

Minutes BGES July, 7 2018 Historic Onancock School

Our Summer BGES meeting opened with the President, George Brown, welcoming the large gathering of members.

Carol Zuccarino summarized the Minutes from the last meeting of June 5, at the BIC. Philip Harris, Treasurer, gave a Treasurer's report noting we had the total of \$1,129.62 in the treasury.

Old Business:

Reminder that the Eastern Apiary Society is having the annual meeting this August 13-17 at the Hampton Convention Center. Look on line for speakers and information.

September 8, Saturday at 11:30 is the BGES picnic at HOS. Leilani will coordinate the Activities and will be sending a flyer out next month so we can have an idea of how many folks will be attending.

New Business:

George told us about the work Matt Cormons is doing trying to get V-DOT to respect the grasses and wild flowers growing along road side areas. There is a state wide program in place and we are encouraged to look deeper into how we can get the ESVA connected to this important ecological plan.

Jim Crunk reported that he has contacted a speaker from Virginia Tech for next year's program.

Then George presented our Speaker, Ric Reichard, the President of the Master Naturalists of the ESVA. Mr. Reichard lives in Chincoteague near our BGES member Bettina Dembeck. He provided us with a wealth of interesting information. To begin with there are 150 active members of the MN on the Shore. The organization has 26 chapters in the State of Virginia. Our chapter started 12 years ago. Many state agencies sponsor the Program. Each Year MN offers a 10 week basic training with classroom and outside activities. Upon successful completion, an additional 8 hours of advanced training are required and 400 hours of volunteer service approved by the Board.

The Eastern Shore Natural Area Preserves are: Wreck Island, Mutton Hunk Fen, Savage Neck Dunes, Parker's Marsh, Pickett's Harbor, Cape Charles Coastal Habitat, Magothy Bay, Parramore Island.

The MN contribute by providing education, outreach and service dedicated to the beneficial management of the natural resources .within the ES communities.

More Information is available on line at

masternaturalistesva.com

We had a lively question and answer session and then our group continued to chat while partaking in yummy refreshments.