

Friends of Grayson Highlands State Park
Minutes of Meeting May 15, 2017

Present: Harvey & Moe Thompson, Tommie Kennedy, Shirley Sloan-Babb, JoAnn Severt, Rhonda Walls, Evelyn Halsey & Andrew Stern

Minutes approved

Treasurer's Report: Balance as of May 15, 2017 \$4,764.90

Total Credits	\$ 100.00
Total Debits	\$1,237.50
Balance March 20, 2017	\$5,902.40

Treasurer Report Presented & Approved

Old Business

- Moe still needs to check with John Canfield about purchase of a separate battery backup for the computer that keeps the Weather Station running.
- Roy's retirement party was held March 29th. The FOGH purchased a bench in honor of Roy's 42 years of service. The park has seven benches that have been donated through various contributors.
- YCC will be at Grayson Highlands July 23rd through August 12th. The Friends will provide a Welcome Dinner. Details to be decided at a later date.
- Moe renewed the Microsoft Office for the FOGH seasonal interpreter computer. It is a one year license and will expire April 1, 2018
- The Blue Ridge Relay will be held September 8, 2017. The Friends of Grayson have been asked to assist with the event.
- Hunt: Muzzle loader November 6 & 7, 2017 & Firearms November 20 & 21, 2017.

Park Manager Time

The Run Bum race was held Saturday and Sunday, May 6^h & 7th. The weather included snow and cold. The Saturday race was a marathon and the Sunday race a half marathon. There were 385 participants. The park will have 24 Seasonal staff. There have been changes in recording time worked through a new system referred to as "TAL." This requires weekly submissions of email with 3 emails per employee to complete the process. The 2018 budget deadline is in two weeks. Matt Claybrook will be leaving in July to transfer to Twin Lakes State Park. The interpreters have been attending training and will be starting up full time this weekend. Andrew and Liz Stern had a new baby boy, Nolan. The month of June camping is already sold out. The project for the YCC will be to install designated pads and poles in two areas of the picnic area. Available funds of \$2000 limit the work to two areas. The Yurts are currently planned to be built this Fall with Andrew & Joe as organizers. Sites 55 and 57 will be where the Yurts will be placed. A bear has been taking trash from the dumpsters in the Hickory Ridge Campground. The dumpsters are "bear proof" however the sliding doors must be kept locked. A carabiner and rope system has been set up on all dumpsters to allow campers to deposit their garbage. Compliance with camper's use of this system is necessary for success in this endeavor.

New Business

- Purchase of solar lights for the flagpoles at the office and visitor center were approved with approximate cost of \$300 plus shipping.
- Employee appreciation lunch of is tentatively scheduled for July 14th. Invitation flyers need to be posted.
- JR Ranger (ages 5-7) July 3-5 & July 10-12; (ages 8-10) June 26-28 & July 17-19 and Adventure Ranger (ages 11 & up) July 24-27 and July 31-Aug 3.
- The VAFP will hold their next District 6 meeting the first Saturday in April each year.
- District 6 annual kick off will be held at Grayson Highlands on May 2, 2018. Office managers of all parks comprise the planning committee. Theresa is the chair this year.

Next meeting will be held June 19, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. at the Wayne C Stage.