

## MINUTES

### VIRGINIA MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY BOARD OF TRUSTEES May 17, 2014

The one hundredth and first meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Virginia Museum of Natural History was held at 10 a.m. on Saturday, May 17, 2014, at the Virginia Museum of Natural History, Martinsville, Virginia. Eight of the fifteen trustees participated.

Trustees Present: Christina Draper, Vice-Chairman Mark Crabtree,  
Treasurer  
Mervyn King Monica Monday  
Sammy Redd Janet  
Scheid James  
Severt Mary Voigt

Trustee Absent: Melissa Neff Gould, Chairman Brian Bates,  
Secretary Lee Lester Gene  
Smith Stephen Walker Lisa  
Lyle Wu

Trustee Present Remotely: Brandon Level - approved on a motion by Dr. Mark Crabtree, seconded by Mrs. Monica Monday.

Staff Present: Joe Keiper, Executive Director Ryan  
Barber Jim  
Beard Christine Byrd Denny  
Casey Alton  
Dooley Cindy Gray

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

#### **Call to Order and Approval of Minutes**

Christina Draper, board vice-chairman, called the meeting to order at 10 a.m.

Dr. Crabtree moved that the minutes of the March 2, 2014 meeting be approved as submitted. Mr. Severt seconded, the motion carried unanimously.

#### **Executive Director's Report**

Dr. Keiper gave an overview of his written report and the Museum Without Walls Dashboard Report.

- The two-year Museum Without Walls plan is complete. A final report was emailed to each board member in April.
- The museum is working with the new owner of the Solite Quarry to facilitate the

removal of fossiliferous rock from the area before it is blasted. Emergency funding for the project has been obtained from the National Geographic Society and a grant proposal has been submitted to NSF.

- Interviews are underway for an Assistant Curator of Recent Invertebrates.

### **Treasurer's Report**

Dr. Mark Crabtree, Treasurer, gave an overview of the quarterly financial report. Dr. Keiper gave an overview of the museum's proposed annual budget. Dr. Crabtree moved that the 2014-15 budget be adopted as presented. Dr. King seconded, the motion carried.

### **Research and Collections Committee Report**

Monica Monday, committee chairman, presented the Research and Collections Committee report.

The Committee took the following actions:

- Reviewed and approved acquisitions from last quarter.
- Approved the appointment of three research associates.
- Noted the exemplary research and service career of recently retired Curator of Marine Biology Dr. Judy Winston.

### **Education and Public Programs Report**

Christina Draper, committee chairman, presented the Education and Public Programs Committee report.

- Two NSF Education grants have been submitted for informal education:
  - With Longwood University and Danville Science Center
  - With the Ocean Leadership Deep Earth Academy

### **FOIA/Conflict of Interest Training**

The board participated in FOIA/Conflict of Interest training, facilitated by Assistant Attorney General Elizabeth Griffin.

### **Waynesboro Facility Update**

Janet Scheid provided an update on the potential interpretive center for Waynesboro.

- A RFP was sent out to procure a firm to produce the Master Plan. 10 proposals were submitted. Firm selection should be complete by the end of June.
- Approximately \$3000 has been raised to match the \$25,000 committed by the City of Waynesboro to produce the schematic plan.

### **Election of Officers**

Mr. Sammy Redd reported a change in the slate of nominees presented to the board at its March meeting. Dr. Brian Bates asked that his name be withdrawn as a candidate for Board Secretary.

An undated slate of nominees for the 2014-2015 Executive Committee was presented

An updated slate of nominees for the 2014-2015 Executive Committee was presented. Nominees were: Melissa Neff Gould, Chairman; Christina Draper, Vice-Chairman; Dr. Mark Crabtree. Ms. Draper asked for nominations from the floor. Mr. Redd nominated Janet Scheid for the position of Board Secretary.

Mrs. Monday moved that nominations be closed. Mr. Redd seconded, the motion carried unanimously. Mr. Redd moved that the officers be accepted by acclamation. Mr. Severt seconded, the motion carried unanimously.

### **Board Resolution**

By recommendation of the Research and Collections Committee, Mrs. Monday made a motion that the Board of Trustees of the Virginia Museum of Natural History confer upon Dr. Judith Winston the title of Curator Emerita based on the following statement:

Dr. Judith Winston has retired from the Virginia Museum of Natural History after over twenty years of distinguished service as interim Director, Director of Research and Collections, and Curator of Marine Biology.

Dr. Winston's scientific achievements have been and are outstanding, important, and influential.

There is every expectation that this level of achievement will persist and that her scientific involvement with the Virginia Museum of Natural History will continue.

Dr. Crabtree moved to accept the conferment of Dr. Judith Winston the title of Curator Emerita. Mr. Severt seconded, the motion carried.

With no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 12:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet Scheid  
Secretary

Melissa Neff Gould  
Chairman