

EDUCATION, PLANNING AND OUTREACH MEETING MINUTES
4016 WEST BROAD STREET
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA
MAY 8, 2007, 3:30PM

Present: Sherry Crumley, Madam Chair, John Montgomery, Board Chair, C. Marshall Davison, Jimmy Hazel; **Absent:** Ward Burton; **Director:** J. Carlton Courter, III; **Senior Staff:** Gary Martel, David Whitehurst, Colonel Mike Bise, Ray Davis, Bob Duncan and Charlie Sledd.

Approval of Minutes: The minutes of the March 12, 2007 meeting have been made available to the Committee Members and posted on the Agency's web site. **Jimmy Hazel made the motion to approve the minutes as submitted and seconded by C. Marshall Davison. Ayes: Sherry Crumley, Jimmy Hazel and C. Marshall Davison.**

Introduction of New Employee: Mr. David Whitehurst introduced Ms. Gweneth Dean. Ms. Dean will be the Assistant Director, Wildlife Diversity, Information and Education Division.

Review and Update to the Board Governance Manual: The staff presented draft language to amend Section B – Acquisition (Pages 4-5) of the Board Governance Manual. The following language regarding SB 882 will be added on page 5 following the first paragraph and before Section C: *Pursuant to Chapter 906 of the 2007 Virginia Acts of Assembly, the Board shall act in accordance with the policy of the Commonwealth that there shall be no net loss of those public lands managed by the Department that are available for hunting in Virginia.*

Jimmy Hazel made the motion to recommend the amendment to the Governance Manual for review at the June Board Meeting with a vote on the amendment by the Board at the July Meeting. Motion seconded by C. Marshall Davison. Ayes: Jimmy Hazel, C. Marshall Davison and Sherry Crumley.

Apprentice Hunter License Program: Ms. Crumley introduced Mr. Steve Gray, former Chief of Wildlife for the Ohio Department of Natural Resources. Mr. Gray gave a brief presentation on the Apprentice Hunter License Program in Ohio. Ms. Crumley thanked Mr. Gray for his presentation. After a brief discussion, the Committee requested the staff to prepare a presentation for an Apprentice Hunter License Program for Virginia at the next meeting.

Hunter Recruitment Study Application: The staff presented the grant application for the Hunting Heritage Partnership Program 2007, National Shooting Sports Foundation. The application outlines an approach to increasing hunting license sales in Virginia, particularly with lapsed license buyers, through the implementation of an integrated marketing campaign. The staff will provide an update at the next meeting.

Presentation: Robin Clark, Virginia Coordinator, NWTF Wheelin Sportsman. Mr. Clark gave a brief overview of the NWTF Wheelin Sportsman Program. This program works with persons who have disabilities. He recommended DGIF create a position such as a disabilities services coordinator that would coordinate activities with other organizations and state agencies for outdoor activities, information services and training, etc. This position could also work towards forming partnerships with private sector organizations and businesses. Should this position be created, Virginia would be the first state to have such a position. Additionally, the position could also assist with efforts being made under the Governor's Executive Order 19. Staff indicated that a meeting had been held recently with the Department of Veterans Services (DVS) to provide information about agency programs that would assist DVS as they develop their plan for E. O. 19. Staff will provide the Committee a status report on the DVS plans as we hear something back from them. Ms. Crumley thanked Mr. Clark for his remarks.

Landowner Permitting: Ms. Crumley stated that currently there was no process to track persons hunting on their land who are not required to purchase a license. The Committee requested staff to provide a report at the next Committee meeting on what the process might be for the Agency to estimate the number of persons hunting on their own property and therefore exempt from the license requirements.

2008 General Assembly: The staff recommended to the Committee that work needs to begin on possible legislation for the 2008 General Assembly. The Committee asked the staff to prepare a status report for the next meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:23pm. The next meeting date to be announced at a later time.

Respectfully submitted,

Beth B. Drewery
Board Secretary