

Monthly Member Meet Notes

May 18, 2021 (7:00-8:15pm)

Board present: Chris Puttock (Pres), Sujata Roy (VP/Pres Elect), Lauren Hubbard (Treas), and Jil Swearingen (Sec).

Attendees (non-board): 14

1. "Back to the Future"
 - a. A poll was conducted of participants.
 - i. Question: "When would you be comfortable returning to in-person meetings?"
 - ii. Response: **June 4 (6)**; July (4); Aug (0); and Sep (3).
 - b. There was discussion about wearing masks inside to be cautious.
2. Field trips.
 - a. We are still looking for a coordinator.
 - b. VP Sujata asked attendees about their comfort level with being on a field trip when close quarters are unavoidable. Comments were that attendees would like to be free to wear a mask, society should encourage people to feel free to wear a mask; there is concern about immunocompromised individuals who, even after being vaccinated, may not have antibodies to protect them.
 - c. Number of participants – how many would be a good limit? No specific number was decided but all agreed that smaller number of participants (e.g., under 10) would be best. Attendees expressed that they would still want to practice social distancing. Wearing masks can make it hard to hear field trip leaders. Solutions can include passing information from person to person or field trip leaders can remove their mask while addressing the group.
3. Website. A redo is being investigated. We need help. If you are interested in volunteering, please let us know. Karyn Molines, current MNPS webmaster, would appreciate people letting her know of any issues or problems they find on the website (e.g., broken links). For volunteering and website issues, please send an e-mail to: info@mdflora.org
4. Chris is looking for volunteers for Chesapeake Natives Nursery. Helpers get discounts on plants. Email him at volunteer@chesapeakenatives.org
5. Chris gave a presentation on Coville's phacelia (*Phacelia covillei*).