that project was very successful, and resulted in the Chapter being able to obtain pruning and trimming tools, the cost of which would be reimbursed by the County. Bill announced that he had posted an inventory list of the property owned

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by the Chapter on the VMN, and that the property was currently stored in his shed. If anyone wanted to check it out for project use, they could contact him, and he would note its location on the inventory list while it was checked out.



Happy Hollows Azalea Pruning team.
(compliments to Sharon Vest who led the team and took the picture)

○ Beth announced that our 2012 end of year report had not yet been received by Alicia and asked that Bill compile the data from what he could get off of the VMN. He said he would coordinate the results with Beth and Denny. She also mentioned that Denny's new job was limiting the amount of time he had to spend as chapter advisor, and that if anyone knew of someone who worked for one of the sponsoring agencies that might be a good candidate to succeed him, please let her and Denny know.

Subcommittee Reports:

• **Membership/Marketing Committee Report (Christina Koomen):** Christina reported that our Facebook page was in bad shape, and that she wasn't sure how to fix it. Bill mentioned that Donna Haley was a systems administrator for the Unitarian church, and if she was given admin privileges, that she might be able to assist if she had time.



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- **Curriculum Committee Report (Nancy Fabian):** Nancy reported that though the decision to have the class in the spring, that there were, as yet, no specific dates set. After discussion, it was agreed to set a timeframe for March through May. The committee will draft a schedule to provide for approval at the October meeting.

- **Advanced Training/Project committee.** Nancy announced that she had sent an e-mail out looking for volunteers to chair the Advanced Training Committee and the Projects Committee. She had received no responses to her e-mail, and asked if anyone present would like to chair those committees. After discussion of what the committee chair responsibilities were, Larry Bradfield volunteered to chair the Projects committee. Ann volunteered to chair the Advanced Training committee and identify and coordinate for advanced training that could be presented in conjunction with the quarterly meetings. Jaslyn volunteered to serve on the advanced training committee, and try to contact potential presenters from the college she works at. Bill suggested that they each send out an e-mail from VMN to all the members to ask for volunteers to help with the duties on those committees, so that being the committee chair would not entail being a committee of one.

New Business:

- Beth announced that several events were coming up and that enrollment and/or attendance was certainly encouraged for any members who were interested:
 - Several strategic planning sessions for the future of the VMN program were going to be held at various locations around the state, the nearest to us being a session in Blacksburg on the 18th of November. Bill and Nancy said they were interested in attending that one, and would be happy to have others from our chapter bring their ideas to the table as well.
 - A Virginia Naturally Environmental Education Conference was being held in Richmond, Oct 16-18, preceding the VMN Master Naturalist annual statewide meeting to be held October 18-20. Those who were interested in possibly attending for advanced training should check out the web sites and agendas for either or both meetings. Beth had sent an e-mail to all members with links for the education conference, and reminders about the statewide conference have been sent reminding folks of the early registration date of August 15 for the statewide conference.
- Bill brought up the conflict of the planned date for the next meeting of 20 October would be in conflict with the dates for the statewide conference. Sharon made the motion to have the next quarterly meeting on the 27th of October, and Laurie seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
- There being no further business, Linda motioned that we adjourn the meeting, Ann seconded it, the motion carried, and the annual picnic began.



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Proposed Meeting dates for 2013 (third Sunday of listed month):

Generally, the Executive committee meets at 2:30 and general membership meeting is at 3 PM. The large meeting room at the Salem regional library has been reserved for the final meeting below.

- **1st Quarter** **20 January 2013**
- **2nd Quarter** **21 April 2013**
- **3rd Quarter** **21 July 2013 followed by annual picnic**
- **4th Quarter** **27 October 2013**

Adjournment of Meeting:

With no further new business, Linda motioned to adjourn the meeting, Ann seconded the motion, and all members were in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 3:45 PM, at which time the annual picnic began.

Minutes recorded and submitted by
Bill Fabian, Secretary
Roanoke Valley Master Naturalists