

**Virginia Board of Conservation and Recreation
Scenic Resources Subcommittee
Thursday, September 19, 2019
Richmond, Virginia**

SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Patricia A. Jackson, Subcommittee Chair

SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS NOT PRESENT

Danielle Heisler

Dexter Hurt

Esther Nizer

DCR STAFF PRESENT

Tom Smith, Deputy Director of Operations

Rochelle Altholz, Deputy Director of Administration and Finance

Isaac Sarver, Deputy Director for Boards and Constituent Services

Lynn Crump, Scenic Resources Coordinator

Michael Fletcher, Board and Constituent Services Liaison

Julie Buchanan, Senior Public Relations and Marketing Specialist

CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Jackson called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

As there was no quorum present, no official actions could be taken.

Ms. Crump reviewed the items of discussion and Ms. Jackson agreed to take certain items forward to the Board meeting on October 7, 2019.

The following items were discussed:

- Ms. Crump will forward link with article regarding the importance of scenery and recreational activity.
- Regional meetings for the Virginia Outdoors Plan will begin in October. The list of meetings will be provided to Board members who will be encouraged to attend.
- The Scenic Rivers program has traditionally required five miles for a segment to be designated. Ms. Crump would like the Board to consider shorter distances for segments that connect to existing designated rivers.
- There have been ten requests for studies for scenic river designation. Three studies have been completed. Two additional studies are awaiting action by the localities.
- Upcoming river evaluations:
 - September 27 – James River in Scottsville
 - October 1 – Grays Creek in Surry
 - October 18 – South River in Waynesboro

- Scenic Virginia and Virginia Tech have been developing protocols for assessment of viewsheds to create a statewide Register of scenic areas. Ms. Crump would like the committee to participate in the review exercise. She will send the form and materials to the subcommittee and request that they return the form by September 30th. The results will be discussed at the Board meeting.
- Scenic Rivers 50th Anniversary
 - The Falls of the James, Goose Creek, and Catoctin Scenic River Advisory Committees have sent out letters requesting support for the Anniversary. Twenty-eight individuals have responded as of this date.
 - Ms. Crump and Ms. Buchanan are working on a toolbox for volunteers who wish to participate.
 - The tentative kickoff date for the Richmond event is April 22.
- The River Management Society conference will be held in Richmond in May 2020 at VCU. The Friends of the Rivers of Virginia are participating. There may be the opportunity for additional discussion of the Scenic Rivers Program.

Ms. Jackson will include the following the Subcommittee report to the Board.

- A request for the Board to support designations of river segments less than five miles where deemed appropriate and where segments connect to existing designated rivers.
- Discussion of adding non-Board members to the membership of the subcommittee. There should be no more than five Board members on the subcommittee and no more than three non-Board members.
- Discussion of the scenic viewshed evaluation.
- Discussion of the April 22, 2020 kickoff for the 50th Anniversary.
- A request to the Governor to designate June 2020 as Scenic Rivers Month. This was last done in 2002 by Governor Warner.
- An update on the River Management Society conference.

The meeting adjourned at 2:00 p.m.