



**Virginia Resource-Use Education Council**

P.O. Box 90778 Henrico, VA 23228

Founded 1952

***Draft Meeting Minutes, May 1, 2018 9:00AM***  
**Albermarle County Offices, Charlottesville, VA**

- I. Meeting Call to order:** 9:10 a.m. (Sarah Nuss)
- II. Welcome and Introductions**  
Special Guest:  
Ann Jennings, Deputy Secretary of Natural Resources
- III. Secretary's Report** (Candace Lutzow-Felling)  
Minutes from the Sept 14, 2017 meeting were reviewed  
Minutes approved as written
- IV. Treasurer's Report** (Ann Regn, Suzie Gilley)
- V. Virginia NCLI Coalition Report** (Bill Portlock)  
57 members at present  
Recent Coalition Activity:
  - Coalition, with VRUEC partners, continues to work with the VA Department of Education on revisions to the new Science Standards
  - Participated in the 2017 EE survey
  - Worked with the offices of the Secretaries of Natural Resources and Department of Education, 19 Coalition members signed a support letter for the EE Clearinghouse Grant submitted to the EPA
- VII. VAAE Update** (Page Hutchinson)  
Proposed dates & location for the next VAAE conference are: Oct 18/19 or 25/26, VA Crossings, Richmond
- VIII. State and Regional Efforts Updates**  
Chesapeake Bay Education Workgroup (Page Hutchinson)
  - Work with the ELIT tool
  - Shepherdstown MWEE ambassador
  - Mid-Atlantic Environmental Literacy StrategyVirginia Department of Education/Bay Agreement Work Plan (Anne Petersen)
  - Discussed VA Environmental Literacy 2017 report
  - The Environmental Literacy Indicator Tool (ELIT) - sent to division leads every 2 years, self reported data, needs were listed for rating
  - 63% prepared to present EE (40% reported to have established EE teachers)

- 4 Environmental Professional Development workshops this summer (Martinsville, Haymarket, Prince William, Charlottesville)
- Next steps - EPA grant for an open education resource/repository
- Science SOL- science skills and processes reorganization, emphasize concepts vs vocabulary, public comments June through Sept, October final review, 2 years of SOL crossroads, curriculum framework anticipated 2019

Synopsis of recent VRUEC efforts (Ann Regn)

- Priorities have been members complete BWET awards
- Support for DOE Environmental Science Course
- Support for the repository

## **IX. Planning Session - Moving Forward to Advance EE in Virginia ( Ann Regn)**

### **A. Council Development**

1. Update Website
2. Board/Council Handbook (timeline, council member responsibilities/share resources)
3. Fill in member holes
4. Set early dates for meetings
5. Hospitality chair
6. Serve as fiscal agent for grants
7. Communication plan (newsletter, sharing projects, regional and state updates)

### **B. Program Development**

1. Rally around a theme (missing audiences- policy makers/advocates, community/public)
2. Contribute to repository
  - a) VRUEC's purpose in re: community education? (past has focused on K-12 and teachers, many members are involved in comm. Education-does it have a place in this group? Proposal: Include community education)

### **C. MWEE**

1. Mutual Understanding (what it is, rivers and bay)
2. Relationship building (all parties involved)
3. Ambassador between 1 and 2
4. Know your audience
5. What language are we using (MWEE Guide)

### **D. Sustainable Schools**

1. Holistic approach
2. Elicit support
3. Facilitate collaborate
4. Who is missing? (VA Dept of Agriculture Consumer Services, Parks and Rec, Farm Bureau, Local and State Health Dept, PTO/PTA's)
  - a) Emphasis on outdoors just as important as inside for teaching (farm to school)

### **5. Opportunities**

- a) Education for parents, community stakeholders
- b) Reach out to PTO's
- c) Working team (formulate)
- d) Lack of money/resources

**6. VRUEC members**

- a) Contributes to educate and develop appropriate programs for different stakeholders

**7. What resources are needed**

- a) Money
- b) Staffing
- c) Lead agency?

**8. Possible Priorities under Environmental Literacy Coordination**

- a) Professional Development (VRUEC no funding source - offer short, one day Pro Bono PD by Council members?)
- b) Add to and help vet the new repository
- c) Coordinate with VAEE to meet with formal and non-formal educators in each of the VAEE regions once/year with each team to provide case studies/exemplars for a report and repository
- d) Be part of an EL team in each Superintendent region (1 formal/1 non-formal) (communicate EE opportunities specific to the region and serve as a conduit to other organizations)

X. LUNCH

**XI. NOAA Report** (Elise Trelegan)

Mini grants and Principal Academies reports

**XII. VRUEC Executive Committee Elections** (Suzie Gilley)

Following members nominated (and accepted):

- Chair - Anne Petersen, DOE
- Vice-Chair - Stephanie DeNicola, Culpeper SWCD
- Secretary - Christy Deatherage, VMNH
- Treasurer - Candace Lutzow-Felling, State Arboretum/UVA

**XIII. VRUEC Member 2018 Updates and Highlights** (VRUEC members)

- State Arboretum: Full time position open
- VIMS: Marine Science Day May 19th
- VA Master Naturalist: Annual Conference Sept 7-9, Fredericksburg
- VDOF: Forest Cover Type posters for members to take/lesson plans online

**XIV. Adjourn and Next meeting date:** September sometime

*Minutes recorded by Christy Deatherage, Secretary*

*Draft 10-1-18*

*Updated 10-2-18*