

**Roanoke Valley Master Naturalists Quarterly Meeting Minutes**  
**January 20th, 2019**  
**Salem Public Library, Salem Virginia**

**Attendance:** Donna Haley, Tammi Cascone, Tina O'Hara, Dennis Taylor, Nancy Fabian, Bill Fabian, Gail MacFarland, Suzanna Mitchell, Glen Mitchell, Art Bailie, Elizabeth Bailie, George Devlin, Phil Lochbrunner, Regina Prunty, Pat Taylor, Sharon M. Vest, Kathy Sink , Larry Bradfield, Frank Sellers, Nancy Armstrong, Lauri Spangler and Scott Spangler.(22)

**Call to Order:** The general membership meeting was called to order at 2:05 PM by Donna Haley.

Old Business:

1. A Treasurer's report was submitted to the officers prior to the meeting as follows:

**Beginning balance** \$5422.96

Deposits: \$500.00 Class fees

**Total Deposits** \$500.00

**Withdrawals**

10/15/18 \$401.10 Amazon Class Materials

10/18/18 \$150.00 Dept. of Forestry Materials

11/17/18 \$ 659.97 Animal Guide

12/04/18 \$167/40 Bookfair Class Materials

**Total Withdrawals** \$1378.47

**Ending Balance** \$ 4544.49

It was moved and seconded that the Treasurer's report be approved as written, and the report was approved unanimously.

2. Secretary's Report: Minutes from the last meeting that had been previously distributed by email were approved unanimously. Tina O'Hara reported that the Explore Park Activity Book, will be featuring Misfit animals, meeting with Victoria at Explore Park TBA. She also brought up a new fitness craze, Plogging, a combination of jogging( or hiking) with picking up litter ( Swedish: plocka upp.) . It started as an organized activity in Sweden around 2016 and has spread to other countries in 2018, following increased concern about plastic pollution. As a workout, it provides variation in body movements by adding bending , squatting and stretching to the main action of running, hiking and walking.

Shall we start a plogging/hiking group?

3 Vice President's Report : Tammi Cascone reported that there are 7 pd people signed up for the new class. ( on target per last year). She also reported that we need class monitors and mentors, please contact Tammi if you are willing to help. She also mentioned that she got Bird Guides for the new class .

4. President's Report: Donna Haley has finished the Annual Report which will be available to look over on the website. Certificates and pins will be distributed at the April Meeting. At that time she also brought up the Potluck in July membership meeting that will also serve as a graduation for this year's class. This year there will be a mentor program for the new class that will hopefully keep the volunteers motivated.

### **New Projects Report and upcoming Events: Donna Haley**

Feb 7-9th , VAAE Conference Maymont Richmond

Feb 16th, EmpowerU , Blacksburg VA, register now as it has pre-requisites

March 13-16th, Citizen Science 2019, Raleigh NC, expensive but worth it.

March 2nd, Salvage Permit Class at Explore Park, 11 am registration required , Limited to 30 participants. This class will cover what you can and cannot do when collecting nature specimens. Class will be 11-1 with a lunch buffet. Contact Donna if you wish to attend. [mgmom@outlook.com](mailto:mgmom@outlook.com)

### **Mill Mountain Zoo:**

**Spring Fling 3/23 , 11am-4pm, Make a Mason Bee Home** ( please save toilet and paper towel rolls and Bamboo branches  $\frac{3}{8}$  inches.

**Spring Break Camp , 4/16-18th.** Volunteers are needed to help the educational staff members, extra helping hands as assistants for the group leaders.

The Zoo wants to put more native plants in the enclosures, volunteers can contact Donna at [mgmom@outlook.com](mailto:mgmom@outlook.com)

There is a possibility of new grant money, that will be used for projects we are already working on.

