



Minutes
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
11/8/2021

Attendees:

Board of Trustees:

Viola Baskerville
Eleanor Brown
Adetokunboh "Ali" Alfonja
Elizabeth "Sissy" Crowther
Elsie Delva-Smith
Tom Slater

Absent:

Raul Garcia

Council:

Richard Mahevich, Office of the Attorney General

Staff:

Brett Glymph, Executive Director
Bobbie Cabibbo, Executive Assistant
Leslie Grayson, Deputy Director
Martha Little, Deputy Director
Dave Morton, IT Manager
Emily White, Grant Programs Manager

Other Attendees:

Parker Agelesto – Capital Region Land Conservancy
Ellen Shepard – Virginia United Land Trusts
Stefanie Taillon - Virginia Farm Bureau
Rex Linville – Piedmont Environmental Council

WELCOME AND ROLL CALL

Eleanor Brown called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m. She asked Bobbie to call role and all but Raul Garcia were present. Eleanor introduced and welcomed the new board members Elizabeth "Sissy" Crowther who has been appointed chair, Elsie Delva-Smith and Adetokunboh "Ali" Alfonja. Each trustee shared some information about themselves

APPROVAL OF THE ORDER OF BUSINESS

Motion made by Tom Slater to approve the order of business; motion seconded by Viola Baskerville and passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

No Public Comments were offered.

VOF OVERVIEW PRESENTATION

The presentation narrated by the Executive Director is on file with the permanent record of this meeting. The presentation covered some of VOF's historical information about VOF and its present-day work.

Elsie Delva-Smith left the meeting at 12:14 due to a prior commitment.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Eleanor Brown pointed out that the word "inequity" in the title of the Senate Committee was split in two i.e. In Equity. Motion made by Tom Slater to approve the minutes with correction; motion seconded by Viola Baskerville and passed unanimously.

CHAIR’S REPORT/COMMENTS

Eleanor marked the passing this year of Tayloe Murphy, former Secretary of Natural Resources, Ben Chafin, board member and Virginia Delegate and John Warner, Senator of Virginia for 30 years. The three men were good friends to land conservation and to VOF.

Eleanor shared that it has been her high honor to serve as chair of the board and thanked the other members for their support over her four years as chair. She is proud of VOF’s new direction and the work we have done and feels propelled to help us continue to do our good work for she believes VOF’s future is very bright.

DIRECTOR’S REPORT

Brett began by thanking Eleanor for lending much time and talent to guiding VOF. She presented Eleanor with a gift.

Brett reported that Viola and she presented to the Commission on Racial Inequity in Virginia Law. The presentation included data from Professor Andy Block of University of Virginia.

Also, Brett presented to the Agriculture Conservation and Natural Resources Committee of the Virginia Senate at Sweet Briar College. Brett told the committee that to keep the up momentum to meet the Chesapeake Bay goals, VA needs to make a budget commitment to the Virginia Land Conservation Fund and to keep the Land Preservation Tax Credit.

Brett shared that she has separate calendared meetings with Senators Mason and Morrissey and her plan is to get VOF’s message out to the new administration.

RESOLUTION – MEETING DATES FOR 2022

Motion made by Tom Slater to pass the resolution with a correction to the day of the week, November 3rd is a Thursday not Tuesday; motion seconded by Viola and passed unanimously.

CONSERVATION EASEMENTS

Motion made by Tom Slater to approve the projects listed directly below; motion seconded by Viola Baskerville and passed unanimously.

1. Reconsideration of Open-space Easement PTF cost only - Mark H. & Dana F. Campbell - Nelson County
2. Open-space Easement - Manuel H. & Mary W. Johnson - Fauquier County

GRANT PROGRAMS

Preservation Trust Fund Public Access

Motion made by Sissy Crowther to provide grants totaling \$1,086,400 and accept the easements for the projects listed below; motion seconded by Tom Slater and passed unanimously.

1. Brunswick County-Lake Gaston-Brunswick County-\$150,000
2. Capital Region Land Conservancy-Campbell's Bridge Mills-Petersburg City-\$150,000
3. Capital Region Land Conservancy-Historic Harvell Dam Area-Petersburg City-\$150,000
4. Downtown Greens Inc.-Downtown Greens Land Expansion Project-Fredericksburg City-\$150,000
5. James City County Dept of Parks & Recreation-Grove Community Park-James City County-\$109,400
6. Science Museum of Virginia-The Green at the Science Museum of Virginia-Richmond City-\$100,000
7. Town of Bridgewater-Riverwalk, Phase III-Rockingham County-\$55,000
8. Town of Fincastle-Big Spring Park; An Historical Revival-Botetourt County-\$57,000
9. Town of Glade Spring-Glade Spring - Saltville Trail Extension -Washington County-\$100,000
10. Town of Independence-North Independence Park-Grayson County-\$65,000

GO FUND

Motion made by Sissy Crowther to approve projects and funding totaling \$399,457 as listed below; motion seconded by Viola Baskerville and passed unanimously.

