

## Friends of Grayson Highlands State Park Minutes of Meeting October 17, 2011

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

**Minutes of last meeting** Approved

**Treasurer's Report:** Balance as of October 17, 2011 \$7842.89

<b>Credits:</b>		<b>Debits:</b>	
Membership	335.00	Wal-Mart (Halloween Hayride)	\$216.09
Blue Ridge Relay	510.55	Dollar General (YCC t-shirts)	33.60
Donations	10.88		
Aluminum can recycle	48.60		
Recycled Paper crafts	43.00		
Hayride Beverage Donations	180.80		
<b>Total Credits:</b>	<b>\$1129.13</b>	<b>Total Debits:</b>	<b>\$249.69</b>

Approved as presented

### Old Business

- Lots of compliments on the Halloween Hayride were given. We need to have a sign indicting Friends of Grayson Highlands State Park Donation to inform visitors at both drink and s'more locations. Due to the beautiful weather that weekend, 339 tickets were sold, generating \$1,308. The coffin located at the sorghum molasses pit needs better transition from the werewolf. Very few people visited this site.
- Donna contacted Susan Miles from Sparta, NC regarding her request for recycling unit information.
- Hunt dates will be: November 7 & 8 (Mon. & Tues.) – Early muzzle loader; November 19<sup>th</sup> (Saturday) – Youth; November 28 & 29 (Mon. & Tues.) – Open. We will not provide food for sale on November 19<sup>th</sup>. All other hunt days, those who are able will provide crocks of chili, stew, soups, or desserts. Rhonda will provide 30 sausage biscuits per day.
- Moe and Harvey will represent FOGH at the VAFP meeting this fall. The meeting will be held at Natural Tunnel, Wilderness Road, Southwest VA Museum and Breaks Interstate State Parks. Registration is \$30 per person. Overnight accommodations are provided at Natural Tunnel and Breaks Interstate.

### Park Manager Time

This has been the busiest fall season in a long time. The snow on October 1<sup>st</sup> was the earliest Harvey has had. The peak leaf color was about 2 weeks ago. Lots of people were visiting the park this weekend (302 visitors in the VC on Saturday and over 6500 the weekend). Merchandise for resale is down \$1,000 for the year. Evaluations for staff (EWP) are due. The park manager's meeting will be November 1<sup>st</sup> -3<sup>rd</sup>. VAFP (Virginia Association For Parks) meeting will be October 26<sup>th</sup> -29<sup>th</sup>. Hunt dates (listed above). The staff is replacing the roof on the Interpreter's cabin. Water samples were taken today. We were fortunate to have NOT run out of water this camping season. Water tanks must be checked 3 times a day. There were 33 campsites occupied this Sunday and 22 tonight (Monday). This is very busy for Grayson at this time of year.

### New Business

- Motion was made to purchase up to \$200 of Halloween props when they go on sale November 1<sup>st</sup>. Kay will be asked to look into this. The purchase might include a table, some additional electrical cords and/or lights.
- We need to look into filing for VA tax exempt status.
- We will set up one recycling container at the Visitor's Center and one at the Country Store. Dave Collett mentioned free recycling containers at Hungry Mother. It was suggested we inquire about this option for Grayson too.
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The next meeting is scheduled for November 21, 2011 6:30 p.m. at the park office.