

**WVSAC MEETING**  
**Master Naturalist Conference Planning**  
**Ali Baba Restaurant, Morgantown WV**  
**November 15, 2016**

The meeting was called order at 11:10 am by Chairman Hrabovsky.

In attendance were:

- Ellen Hrabovsky, Chairman
- Andy Dalton, Vice-Chairperson
- Bernie Howe, Secretary
- Scott Warner, DNR
- Jim Fregonara, DNR
- Anne Wakeford, Member-at-large
- Emily Grafton
- Denise Gwinn
- Becky Linger
- Penny Miller
- Vickie Markey
- Tommy Zeitz
- Sheldon Owen, University Extension Office
- Kieran O'Malley, DNR - Elkins
- Kathy Shreve, DNR, Elkins MN secretary
- Doug Arbogast, WVU Interpretation course
- John Bocan, MN Manual digitization

The purpose of this meeting was introduced by Scott Warner as a discussion of ways in which DNR and the Master Naturalist Advisory Board can work together to move the MN program forward.

Each person in attendance introduced themselves.

Promotional opportunities were discussed including Wonderful WV Magazine, the DNR website, the Master Naturalist web site, other social media, Hoy Murphy's email blast, and WV Parks email blast. Chairman Hrabovsky suggested that these media could be a focal point for Chapter activities.

Discussion continued on a marketing program to increase interest in the MN Program, ways to help floundering chapters, and ways to create new chapters.

John Bocan, a Monongahela chapter member, presented an electronic version of the MN Manual and its new features. A discussion followed about the best ways to utilize this product. It was agreed that the DNR would provide this format on flash drives for \$20.00. The paper version would still be available for those who do not have computer access.

Becky Linger gave a status report on the planning for the 2017 MN Conference at Chief Logan SP. The format will be similar to the 2016 Conference. The dates have been set for June 9 thru June 11. The Key Note program will be on the Elk Restoration in WV.

Chairman Hrabovsky gave an update on the 2018 Conference at Cacapon SP. Clark Dixon will be the coordinator for this conference.

Scott Warner suggested that there should be more meetings like this one throughout the year. There was a consensus of agreement. The next meeting to be announced at a later time.

Doug Arbogast presented a quick summary of the WV Interpretive Guide Heritage Steward Training Program and a discussion was held on how the MN Program could benefit from or incorporate this training.

Respectfully submitted,

Bernie Howe, Secretary