



Master Naturalist State Advisory Committee

Meeting at Stonewall Jackson Lake

October 19, 2017

Attendees: Clark Dixon
Jim Fregonara, WVDNR
Denise Gwinn
Bernie Howe, Secretary
Ellen Hrabovsky, Chairman
Rebecca Linger
Carol Nix
Kieran O'Malley, WVDNR
Kathy Shreve, WVDNR
Anne Wakeford
Scott Warner, State Program Director
Tom Zeitz
Sheldon Owen, University Extension Office

The meeting was called to order by Scott Warner at 10:05 am.

Chapter/Committee member updates were given by all in attendance.

Kieran O'Malley presented a brochure and business card acquired from Virginia promoting their Master Naturalist program. Sheldon Owen was asked to help in producing similar items for our program.

Scott Warner presented various opportunities for obtaining volunteer hours with DNR and the State Park system. He will create a calendar of events which will reflect these opportunities. Many of these opportunities will include lodging and meals for the volunteer while the work is being done.

Ellen Hrabovsky presented the proposed new ByLaws for the Master Naturalist program. These were reviewed paragraph by paragraph and appropriate changes made as needed. Becky Linger will incorporate all changes into the master copy and distribute it to the Committee members by email. Any additional changes must be submitted in writing with justification within five days of receipt of email.

A lunch break was taken at 12:30 pm.

The meeting reconvened at 1:15 pm.

Ellen Hrabovsky presented a report from the Curriculum subcommittee. These recommendations clarify core classes, identify the composition of the class to include a lab/outdoor component, and add two new core classes; Geology and Fish. The changes bring the core class total hours to 46 for certification.

The curriculum was unanimously approved by the Committee.

There was a discussion on the Nomination committee for the 2018 election. The Committee unanimously approved Ellen Hrabovsky to chair the committee.

Scott Warner presented the need to incorporate the Master Naturalist program as a 501c corporation. Carol Nix will work with Scott to draft the Articles of Incorporation and obtain the tax ID numbers for Federal and State tax exemption.

Tom Zeitz raised the issue of how holders of the printed Master Naturalist manual will receive updated pages and additions. Jim Fregonara will distribute the new pages to Chapter Coordinators who will, in-turn, distribute them to those who need them.

Clark Dixon gave a status report on the planning progress for the 2018 conference to be held at Cacapon Resort State Park, June 15 thru 17. Several novel ideas are being pursued which should make this conference quite memorable.

A teleconference of the Committee will be scheduled in January or February of 2018.

The next meeting of the Committee will be in early April.

ACTION ITEMS:

- Approval of new ByLaws**
- Incorporation as 501c**
- MN program pamphlet design**
- MN display design**
- Generic banners for MN activities**
- Monarch Summit information on the MN website**

**List of needs for the 2018 conference to be submitted by February
Annual Chapter reports to be submitted by end of February
State wide calendar of events by Scott Warner**

Meeting adjourned at 2:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

***Bernie Howe*, Secretary**