

MINUTES
VIRGINIA MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
August 18, 2018

The one hundred eighteenth meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Virginia Museum of Natural History was held at 10:30 a.m. Saturday, August 18, 2018, at the Virginia Museum of Natural History, 21 Starling Avenue, Martinsville, Virginia.

Trustees Present:	Barry Dorsey, Chairman Janet Scheid, Secretary Cord Cothren Monica Monday Nathan Sanford Melany Stove	Thomas Benzing, V-Chairman Christine Baggerly Lisa Moerner Michael Phillips James Severt, II
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Trustees Absent:	Jennifer Burnett, Treasurer Arthur Evans	Faye Cooper Makunda Abdul-Mbacke
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Staff Present:	Joe Keiper Christy Deatherage Krystal Davis Kal Ivanov	Ryan Barber Cindy Gray Gloria Niblett Elizabeth Moore
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Others Present:	Audrey Burges, Office of the Attorney General	Bruce Wingo, VMNH Foundation Board
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With eleven (11) members of the Board present, a quorum was established.

Call to Order and Approval of Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 10:30 a.m.

Mrs. Baggerly moved that the minutes of the August 18, 2018 meeting be approved as amended. Mrs. Scheid seconded; Motion Carried.

Chairman's Report

- VMNH received the \$250,000 in the Appropriation Act to plan the Waynesboro Campus.
- Dr. Dorsey challenged the VMNH Foundation to increase their endowment.

Treasurer's Report

Dr. Keiper presented the Treasurer's Report.

- FY18 Total Operating Funds - 101% in revenue and 93% in expenses.
- Seeing continued increase in admissions and store sells.

Executive Director's Report

Joe Keiper presented the Executive Director's Report.

- 2-day Dinosaur Festival – 3,400 in attendance.
- Dragon Festival scheduled for 20 October.
- \$215,000 in asks are out for the Outdoor Education Pavilion.
- Seeing increase in membership numbers – due mostly to educator levels and 2-year options.
- Steady growth in Groupon sells.

Waynesboro Campus Update

Report presented by Joe Keiper.

- The City of Waynesboro is offering \$1 million in cash, property, and support if VMNH agrees to build new on the municipal lot and the project having significant support of \$7 million from the Commonwealth of Virginia.
- Objective by 31 December is to raise \$1 million in pledges and to prepare to go to the General Assembly with preliminary work to show that Waynesboro and the community is behind the project.

Dr. Benzing moved that the Board accept a recommendation from the Waynesboro Advocacy Committee that the open municipal site be selected as location for the building. Mrs. Baggerly seconded. Mrs. Scheid stated that she would support the recommendation of the Advocacy Committee, but she feels both personally and professionally that the City of Waynesboro is being short-sighted by not utilizing the existing building that is there. Motion Carried.

Executive Director's Evaluation (Closed Session)

Tom Benzing moved to go into a closed session in order to discuss the Executive Director's evaluation. Christine Baggerly seconded; Motion Carried.

After closed discussion, Dr. Benzing certified that the 5% bonus for the evaluation had been unanimously approved. A roll call was performed whereby all members present cast an affirmative vote. Barry Dorsey moved to approve the bonus. Motion Seconded and Carried.

Research and Collections Committee Report

Monica Monday presented the Research and Collections Committee report. A quorum was not present for the meeting.

- 12,000 people served last fiscal year.
- \$50,000 grant has been received from the Sons of the American Revolution to study Patrick Henry's Leatherwood home.
- \$175,000 NSF grant proposal has been submitted to capture and digitize some of the Museum's fresh water collections and millipede collections.

Education and Public Programs Report

Dr. Benzing and Mrs. Deatherage presented the Education and Public Programs Report.

- Summer Camps – over 100 participants and \$11,000 in revenue.
- Interviews ongoing for vacant full-time educator position.
- Possibility of increasing Distance Learning programs.
- Education Guides are being distributed to local schools.

New Business

The next Board of Trustees meeting will be held 17 November 2018.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Janet Scheid,
Secretary

Barry M. Dorsey, Ed.D.,
Chairman