

MINUTES

VIRGINIA MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY BOARD OF TRUSTEES May 18, 2013

The ninety-seventh meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Virginia Museum of Natural History was held at 10 a.m. on Saturday, May 18, 2013, at the Virginia Museum of Natural History, Martinsville, Virginia. Ten of the fourteen trustees participated.

Trustees Present: Sammy Redd, Chairman
Mark Crabtree, Treasurer
Mervyn King
James Severt
Monica Monday
Melissa N. Gould, Vice Chairman
Christina Draper, Secretary
Janet Scheid
Gene Smith
Lisa Wu

Trustees Absent: Brian Bates
Mary Voigt
Lee Lester
Stephen Walker

Staff Present: Joe Keiper, Executive Director
Alton Dooley
Nancy Moncrief
Ryan Barber
Cindy Gray

Others Present: Stacey Reed, VMNH Foundation Board
Elizabeth Griffin, Virginia Attorney General's Office

Call to Order and Approval of Consent Agenda

Mr. Sammy Redd, board chairman, called the meeting to order at 10 a.m.

Dr. Crabtree moved that the minutes of the February 16, 2013 meeting be approved as submitted. Dr. King seconded, the motion carried unanimously.

Chairman's Report

Mr. Redd reported the museum received 100% participation from board members for the Grapes & Grains fundraising event.

Stacey Reed, VMNH Foundation president-elect was welcomed and introduced to the Board. Ms. Reed spoke to the Trustees about how the board can assist the Foundation in making VMNH the "Museum Without Walls" through membership, opportunity

reporting, facilitations of contacts, statewide recognition, and open communication between the two boards.

A salary survey of VMNH staff was conducted comparing VMNH salaries to those of comparable museums and Virginia state workers. Dr. Keiper gave an overview of the results. Using 10% as a baseline, most VMNH employees are within 10% or below the average comparable salary. At this time, funding is not available in the museum's budget to allow for a staff salary increase. Mrs. Gould suggested sharing the survey with elected officials and future Secretary of Natural Resources in order to build a foundation for a budget increase to cover the cost.

Vice-Chairman's Report

Mrs. Gould and Dr. Keiper have met with Elizabeth Griffin and Steve Owens from the Attorney General's Office to discuss options the museum may have in deciding what to do with the Douglas Avenue facility. Dr. Keiper recommended investing approximately \$10,000 to stabilize the building, giving the board time to do a thorough analysis on what it would take to make Douglas a long-term asset to the museum.

Treasurer's Report

Dr. Mark Crabtree, Treasurer, gave an overview of the quarterly financial report.

Executive Director's Report

47% of the Museum Without Walls objectives have been achieved.

Dr. Keiper gave an overview of the proposed FY14 Budget.

Mr. Severt moved that the FY14 Budget be approved as proposed. Mrs. Gould seconded, the motion carried unanimously.

Dr. Keiper asked Mr. Barber to give an overview of the Advancement Report.

- Dino Day was a huge success with 1200+ in attendance.
- The 2014 Thomas Jefferson Awards will be held at VMNH.
- Piedmont Kite Festive drew a crowd of 700+.
- VMNH is partnering with 5 other institutions to obtain a \$2.1 million NSF grant to create an online database and image bank of the most important insect collections at universities and museums.
- VMNH Summer Discovery – the promotion will run Memorial Day through Labor Day and offer \$10 off any new VMNH Membership, Sunday openings, and behind-the-scenes tours.

Election of Officers

A slate of nominees for the 2013-2014 Executive Committee was presented. Nominees were: Melissa Neff Gould, Chairman; Christina Draper, Vice-Chairman; Dr. Mark

Crabtree, Treasurer; Dr. Brian Bates, Secretary. Mr. Redd asked for nominations from the floor. Hearing none, Mrs. Monday moved that nominations be closed. Mr. Smith seconded, the motion carried unanimously. Dr. King moved that the officers be accepted by acclamation. Mrs. Monday seconded, the motion carried unanimously.

Board Resolutions

The following resolutions were presented for approval:

- A resolution honoring Sammy Redd for his service to the museum as Chairman from 2011 – 2013. (Attachment A) Dr. Crabtree moved to accept the resolution as read. Mrs. Monday seconded, the motion carried unanimously.
- A resolution honoring Dr. Steven Roble for his many hours dedicated to the museum's collections, bringing the late Dr. Richard Hoffman's works to fruition. (Attachment B) Dr. Crabtree moved to accept the resolution as read. Mrs. Gould seconded, the motion carried unanimously.

Other Business

Mrs. Gould read House Joint Resolution No. 554 on behalf of the Virginia General Assembly with co-patrons Delegates Danny Marshall and Don Merricks.

HJR No. 554 celebrates the life of Dr. Richard L. Hoffman as curator emeritus at the Virginia Museum of Natural History, professor of biology at Radford University, world-renowned scientist and dedicated educator and mentor.

With no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 12 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Christina Draper
Secretary

Sammy Redd
Chairman