

Friends of Grayson Highlands State Park
Minutes of Meeting August 21, 2017

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

Minutes approved

Treasurer's Report: Balance as of August 21, 2017	\$ 6,854.10
Total Credits	\$ 340.00
Total Debits	\$ 1,180.37
Balance July 14, 2017	\$ 7,694.47

Treasurer Report Presented & Approved

Old Business

- The first battery backup has been placed at the weather station while the FOGH webcam computer is being repaired. John Canfield is assisting with removal of corrupt files and updating the Operating System (OS). Moe will arrange the purchase of a second batter backup for this computer.
- YCC male group has completed their 3-week work. The Western Field Operations Manager spoke at the graduation. Projects included: Deck staining; placing 2 pads for picnic tables and hammock hangers in the picnic area; refurbishing picnic tables and assistance with additional park needs. The group also participated in many of the interpretive programs offered at the park, including bouldering, canoeing and hiking to Mt Rogers.
- Solar lights for the flagpole at the office have been installed. The visitor center flagpole solar lights are awaiting placement.
- Notice of the approved Virginia State Tax Exempt certification has been received. It is good for 5 years. Thanks to Shirley for assisting with this process. Moe will send documentation to Food City for continued use with their store operations.
- Blue Ridge Relay will be held on Friday, September 8th. Moe, Rhonda, Joann & Evalyn will be volunteering for this. Moe will check with Ken to confirm his requested arrival time that morning (middle of the night).

Park Manager Time

Two water saver urinals have been installed in the Hickory Ridge Campground. Cost is \$400 each. There has been no more bear activity. Funds of \$5,000 for bear proof trash cans have been approved in order to continue to discourage bear turmoil within the park visitor areas. Staff has been kept busy with increased park visitation and activities. Yurt construction is moving along swiftly. Sites 57, 55, 53 & 51 will be closed off for additional Yurt construction. The park map is being revamped by adding facilities for easier guest understanding of locations. Saint Jude's will sponsor a fundraising horse ride on September 9th and the Alert Hash Music Festival will be held on September 2nd.

New Business

- October 15th is as a possible date for one more Barn Dance for the year. Music by Whitetop Mountain Band is being considered.
- FOGH approved payment of \$300 to John Canfield for his recent assistance and costs associated with troubleshooting the computer. This amount includes postage and Windows 7 upgrade. John has spent many hours trouble shooting and updating the FOGH computer.
- Possible projects and funding from FOGH were discussed. Items include: purchase of a new "OPEN" sign at the contact station; table coverings for the tables used for park Merchandise sales during the Wayne C and Fall Festivals; labels for tools and instruments at the Visitor Center; and instrument display case for the dulcimer at the Visitor Center.

Next meeting will be held September 18, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. at the Wayne C Henderson Stage