**Native Restorations**( early May Wildflower Society/ Master Gardener/ Arboretum Sales)

**Mill Mtn. Zoo Earth Day event, Party for the Planet on Saturday April 27th 11-4 pm.**

**World Migratory Bird Day/ Community Art Show event on May 11th, 11-4 pm.**

**Grandin Village Earth Day: Saturday 4/20 Nancy Fabian and Gail MacFarland Co Chairs. Volunteers needed Contact Nancy Fabian at [nfabian55@gmail.com](mailto:nfabian55@gmail.com) , if you can help.**

Phil Lochbrunner has volunteered to help coordinate the tree giveaway/ info. Cards. This year we hope to have smaller trees , approx. 400 with information about the tree and the planting instructions.

**Save the Date:**

**Tuesday, April 23rd “ Hometown Habitats” film showing at the Grandin Theater**  
This informative movie by Carol Heizer, talks about towns that introduce native plants and trees.

**Sunday April 14th, Quarterly Meeting at Explore Park Information Center Theatre Room.**

10-12:30, Joint Groups Wildflower Survey.

12:30-1:30 Lunch Buffet and sharing

2-3pm Wildflower Continuing Education Program ( plan May and June group dates)  
This will help follow-up on the Wildflower Survey, different flowers at different times.

3-4pm Business Meeting

**Science Museum, Center in the Square.** They have closed the Butterfly pavilion, they are looking to replace this failed exhibit with something to fill this space. Perhaps a Perennial garden, food sources, aquaponics, basically a big greenhouse. They hope to forge a better connection with the community and are asking our help.

**Boy Scouts of America: April 26-28th,** they are asking for volunteers to help train their instructors how to teach Nature, Bob Garst will be involved in this project.

**Roanoke City Libraries:** Rain gardens and impervious pavers; refer people to the libraries as good examples of stormwater management.

**Bluebird Trails :** Bill Fabian is asking for someone to help with this project while he is out of the country in 2020. Botetourt county March 15th- May. This involves checking and monitoring the bluebird boxes and their counts. Contact Bill Fabian if you can help.

**Rain barrel workshop:** March 30th, 10-11:30 am Blue Ridge Library, Pre-registration is

Required . Address: 28 Avery Row, Roanoke VA, 24012 Phone(540) 977-3433

**Explore Park** : Needs peeps to put together and mount bluebird boxes, Feb. 1st or 2nd, 12-4 pm. , email [vakeenum@msn.com](mailto:vakeenum@msn.com) if you can help.

**July 14th, Quarterly Meeting potluck picnic at Garst Mill Park:** Regina Prunty will reserve the shelter and will coordinate graduation program /awards with Tammi.

**Salem Museum:** Elizabeth Bailie hopes to have more information soon.

**BREE, Blue Ridge Environmental Educators** : Teacher inservice program this fall  
Subject Pollinators.

**SWVA Wildlife Center:** Elizabeth Bailie, certification required to volunteer. If you are Interested sign up with Sabrina or Tanner( DGIF misc . volunteer hours) , contact <https://swvawildlifecenter.org>

**Roanoke Wildlife Rescue:** Tina O'Hara , certification required to volunteer. If you are interested contact DeeDee, Rt . 221 Bent Mountain, <https://roanokewildliferescue.org>.

**Webinars for CE Credit:** [www.virginiamasternaturalist.org](http://www.virginiamasternaturalist.org). Continuing Education.  
<http://www.virginiamasternaturalist.org/continuing-education-webinar-series.html>.

**Bill Fabian made a motion to close the meeting, it was seconded and adjourned at 3:03 pm.**

**NEXT MEETING:**

**The next quarterly meeting of the RVMN will be held Sunday April 14th 2019 at Explore Park Information Center Theatre Room. Come join us for a great day of Education and fellowship. 10-12:30 Wildflower survey, 12:30 -1:30 lunch buffet and Sharing , 2-3pm Wildflower continuing education followed by our business Meeting 3-4 pm.**

**Volunteers can make a difference.**