

2019 Virginia Chapter AFS Annual Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, February 20, 2019
The Hyatt Place, Blacksburg, VA

Meeting was called to order circa 4:05pm by President, Johnathan Harris.

Determination of a Quorum: Secretary Kirk Smith asked all present to raise their hand if they were members of AFS. More than 10 members raised their hands.

Call to Order: President Johnathan Harris called the meeting to order.

Secretary's Report: Kirk informed the group last year's business minutes were posted on the chapter's website and had been approved by EXCOM. He then asked if there were any questions.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Karen Horodysky briefly discussed the state of the chapter's finances and stated copies of the budget can be obtained through Karen by request. Total balance in all chapter accounts as of 2-7-19: \$71,083.61 The Treasurer's report was approved.

Southern Division 2021 Update and Assignments: Meeting scheduled for February 17 – 21, 2021 at Crystal City Gateway Marriot in Arlington, VA. Many Chair positions will need to be filled in order for the Division meeting to run smoothly. Chair positions to date:

Meeting Chair: Open

Program Chair: Aaron Bunch

Local Arrangement Chair: John Odenkirk

Student Affairs Chair: Corbin Hilling

Finance Committee Chair: Karen Horodysky

Fundraising Chair: Open

Committee Reports and Committee Signup:

Arrangements: Don Orth acknowledged people and groups active in hosting the annual meeting.

Program: Brad Fink (President-Elect) acknowledged people involved in developing the program for the annual meeting.

Fund Raising: Robbie Willis updated the group on fundraising activities and raffle.

Environmental Affairs and Advocacy: Johnathan Harris announced there was a vacancy for this critical position.

Nominating: Steve Reeser informed the group of the President-elect results announcing Vic Dicenzo as the winner.

Continued Education: Jeff Williams addressed the group on upcoming workshops.

Communication: Kirk Smith announced last newsletter produced by Dan Goetz in December. Kirk set a goal of at least two newsletters per year moving forward. Johnathan Harris thanked Maddie Johnson for all her work maintaining the chapter's website.

Membership: Karen Horodysky announced membership at 77 and attendance at the 2019 meeting at 152 attendees (includes VA Tech students, WV members and high school students in addition to the VA AFS membership). There was a question from the audience asking whether profits from the meeting would be shared with the WV chapter. Johnathan Harris stated the EXCOM would discuss the matter at a later time.

Outreach: Don Orth and Paul Bugas presented a preview of the upcoming field guide of VA fishes. Johnathan Harris announced a low inventory of Fishes of VA posters.

Presentation of Awards: (by Mike Isel and Johnathan Harris)

Robert E. Jenkins Undergraduate Scholarship Award: **Stephen Stang**, Virginia Tech

Robert D. Ross Graduate Scholarship Award: **Sheila Harris**, Virginia Tech

Eugene W. Surber Professional Fisheries Scientist Award: **Dan Wilson** VDGIF

Natural Resource Conservationist Award (announced by Bill Kittrell): **Dr. and Mrs. Sacknoff**

VA Junior Fisheries Biologist Scholarship: **P. J. LeBel** from Tidewater, VA and student at Hampton Sydney.

Old Business:

Johnathan Harris announced and projected updates in chapter by-laws and procedural manual. Seth Coffman suggested one edit.

The updates and suggested edit were voted on and approved by attending members. Changes in the by-laws will go to the parent Society's management Committee for approval.

Installation of New Officers: Vic Diczio was seated as President Elect and Mike Isel relieved from Past President duties.

Recognition of Outgoing Officers: Brad Fink presented Johnathan Harris with a plaque for serving as President.

New Business: A discussion on having Washington and Lee (Lexington, VA) host the 2020 VA AFS annual meeting was put to the floor. Robert Humston will investigate the potential for utilizing facilities at the University. There were no objections from the floor.

Adjourn: Meeting adjourned at 5:21pm.