

UNMA General Meeting Minutes July 25,2024

Westminster Public Library

10:00 am - 12:00 pm

Minutes prepared by Kenny Brower

Attendance: 30

Carson Johnson called the meeting to order

1. Cindy Robinson Jewel Installing

Carson Johnson reminded members to have Jewels installed before the end of the meeting.

2. Approval of Minutes from March Meeting.

Minutes were unanimously approved

3. Visit to Chestnut Tree Farm after today's meeting

(459 Brown Farm Rd, Seneca, SC 29678)

Carson Johnson invited members to attend the outing immediately after the meeting.

Reports

1. Cindy Hekking 1st VP Programs

Jordan Gray of the Turtle Alliance to present in September. Cindy informed the members that new Master Naturalist patches were available for purchase at \$6 each.

2. Bill Hollingsworth- Bald Rock

Plans continue to progress with the Friends of Bald Rock's efforts at the BRHP. The following was recently communicated to me by Susan Jordan:

1) Graffiti mitigation will be re-evaluated by DNR in September 2024. Until then, litter pickups are scheduled for 13 August from 0830-1000.

2) Austen Attaway, DNR's BRHP Manager, invites UMNA members to propose non-invasive native plants/trees to plant behind the new guard rails planned for the Preserves entrance. These plants need to eventually fill the space left after removal of the parking lot asphalt and the grassy area all the way to the stream. Over time the intent is that the plants will obscure views of the rock from the road. There will no longer be any place to park along HWY 276 (Geer Highway). Fortunately, none of the flora currently at the BRHP are invasive

3. Cam/Tony McDade- GO Outing for August
UMNA Go! August 15 from 9:30 am until 2:30 pm

Our next excursion will be to beautiful Lake Jocassee for a four-hour tour on August 15. We will meet at Devil's Fork State Park at 9:30 at the dock to board pontoons provided by Jocassee Lake Tours. We will enjoy seeing waterfalls that flow into the lake, a variety of plant communities, and may encounter wildlife along the way. There will be opportunities to jump into the cool lake and swim for a bit. Be sure to bring plenty of water, a towel if you plan to swim, binoculars, and lunch to enjoy in a shady spot. This is an opportunity you won't want to miss! Please contact Tony at tonymcdade1@gmail.com for more information. The deadline to sign up is August 8. The cost per person will depend on the number of folks who participate. UMNA is contributing to this adventure.

4. Laura Godfry- Newsletter

Laura invited members to contribute articles to the August newsletter.

5. Cindy Robinson- Reporting Volunteer Hours

Cindy reported that there has been an increase in reporting activity and encouraged members to continue report hours on the Clemson Volunteer Website.

6. Seth Harrison - Membership- reminded members to check their status and if they are not active, and if they would like to become active, they can pay dues on the website.

163 Paid Active members

6 Honorary members

71 unpaid non active members

240 Total

7. Manella Calhoun-Social Media. Calendar Website Password (UMNAis#1)

Please encourage our members to send date specific volunteer opportunities and advanced training events to upstatemasternaturalistassoc@gmail.com and I will add them to the calendar.

8. Polly Powell-Grants

CNP-Mastering Migration -	\$1000
Paris Mountain State Park Friend	\$1,250 for
10 wood duck Boxes	
GCGC-Kilgore/Lewis House	\$1,200 for signs
to be used for tree ID around the K/L House	
JCWC	\$2,000

Total
9. Dave Redden - Treasurer

\$5,450

UMNA Treasurer's Report – July, 2024 Meeting

Beginning Balance 4/30/24	\$17,340.59
Expenses	
Admin – PayPal Fees - May	\$1.98
Admin – PayPal Fees - June	\$1.12
Misc (John Garton Memorial)	\$181.00
Income	
Dues - May	\$50.00
Dues - June	\$20.00
Donations	\$5.00
Ending Balance 4/30/24	\$17,231.49

Budget Status as of June 30, 2024

Presentation

Restoration of the American Chestnut Tree presented by the American Chestnut Foundation.
Carson Johnson adjourned the meeting