



Virginia Museum of Natural History  
Waynesboro Advocacy Committee Meeting  
Waynesboro Office of Economic Development  
March 3, 2025, 1 PM  
Minutes

**Attending in Person:** Ms. Maggie Van Huss, Mr. Rick Kane

**Attending Remotely:** Dr. Carole Nash, Mr. Jonathan Martin (staff), Mr. Ryan Barbour (staff), Mr. Zach Ryder (staff), Ms. Jennifer Whitlow (staff-minutes)

### **Welcome**

Mr. Jonathan Martin opened the meeting at 1 PM and welcomed everyone attending in-person and online. A quorum was not present; therefore, no votes could be taken.

### **Detailed Design**

Mr. Martin welcomed Glave Holmes representative, Mr. Steven Bashfield, to provide an overview of the VMNH-Waynesboro architectural design. Mr. Bashfield spoke briefly and shared the latest elevation and floor plan drawings. The plans will be presented to the Architectural Review Board in April 2025. As the approval process continues, additional changes are expected to reflect rising construction costs and adherence to building code. The final step will be working drawings which have to be authorized by the state. There were no questions or comments from the committee.

### **Advocacy**

Mr. Martin spoke briefly about the ongoing letter writing campaign. Reminded the committee of this important work which should be completed by the end of March. He also mentioned adjusting the content of the letter to better explain the museum and potential economic impact through tourism for the region.

### **Trailer**

VMNH is pursuing a "scope of work" contract with a repair company in North Carolina. The expected repairs include, electrical, hydraulics, lighting, and exhibit space. A new wrap will also be included in the repair work. Ongoing maintenance reserve funds have been approved for this project. This project will likely not be completed by May 3<sup>rd</sup> Riverfest.

### **Community Connections**

Work is progressing on the interpretive signage for the riverwalk. All indications are that the signage will be installed by the Riverfest event in May with a ribbon cutting planned in the summer.

The March 18th Wayne Theatre lecture will feature Dr. Angel Garcia who will present his research about caves in the area. Dr. Nash added that Dr. Garcia and his students are also creating virtual reality models of the cave passages currently being studied.

### **Open Discussion**

Welcome to Rick Kane who has joined the Advisory Committee. Rick's background includes, architecture, building, development, and brokering.

### **Adjournment**

No further comments were made. Mr. Martin adjourned the meeting at 1:32 PM.

### **Next Waynesboro Advocacy Committee Meeting**

Monday, April 7, 2025

1 PM

Waynesboro Office of Economic Development