

**Friends of Grayson Highlands State Park
Minutes of Meeting November 21, 2011**

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

Minutes of last meeting Approved

Treasurer's Report: Balance as of November 21, 2011 \$7791.48

Credits

Membership 20.00

Total Credits 20.00

Approved as presented

Debits

Greenline Paper Co. 71.41
(Paper products)

Total Debits 71.41

Old Business

- Items purchased with funds for Halloween discounts include: ½ dozen orange & black lights, Styrofoam gravestone, strobe lights, & cob webbing. Much was 75% off.
- Donna contacted Susan Miles from Sparta, NC regarding her request for recycling unit information
- Friends food prepared for the hunt sales brought in \$105 for the 3 days.
- Moe and Harvey represented FOGH at the VAFP meeting held at Natural Tunnel, Wilderness Road, Southwest Virginia Museum and Breaks Interstate State Parks. Registration was \$30 per person. Overnight accommodations were provided at Natural Tunnel and Breaks Interstate. VAFP's 2012 Spring Conference will be held on April 26 - 28 (Thursday through Saturday) at Kiptopeke State Park.
- We still need to look into filing for VA tax exempt status.

Park Manager Time

Camping fees for tent sites will be \$21, electric and water sites will increase two dollars to \$28.35. Due to the fee change, signs will have to be changed. Merchandise for resale is down \$3500 from last year. The hunt has brought in 13 deer so far. Seventy five D Map tags were issued with 13 being used. The hunt has not been as productive as hoped this year. There have been two deaths in the park this Fall; one was a heart attack and the other a suicide. We had 466 visitors Saturday due to the nice weather. While attending the VAFP meeting, Harvey was selected to sit on a "bench" committee for those wishing to donate funds in honor/memory of an individual. The committee is to determine a statewide consistent design and materials acceptable for a donated bench.

New Business

- Harvey rescued a pair of hiking boots out of the dumpster for a park visitor who had left the park. As a thank you, the visitor sent Harvey \$10 which he has contributed to the FOGH funds.
- Grayson Highlands State Park was featured in the October 2011 Backpacker Magazine.
- FOGH will provide funds for group water filter bags for the Adventure Ranger Program. Donna suggests SteriPen. Kevin will check options and costs.
- FOGH will consider adding names of donors (who have contributed \$500 over a period of years) to our plaque.

The next meeting is scheduled for February 20, 2012 6:30 p.m. at the park office.