

**Friends of Grayson Highlands State Park  
Minutes of Meeting August 20, 2012**

Present: Rhonda Walls, Harvey & Moe Thompson, Donna & Doug Niemi, Dave Collett, Kevin Kelley, Marceia Holland, Shirley Sloan-Babb

**Minutes of last meeting** Approved

**Treasurer's Report:** Balance as of August 20, 2012 \$7017.20

<u>Credits</u>			<u>Debits</u>
Memberships	440.00	D&D Trophy (plaque recognizing	6.00
Donations	68.44	Kaye Henderson)	
T-Shirts sales	52.00	Treasure of VA (Adventure Ranger Scholarships)	400.00
		Treasurer of VA (SCC Registration)	25.00
		Misty Mountain (Bouldering Pad)	149.95
		WalMart, SWREG, Inc. (TV components,	
		software for VC Interpretive slideshow)	465.29
		Staples (Office Supplies)	49.65
		Fox Creek Store (Staff Appreciation picnic)	141.55
<b>Total Credits</b>	<b>\$560.44</b>	<b>Total Debits</b>	<b>\$1237.44</b>

Treasurer's Report Approved with Correction (Staff Appreciation picnic funds include WalMart, Hostess Bakery & Fox Creek Store total of \$141.55)

**Old Business**

- ◆ There has not been any further communication with Annette Bareford and Marceia regarding the equestrian grant and the program FOGH might provide.
- ◆ Details from the Virginia Association for Parks (VAFP) in regards to purchasing memorial benches are still being finalized. Rhonda Walls submitted her application for a memorial bench at Grayson. It may be that the whole effort for the donation project is placed on the individual parks.
- ◆ Staff and volunteer appreciation lunch went well. Rhonda, Kenny & Sue assisted with the lunch. Harvey said 26 attended the lunch and appreciated the effort. Everyone seemed to like the location of the picnic area.
- ◆ The Kaye Henderson engraving from D&D Trophies recognizing her as the artist of the mural paintings in the Visitor Center was presented during the staff luncheon. The plaque has been placed in the visitor center.
- The decision was made to not change the engravings of Outstanding Contributors plaque nameplates.
- Moe presented an estimate from A&B printing to produce more copies of the booklet 'The Trails of Grayson Highlands State Park.' The cost for 2000 books (90 cents each) will be \$1800 plus tax and the cost for 2500 books (78 cents each) will be \$1950 plus tax. The estimate is good for 30 days (ending September 05, 2012). The cost includes recycled paper and two colors (green & black). It was determined that photos need updating and the digital copy need editing. This project will be tabled until further preparation of the material is complete. We will then need to resubmit for another cost estimate. Including a map of the park and the FOGH mission & application for membership was suggested. Members agree this will be a good addition to the booklet.
- A minimal number of FOGH information brochures are available. Moe will update with current information (services/projects) and have 300 copies made.

**Park Manager Time**

- 1 Water tank in Hickory Ridge Campground is full today. The plan is to make hot water available before the labor day weekend.
- 1 The well at the office had to be replaced due to a lightning storm.
- 1 A third Dejavu and park phones have been damaged due to recent thunderstorms.

- 1 WSLs "In a Day's Drive" featured Grayson Highlands State Park in a 5 minute TV segment today at noon. Harvey spent 5 hours with the videographer and reporter in preparation for this 5 minute program.
- 1 There are 325 consignment items for sale in the visitor center. The park is looking for improvements with this. The profit to the park is 30%. This does provide a venue for the community to showcase quality crafts from the area.
- 2 There were 40 persons who attended the dog show and 11 dogs participated.
- 3 There are currently 40 craft vendors registered for the Fall Festival.
- 4 Heritage day had moderate attendance this year. Next year the park might try the Haw Orchard Decoration weekend for this event as it is more heavily attended.
- 5 There were 838 backpackers compared to 238 in July of last year.
- 6 There are still bear sightings in the park.
- 7 The VAFP annual fall meeting will be held at James River State Park September 12 – 15, 2012. FOGH members are encouraged to attend.

### **New Business**

- ◆ Moe will remove the website notice about low water volume in the Hickory Ridge campground.
- ◆ FOGH members are unable to attend the fall VAFP conference this year.
- ◆ Blue Ridge Relay will be held September 7, 2012 from about 5:30 to 10:30 a.m. Theresa will work the contact station. Doug, Donna, Rhonda & Moe will volunteer for this day.
- ◆ Kevin shared the Activity Coloring book that Nathan designed. 100 copies have been made. If needed, the FOGH will provide more copies using recycled paper.
- ◆ Kevin requested recognition from the FOGH for Kelly Servick and Aaron Parlier for their service to the park. Moe will put together a letter and certificate for this purpose. The volunteer plaque is handled through the Richmond office.
- ◆ Marceia requested reimbursement for Shirley for the sugar she has been purchasing for the hummingbird feeders at the park. FOGH members agreed to a \$50 payment for Shirley towards the purchase of the sugar.
- ◆ The Albert Hash Memorial Festival will be September 1<sup>st</sup> in the picnic area. FOGH has been invited to have a tent; however no members are available for this. Perhaps next year FOGH can plan for this. Lansing Fire Department will be providing the food (hamburgers & hot dogs).
- ◆ Jam sessions are being held at the amphitheater on Tuesdays from 7-9:30.
- ◆ Rhonda attended a meeting on the Crooked Road Heritage Trail last week. There are 49 heritage roads throughout the US (designated by the Department of Interior). The meeting discussed issues in favor and against the possibility of switching the Crooked Road Trails from state designation to federal designation. Grayson Highlands State Park has a kiosk for the Crooked Road located at the park entrance.
- ◆ The hayride will be held October 13<sup>th</sup> in the picnic area. Volunteers are needed. The barn has been reserved the whole week so that preparations can take place. FOGH members will coordinate with the park staff organizers the type of refreshments to provide. A suggestion to increase the cost and provide a combination ticket for the ride and refreshments was made.

The next meeting is scheduled for October 15, 2012 6:30 p.m. at the park office.

\*\*\*\*\*All FOGH volunteers are asked to please be sure to post volunteer hours. \*\*\*\*\*