

Draft Meeting Minutes

Education, Planning, and Outreach Committee
Board of Wildlife Resources
7870 Villa Park Drive, Board Room
Henrico, VA 23228

January 22, 2025
3:00 pm

Present: Mr. Will Wampler, Chair, Mr. Michael Formica; **Absent:** Mr. John Daniel and Dr. Mamie Parker; **Board members present:** Mr. Jon Cooper, Mr. James Edmunds, Ms. Laura Walters, Mr. Lynwood Broadus, Mr. George Terwilliger; **Executive Director:** Mr. Ryan Brown; **Deputy Directors:** Ms. Becky Gwynn and Mr. Darin Moore; **Director's Working Group:** Ms. Stacey Brown, Mr. George Braxton, Ms. Shelby Crouch, Mr. Mike Bednarski, Mr. Michael Lipford.

The Committee Chair called the meeting to order at 3:00 pm and welcomed everyone to the meeting. The Chair noted for the record that there was not a quorum present for the meeting.

Approval of the August 21, 2024, and October 23, 2024, Meeting Minutes: The Chair called for a motion to approve the August 21, 2024, and October 23, 2024, Committee meeting minutes. Mr. Wampler announced that for lack of a quorum the minutes will not be approved.

Public Comment – Non-Agenda Item: The Chair called for Public Comments on Non –Agenda Items. Hearing none, he continued on with the meeting.

Restore the Wild Art Contest 2025: The Chair called on Mr. Steve Living and Ms. Kelsey Steenburgh for a presentation.

Mr. Steve Living and Ms. Kelsey Steenburgh gave an update on how Restore the Wild Art Contest was started in 2012 and how much money has been raised. Ms. Steenburgh announced this year's Restore the Wild Art Contest and gave this year's species of choice and unveil plans for an expanded opening event which will be Friday, March 7, 2025, from 6 -8 pm at Main Street Gallery.

After comments and questions, the Chair thanked Mr. Living and Ms. Steenburgh for their information and presentation.

True Wildlife Crime Podcast Series: The Chair called on Mr. Tim Tassitano.

Mr. Tim Tassitano highlighted the podcast series success and discussed future episodes.

After comments and questions, the Chair thanked Mr. Tassitano for his presentation.

Bear Wise: The Chair called on Ms. Courtney Hallacher for her presentation.

Ms. Courtney Hallacher gave a recap success of volunteer involvement in increasing awareness of reducing bear/human conflicts.

After comments and questions, the Chair thanked Ms. Hallacher.

Outreach Division Update: The Chair called on Mr. Bob Smet for an Outreach Division Update.

Mr. Smet Reported:

- Recognized Ben Fairbanks with accolades of good job on the DWR Archery Open
- DWR Archery Open – 500 attendees
- Ward Burton – Partner Wildlife Foundation
- VA Outdoor Women Program
- Hunter Education Update
- Explore the Wild events coming up

The Chair thanked Mr. Smet for his Division update.

Director's Report: The Chair called on Mr. Ryan Brown for his Director's Report.

- Mr. Darin Moore, in the Director's absence thanked Outreach for all the fantastic Programs they have put on in the past couple of months.

The Chair thanked Mr. Moore for his report.

Chair's Report: The Chair commended all the Outreach staff for a job well done.

The Chair asked if anyone had any further questions or comments and hearing none, the Chair announced the next meeting will be Wednesday, March 19, 2025, and adjourned the meeting at 4:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
/s/ Frances Boswell