

## **North Carolina Fossil Club**

Board Meeting Minutes submitted by Terry Denny

*January 21, 2018*

*Present:* Diane Willis, Charlie Causey, Julie Niederkorn, Richard Chandler, Terry Denny, Trish Kohler, Joanne Panek-Dubrock, David Sanderson, Gary Lewis, Linda McCall, Todd Power, Joy Herrington, Mary Boulton (via phone)

*Next meeting:* Not yet designated

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Minutes were read by Terry Denny for 11-19-2017 board meeting. No corrections were made, however a mention by Todd Power was that Smithsonian sent a Thank You note for the gift of the books.

Diane began the meeting with continued discussion on the positions of Parliamentarian and Outreach Coordinator which were tabled at the last board meeting.

**Parliamentarian** Designated board position or not? If not does that person come to all business and board meetings? They would not have voting rights if not a board member. Some other questions were raised that if the Parliamentarian became a board position, we would have to change the bylaws of the club. Would we take away another board position to keep the number the same or add a new board position? Would we get the person in place and then work on changing the bylaws, as this takes some time? Some positions, like membership chair and newsletter editor vote; but some positions like webmaster, quarry liaison, hospitality chair, and book sales chair do not (unless the person doing those jobs is already a board member).

After examining the rules and bylaws again, it was mentioned it would be a problem replacing or adding an additional board member, but Parliamentarian could become a board position. The bylaws specifically state the number of voting members on the board.

The need for a parliamentarian is to ensure we are following the bylaws, and to help determine whether we need to revise the bylaws to reflect practices of the board. It could also become a committee, if we wanted it to be. Even making the position of Parliamentarian a board position would require a modification of the bylaws.

Sec 3 article 5 in Rules of Procedure mentions "other positions as needed" but section 2 of the Bylaws outlines the Board of Directors positions. There is some confusion about what the Bylaws and Rules of Procedure say about these positions.

After further discussion, it was noted that the president can appoint committee chairs, which are not voting positions. It was unclear if the president or the board would appoint. Joy was asked if she would be willing to be Parliamentarian.

**\*Motion to appoint Joy Herrington as Parliamentarian as a non-voting member was made by Trish Kohler, seconded by Linda McCall. It was approved unanimously.** Joy accepted the position.

**Outreach Coordinator** Someone to collect outreach requests and assist in finding volunteers to fill the requests. Todd Power mentioned he had discussed taking on this position and is unable to volunteer at this time. A request was made for a volunteer. It was suggested that the Aurora Fossil Museum might take this on, but the majority was not in favor. Outreach requests come from various locations, and it would require someone that has done outreach and enjoys it, so that person would have a specific skill set, being aware of outreach situations and knowing club members well enough to match someone to the situation.

After further discussion about the details of this position, Julie Niederkorn was suggested, and Trish offered to help her if she were willing. Mike Bruff said part of the job of Outreach Coordinator would be to track numbers of attendees, have more follow up, and collect feedback from the events. Julie agreed to accept the position. Suggestions will be welcome on what information we should be tracking and what we need to keep account of going forward.

**\*Motion for Julie to be Outreach Coordinator was made by Trish Kohler, seconded by Richard Chandler, and approved unanimously.** Duties of this position will include:

1. Central point of contact for all outreach requests through the club's new Outreach@ncfossilclub.org email address and personal requests to officers.
2. Identify and keep list of members by region willing to do outreach.
3. Track outreach by members to include primary contact, number reached, location, who provided outreach, etc.
4. Respond to all requests for outreach and follow up with requestor.
5. Send outreach requests to membership to identify person/persons to fulfill such requests.

#### **Bylaws/Rules Committee**

Diane suggested there is a need for a committee to review Bylaws and Rules and make minor changes. Wording needs to be addressed to clarify and correct inconsistencies. One issue is how the club votes for officers and board members. They are elected by attendees at the November meeting, which can be a small number. A suggestion was it could be done online, to allow more members to vote and not just those present. Joy mentioned that nominations are opened at the meeting and officers are elected and take office at that meeting. It was suggested that proxy votes could be used, and this would

allow those not present to vote by proxy. It was also mentioned that a few members (5 or 7) do not have internet access and this would prevent them from voting online. Diane proposed we choose a committee of 3 people to review the Bylaws and Rules to address these issues. Gary Lewis, Linda McCall, and Joy Herrington were asked to be on this Bylaws/Rules Committee.

### **Field Trips Policies**

David Sanderson mentioned officers and board members used to get first choice on field trips because more time and effort is put in by these people. However, this could fill a trip and leave out everyone else. There was discussion about how should this be done in the future to make it fair, especially since quarries have changed their policies to limit mine visitors. There was no resolution at this time.

### **Other**

It was suggested that the club buy a microphone to make it easier to hear at meetings. There was no discussion at this time.

Other items were tabled due to time.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

At a later date, a vote was made online regarding design of a new NC Fossil Club decal to be given to all members. This was unanimously approved.

Another item discussed online was whether to include a membership list in *Janus*, or keep it strictly online, as members are added throughout the year and the list is available to members to print from the website. While many board members had no preference, several felt it would free up space in the *Janus* for more articles, and an online list would be sufficient and up-to-date. A survey was taken and the majority favored the online membership list (starting next year), rather than printing it every year in the spring.