1. Africulture-Taste of Africa-Orange County-\$24,400
2. Bennett's Village-Bennett's Village Treehouse at Pen Park-Charlottesville City-\$25,000
3. Boys & Girls Club of the Northern Neck -BGCNN Outdoor Education and Public Recreation Space-Lancaster County-\$25,000
4. Craig County Recreation and Conservation Association, Inc. -Craig County Field of Dreams-Craig County-\$22,932
5. Dan River Basin Association-Historical Downtown Connection to Public Park-Henry County-\$25,000
6. Department of Conservation and Recreation-Open Spaces, Open Doors, Open Minds-Fairfax County-\$15,000
7. East Coast Greenway Alliance-Advancing the ECG by Connecting Great Dismal Swamp Trail-Chesapeake City-\$20,000
8. Enrichmond Foundation, Tree Lab Program-Trees for Community Health at Battery Park-Richmond City-\$11,625
9. Essex County Museum & Historical Society-Essex Museum Outdoor Courtyard Project-Essex County- \$25,000
10. Friends of the Lower Appomattox River-Effective Use of Volunteer Resources for Invasive Plant Removal-Chesterfield County - \$7,500
11. Little Cities Foundation-Madison Heights Dog Park - Amherst County - \$25,000
12. Manchester Middle School-Lion's Community Cove - Chesterfield County - \$8,000
13. Pulaski County High School -Sensory Trail - Pulaski County - \$25,000
14. Renew Richmond-Farmstrong Community Farm - Henrico County - \$25,000
15. Richard Bland College-Richard Bland College Go Outdoors - Dinwiddie County - \$15,000
16. SCAN - Scottsville's Center for the Arts and the Natural Environment-SCAN Land-Albemarle County-\$25,000
17. SCION-Select Outdoor Storehouse (SOS) - Essex County - \$25,000
18. Town of Montross-Montross Downtown Park-Westmoreland County - \$25,000
19. Woodville Rosenwald School Foundation - Woodville School Greenspace Project-Gloucester County-\$25,000

New Business/Comments

There was no new business or comments offered.

Closed Session for discussion as provided for in the Code of Virginia §2.2-3711(A)(7)

Bobbie Cabibbo read, and Tom Slater moved the following motion:

Madame Chair, I move that the Board go into a closed meeting pursuant to Section 2.2-3711.A.7 for: consultation with legal counsel and briefings by staff members pertaining to actual or probable litigation, where such consultation or briefing in open meeting would adversely affect the negotiation or litigating posture of the public body, and consultation with legal counsel regarding specific legal matters requiring the provision of legal advice by such counsel:

- Consultation with legal counsel and briefings by staff members pertaining to litigation involving Projects 3855
- Jackson River Farm, LLC v Virginia Outdoors Foundation

This closed meeting will be attended only by members of the Board. However, pursuant to Section 2.2- 3712 (F), the Board requests the VOF's Attorney General Counsel, the Executive Director, the Deputy Directors, and the Executive Assistant, as it believes their presence will reasonably aid the committee in its consideration of topics that are the subject of the meeting.

Motion seconded by Viola Baskerville and passed unanimously.

DRAFT

At the end of the closed meeting Bobbie Cabibbo called the following certification:

WHEREAS, The Board of Trustees conducted a closed meeting on this date pursuant to an affirmative recorded vote and in accordance with the provisions of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act; and WHEREAS, Section 2.2-3712.D of the Code requires a certification by this Board that such closed meeting was conducted in conformity with Virginia law;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board hereby certifies that, to the best of each member's knowledge, only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements by Virginia law were discussed in the closed meeting to which this certification resolution applies, and only such public business matters as were identified in the motion convening the closed meeting were heard, discussed, or considered by the Board.

Ali Afonja so certified, Viola Baskerville so certified, Eleanor Brown so certified, Tom Slater so certified, Sissy Crowther so certified and

Eleanor presented the new chair, Sissy Crowther with a gavel and the meeting adjourned.

RESOLUTION

**VIRGINIA OUTDOORS FOUNDATION (VOF) BOARD OF TRUSTEES
RESOLUTION TO SET VOF MEETING DATES FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2022**

WHEREAS, The Virginia Outdoors Foundation (VOF) Board of Trustees typically meets several times a year to consider easement proposals and matters of land conservation policy;

WHEREAS, as there may be compelling reasons to adjust the schedule which may be done at the discretion of the Chair in consultation with the trustees; now therefore be it

RESOLVED by the Virginia Outdoors Foundation Board of Trustees, this 8th day of November 2021, That the following dates are hereby adopted for VOF Board of Trustee meetings, in the calendar year 2022.

Meeting	Date
Board of Trustees	Thursday, March 24, 2022
Finance, Audit and Compliance Committee	Thursday, March 24, 2022
Board of Trustees	Thursday, June 30, 2022
Board of Trustees	Thursday, September 8, 2022
Board of Trustees	Thursday, November 3, 2022

Adopted by a vote of 5 for and 0 against

ATTEST: Brett C. Glymph, Executive Director