

**Meeting Minutes for Transylvania County Natural Resource Council
Regular Meeting**

October 11, 2019

Welcome

The Presentation started at approximately 9:05 by David Whitmire; the meeting was called to order at 11:00 a.m. by David Whitmire

Roll Call:

Neal Wilcox
Jennifer Kafsky
Fred Weed
Kent Wilcox
Davis Whitfield-Cargile
Jeff Parker
David Whitmire
Bart Renner
Kate Hayes
Samantha Trueman

In addition, six members of the public were present.

Speaker Series:

Program consisted of a presentation by Tom Tribble, President of the Elisha Mitchell Audubon Society: *Birds and Climate Change*.

Approval of agenda:

Unanimous

Approval of minutes from September 13, 2019

Amendment to add Jeff Parker to Roll Call and correct the spelling of Jeff Parker's name in Public Land Manager Updates

Future Programs :

November 15th 2019- (10 a.m.- 12 p.m.)* David Brown, U.S.A. Corps of Engineers, Regulatory Specialist/ Geologist, "*U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Regulatory Program- Permitting Authority and Jurisdictional Areas*" and Terry Fox, Risk Management Specialist, "*Foodplain Management Regulations: From a Ground Level Perspective.*" (Mark)

December 13th 2019- Mitch Woodward, NCSU, Storm Water Management

January 10th 2020- Asheville Greenworks, Plastic Reduction Task Force

February 14th 2020- River Keepers, “What do they do?” (Jennifer Kafsky)

March 13th 2020- (Tentative) Kudzu and Other Invasives (David Whitmire, Torry Negart, and other)

April 10th 2020- (Tentative) Forest Plan Revision (Dave Casey and David Whitmire)

May 8th 2020- Maria Wise, Director at Mills River Partnership: Monetizing Riparian Zones (Foster Creek Project at Living Web Farm) (Meet at Cooperative Extension, 9:30 am. Carpool or use our transport)

September 11th 2020- (Tentative) Cedar Mountain Small Area Plan Treatment of Natural Resources (Bart & Kate)

New Business:

- Next meeting will start at 10 am and go until 12 pm
- Accepting program suggestions for October 2020
- Talk of replacement for Lee Mccmin (David Whitmire we see you!)
- Try to start advertising presentations to the public more in advance- possibly change the location to something more popular or accessible

Old Business:

Purchasing an overlay for County GIS showing the location of significant natural areas

Updates for subcommittees:

Natural Heritage Program- Have someone explain complexity of mapping resources/ Possibly a college intern

Update from public land managers:

Jason Guidry, DuPont State Park: Golden Warbler population is expanding. Land Revision- taking longer than initially thought, working on wrapping up the EIS. Met with State Forest Service in Marion indices are similar to 2016. Forest Festival day did well ~1,000 visitors. River ranger program removing many dams and collecting trash. Trails reroute and stream restoration is finished. Trails projects receiving a lot of funding. Additional funding is coming and they are now in the initial design phase for the Cradle. Red spruce restoration and stream restoration in Yellowstone Prong. Trail maintenance through winter on Graveyard fields.

Neal Wilcox, Gorges State Park: Same as last month

Michael Cheek- Headwaters State Park- Working on prescribed burns

Margot, Hemlock Restoration Initiative- New grant from the North Carolina Forest Service has allowed more workshops for the public. Latest one in Transylvania County was in Camp Carolina, the next one is in Buncombe County (volunteers needed). Will be working with Pisgah forest in November-December near Bent Creek to plant new research plots.

Torry, Conserving Carolina- Riverstewards Program now part of Conserving Carolina. November 2nd screening of Hidden Rivers- all proceeds go towards river stewards to fund river clean ups.

Jeff Parker, Soil & Water Conservation- Just finished more than 300 feet of stream restoration near Everett Rd.

Bart Renner, County Director- Support your local farmers!

Kent Wilcox made a motion to adjourn, Davis Whitfield-Cargile, approved unanimously.

Meeting was adjourned at 10:59 A.M.