Friends of Grayson Highlands State Park
Minutes of Meeting July 16, 2012

Present: Rhonda Walls, Harvey & Moe Thompson, Donna & Doug Niemi, Kevin Kelley, Aaron Parlier, and Shirley Sloan-Babb

Minutes of last meeting Approved

Treasurer's Report: Balance as of July 16, 2012 $7694.20

Credits			**Debits**	
Memberships	310.00	Mt. Rogers Outfitters (Adventure Rangers)	358.63	
Donations	30.00	WalMart (Adventure Rangers)	209.82	
		Lowe's, WalMart (Wildflower gardens)		89.47
		US Postal Service (Postage)	45.00	
		WalMart (Junior Rangers)	30.88	
Total Credits	**$340.00**	**Total Debits**	**$733.80**	

Treasurer's Report Approved

Old Business

- Annette emailed Moe regarding the equestrian grant and the program FOGH might provide. She thinks an educational program about horse trail etiquette and safety for community involvement a great idea. She is doing some research on possible programs & hopes to get in touch with Marcia next week so they can start developing the application.
- A new faucet has been installed at the wildflower garden near the office and one at the visitor center.
- As of today, Virginia Association For Parks (VAFP) has provided an application for purchasing memorial benches or making other large donations. Although the application form is now available, there has been no direction to the Park Managers as to how they are to implement the process (order the materials per individual park, bulk order through VAFP, etc.). Rhonda Walls is still interested in donating the funds for a memorial bench at Grayson when the details are determined.
- $2,000 of the FOGH balance is earmarked for purchases for the resource room in the Visitor Center. Shirley and Aaron have found a $100 software program (& $10 backup) to use for an educational video. Purchase of a flat screen TV, wall mount, and surge protector will also come from these funds.
- Staff and volunteer appreciation lunch will be held Wednesday, August 1st, from 11:30 -12:30 in the picnic area, shelter #1. Rhonda continues to check into costs of purchasing BBQ from various suppliers. Lunch will include BBQ, buns, slaw, chips and lemonade. Members will supply desserts. Approximately 30 persons will be served.
- Moe purchased the Kaye Henderson engraving from D&D Trophies recognizing her as the artist of the mural paintings in the Visitor Center. Rhonda will present this to her during the staff volunteer appreciation luncheon. It will be placed on the wall by the mural.
- All FOGH volunteers are asked to please be sure to post volunteer hours.
- FOGH will reimburse Aaron Parlier for the bouldering brushes he purchased as a fund raiser for the Grayson Highlands State Park bouldering project. He hopes his bouldering book will be available by the end of the year.

Park Manager Time

- Water table is holding for now.
- New frost free water spigots have been installed at the visitor center & park office.
- Junior Ranger program was held this past Monday - Wednesday with 14 participants. A recognition program was held on Wednesday. Activities included: survival shelter construction, making hiking sticks, team building activities, arts and crafts, and netting of Wilson Creek aquatic animals.
- Several phone lines have been impacted by the recent severe thunderstorms.
- Demonstrations at the visitor center have been well received. Demonstrations include basket weaving, fiddle building, pottery making, and spinning.
- Merchandise for resale is at 36% for the yearly projected total with operations amounting to only 5.5 months of the year. Park staff has sold 139 consignment items in the amount of $2,376 since mid May 2012.
- A thunderstorm affected the PC at the country store & the modem is now non-operational.
- Water reserves are holding in the Hickory Ridge Campground.

New Business

- Donna & Doug completed application for the state tax exempt certificate.
- The 990 Tax Form has been completed.
- Harvey & Rhonda have completed the annual friends report and sent to Gaston Rouse.
- Discussion about changing the Outstanding Contributors plaque nameplates was considered.
- A request to produce more copies of the booklet 'The Trails of Grayson Highlands State Park' was presented. Moe will check with printing vendors about cost. FOGH would like to continue with recycled paper for this
- Moe will check about FOGH information brochures update. Shirley has been photocopying the old ones using the park printer.

The next meeting is scheduled for August 20, 2012 7:00 p.m. at the park office