

**Virginia Board of Conservation and Recreation
Scenic Resources Subcommittee
Monday, March 2, 2020
Richmond, Virginia**

TIME AND PLACE

The meeting of the Board of Conservation and Recreation Subcommittee on Scenic Resources convened at 1:00 p.m. on Monday, March 2, 2020 in Richmond, Virginia.

SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Patricia A. Jackson, Subcommittee Chair
Danielle Heisler
Esther Nizer

SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS NOT PRESENT

Dexter Hurt

DCR STAFF PRESENT

Rochelle Altholz, Deputy Director of Administration and Finance
Tom Smith, Deputy Director of Operations
Nathan Burrell
Lynn Crump, Scenic Resources Coordinator
Michael Fletcher, Board and Constituent Services Liaison
Kelly McClary, Director, Division of Planning and Recreation Resources
Lisa McGee, Director of Policy

CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Jackson called the meeting to order at 1:06 p.m. A quorum was declared present.

MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 19, 2019

SUBCOMMITTEE ACTION

Ms. Nizer moved that the minutes from the September 19, 2019 meeting of the Scenic Resources Subcommittee be approved as submitted. Ms. Heisler seconded and the motion carried.

UPDATE ON VISUAL RESOURCES WORK

Ms. Crump gave the following updates:

- A scenic resources presentation at Visual Resource Stewardship Conference: 20/20 Vision for Landscape Futures in November was well received.
- Scenic Resources staff will be doing pilot programs in communities over the summer. Members wishing to participate or to schedule an event in their community should contact Ms. Crump.

SCENIC RIVER UPDATES

Ms. Crump advised that six rivers moved forward for designation in the General Assembly session.

The Roanoke River was qualified but did not move forward.

The designation of the Clinch River was different than what was recommended. Also, there has been interest in the Clinch River expressed by Scott County. Ms. Crump was scheduled to present to county Board of Supervisors on March 4.

The legislation moving forward will add about 109 miles to the Scenic Rivers program which is approximately a 15% increase in designated miles.

Ms. Jackson asked which watersheds still not have designated river sections.

Ms. Crump noted that there were no Scenic River designations in the New, York, and Holstein watersheds. She also noted that there were no designated rivers on the Atlantic Watershed.

Ms. Crump noted that she is working to schedule the following field evaluations:

- Appomattox River
- Broad Run in Loudoun County
- Hardware River
- James River
- North Fork of the Shenandoah River
- South River

As trips are planned, Ms. Crump will advise the Board of Conservation and Recreation in case members would like to participate.

RIVER MANAGMENT SOCIETY SYMPOSIUM

Plans for the River Management Society Symposium in May are going well. As of this date there are about 50 registrations. Early Bird registration closes on March 31.

The Symposium will include recognition of the 50th Anniversary of the Scenic Rivers program. A visual resource training model, and about ten optional field trips.

The BCR Committee requested that a turnkey announcement be sent to them for distribution to their contacts.

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE VIRGINIA SCENIC RIVERS PROGRAM

Funding for the celebration has been received. Ms Crump expressed appreciation of Ms. Heisler and to Capital One for helping to secure that donation. DCR will work on adding the appropriate recognition to the website.

Staff is working on plans for the event. Site options include the Pattern Building at Tredegar, Civil War Museum and Main Street Station. The event will be moved to June so that it will not conflict with Earth Day events. June is National Rivers Month. The hope is that the Governor will declare June as Virginia Rivers Month. This will be a 'by invitation' only event. The Invitation list includes: Legislators who moved the recent rivers forward, the local citizens who help spearhead the designations, the 50th steering committee, the BCR, the past SRAB members, and key historic dignitaries of the program.

The subcommittee discussed possible dates and agreed to focus on scheduling the event during the first week of June, avoiding Monday and Friday. It is intended to announce this event at the RMS symposium, especially if June as River month can be part of it.

The Committee requested that staff look into being a part of at least one event on Earth Day, since that was the original date requested.

Staff is working with Virginia Tourism to include a Scenic Rivers exhibit at Main Street Station. This will be similar to the one done for the 40th anniversary. Virginia Living Magazine will focus their May issue on Scenic Rivers and we hope to use some of their photos in the exhibit. The Committee was asked to send quality photos, or get their contacts to send some, to provide a large base from which to select those to go into the exhibit. Staff will forward the request to them for sharing with their contacts.

Mr. Smith advised that when staff has developed a draft resolution it can be moved through the process for approval by the Governor's office.

Ms. Crump noted that one of the local breweries will be releasing a special Scenic River Beer and will use the 50th Anniversary Logo. Proceeds will go to a local river group.

Regional celebrations will be scheduled after the June event.

ADJOURN

There was no further business and the meeting was adjourned.