

**Friends of Grayson Highlands State Park  
Minutes of Meeting June 21, 2010**

Present: Ronda Walls, Harvey & Moe Thompson, Kevin Kelley, Doug & Donna Niemi, Marcia Holland

**Minutes of last meeting** Approved

**Treasurer's Report:** Balance as of June 21, 2010 \$4819.86

**Credits**

Membership \$20.00, Donations \$50.25, Odwalla Plant a Tree Reimbursement \$354.00   **Total Credits: \$424.25**

**Debits**

Phipps Dairy (manure) \$35.00, Galax Farm Supply (mulch) \$17.32, Adams Building (rain barrel supplies) \$36.01, Gardens of the Blue Ridge (trees and perennial plants) \$372.14, Slaughter's Garden Center (shrubs) \$41.98, Jones Nursery (shrub) \$15.75, Indoor Farms (annual plants) \$27.50, Shooting Star Nursery (native grasses) \$15.28, US Postal Service (P.O. Box Rental) \$56.00, Lowes (rain barrel supplies, faucet) \$45.44, Wal-Mart (sprinkler) \$7.32, Matthews State Forest (3 Rain barrels) \$30.00, and Screen Freaks (58 t-shirts) \$388.00   **Total Debits: \$1087.74**

Approved as presented

Annual Budget Report (2009-2010) and Proposed Budget (2010-2011) presented and approved

**Old Business**

- Doug installed the rain barrel at the Visitor Center. One was displayed during the Wayne C. Festival, and many people asked about the specifics for installing a rain barrel. Moe will see if she is able to put a link for rain barrel instructions on the Friends' website.
- Virginia State Parks are participating in the Odwalla Plant a Tree contest again this year. Moe will send out information for voting on their website: <http://www.odwalla.com/plantatree/>. The Plant a Tree code is VA1000.
- Four t-shirts and one membership were sold during the Wayne C. Festival. Joan, Doug & Donna manned the Friends table and Moe helped with the Park Merchandise tent.
- Donna requested a thank you be sent to Roy Kilby for helping with the tool box and flower beds.

**Park Manager Time**

Attendance at the Wayne C. Festival brought only 6 more cars than last year's count. There were a higher number of persons paying for tickets, 1610 this year vs. 1405 last year. Previously, the Wayne C. committee gave the Friends 10% of profits from the \$10.00 tickets. They are now giving a check for \$1000, regardless of the amount collected. Richmond office would like all special events to be self sustaining, and not cost the park staff time and revenue. Volunteers working the parking need to arrive much earlier than they did for this festival. Twelve port-a-potties were rented, however there were issues with the septic tank not functioning due to overuse of the regular restrooms. An emergency contact for pumping the portable toilets may be necessary in the future. Mount Rogers Fire Department made \$7300 in food sales. They will use their profits to help build a stage at the fire department. Park merchandise for resale brought in \$8,000 Thursday through Sunday. Overall the festival was a big success. Currently, in merchandise for resale, the park is 2% over compared to last year. We are approximately \$10,000 ahead of last year.

**New Business**

- Staff Appreciation Lunch will be Wednesday, August 4<sup>th</sup>. Rhonda will provide raw vegetables and dip, others will bring desserts and about 15 pizzas will be ordered.
- Kevin was given a Friends check to assist with the Adventure Ranger and Junior Ranger programs.
- Doug will order more plastic bags for the recycle units. The cost for the Clear Stream bags runs approximately \$53 for 100 bags.
- Moe will send out membership renewal letters. Options for going green and sending renewal reminders via email were discussed. It was decided to mail all renewal letters, and then follow with a Friends' addressed and stamped envelope for those who do not reply within a month.
- Officers will remain the same for the coming year.

Next meeting July 19<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m.