

Roanoke Valley Master Naturalists Quarterly Meeting

Sunday, January 14, 2018

College Lutheran Church

200 South College Avenue

Salem, VA 24153

Attendance: Donna Haley, Tammi Cascone, Robin Jordan, Nancy Fabian, Joe Dupuis, Larry Bradfield, Bill Fabian, Bill Wilkinson, Frank Sellers, Carissa South, Regina Prunty, Freyja Williams, Pat Taylor, Sharon Vest, Phil Lochbrunner, Sally Noble, Nancy Armstrong, Laurel Riddle, Gail MacFarland, Elizabeth Bailie, Art Bailie

(Regina Prunty is a transfer to our area; Welcome Regina!)

Call to Order: The general membership meeting was called to order at 1405 by Donna Haley, President.

Board Reports:

Treasurer's Report: Submitted by Frank Sellars

Beginning Balance \$4764.15

 Deposits

 Class fee \$300

 Total deposits: \$300

Withdrawals

 Ck 165 Donna Haley Reimbursement \$565.26

 Ck166 Tammi Cascone Reimbursement \$105.00

 Ck 167 Tammi Cascone Reimbursement \$635.97

Total Withdrawals \$1306.23

Ending balance: \$3757.92

Secretary's Report: Submitted by Laurel Riddle

Minutes were read. A motion was made to accept the minutes as read. Motion was seconded, and the motion passed.

Vice President's Report: Submitted by Tammi Cascone-Kovalcheck

2018 Spring Class –

- Tammi reported that 60 emails were sent to interested people.
- 5 people have signed up for the class.
- There will be an informational meeting on January 17th at 6:00 p.m.

- All instructors, but 2, have responded and agreed to lead the class on the dates requested
- Donna requested that a 2nd email go out encouraging interested people to sign up for the class (if the class does not fill up by February 1st)
- Nancy suggested checking with David regarding responses to website/social media. There may have been some posted interest.
- The class has been advertised on social and traditional media.

Committees:

Donna sent sign up sheets for members to request an interest in these committees. Sign ups will also be sent to all members via e-mail.

Education committee:

The committee has met, and organized the upcoming new member class. Once the class list is put together, Donna or Tammi will send out a request for RVMN Members who would be interested in mentoring individual students and monitoring the classes/field trips. Gail will be able to set up the classroom before class, as she has been doing so proficiently for the past years.

Outreach Committee:

This committee will meet in February. This committee will organize education programs and promote our public presence (Go Fest, Earth Day)

Citizen Science

This committee will coordinate current projects and foster opportunities for new projects

Membership Committee:

This committee will work with outreach and education, recruiting new members, and posting information on the websites.

Hospitality Committee:

This committee will provide snacks and drinks for meetings and events and plan special membership events such as the annual picnic.

Bylaws Committee

This is a short- term committee which will meet to review and update our bylaws.

Projects Committee: Submitted by Robin Jordan

Review of current projects (these are described on the volunteer website)

- Bluebird monitoring
- McAfees Task Force – Ridgerunners
- Earth Day – April
- Center in t (the Square – next education activity will be in March. Contact person is Freyja Williams.

- Cornell Ornithology – backyard bird watches. Information can be found on the volunteer project website.

Marketing and Membership committee: David Williamson (no report)

New Projects Report: (submitted by Donna Haley)

- Backyard Certification via National Wildlife Federation. Today, the Master Gardeners are passing out applications at the Roanoke Home Show. Master Naturalists will be represented at the Salem Home show (March 24 and 25). Sign up is going around and will be sent via all-member email.
- Mill Mountain Zoo – outreach. There was a good showing at the Zoo Boo and Winter Wilds. Mill Mountain Zoo has invited the Master Naturalists to provide projects/activities for their upcoming events.
 - March 24- Spring Fling
 - April 28 – Earth Day
 - May 12 – Migratory birds

(Freyja informed the members that a salvage permit is required when using animal skeletons or parts for education or other activities. She said that she is certified to issue permits. Robin will look for a speaker to educate us about salvage permits)

- Explore Park – On opening day (April 15, 2018), Explore Park would like RVMN members to help with a “Walk in the Woods: Forest Eco-system”
- Clean Valley Day – (April 7, 2018)
- Friends of Natural Bridge is looking for volunteers for the Natural Bridge Park
- Natural History Museum in Martinsville is looking for help with projects
 - Ice Age Festival 1/20/2018 from 9-3.
 - 2nd Thursdays, the Natural History Museum has speakers: paleontology , Earth Sciences, Invertebrates
- Department of Forestry – There is a grant available for projects involving planting trees (application is due within two weeks)
- Clean Valley Council – River Fest. Some members have expressed an interest in building a recycled regatta.

New Business

Bill presented the annual report. We have 70 standing members. 57 members are active volunteers. Overall volunteer hours are fewer than last years. Bill suspects that not all volunteer hours were recorded. He offered to present continuing education on VMS. Donna will post the Annual Report for membership review.

The meeting was adjourned.

Education: Katheryn Herndon Powell representing the Appalachian Trail Conservancy presented an interesting power point regarding volunteer opportunities along the Appalachian Trail including: Ridge

Running, trail development and management, and invasive species management. She promoted RATC training for ridge running volunteers (3/3/2018) and Carilion's Wildlife First Aid Class (3/10/2018).