

**Friends of Grayson Highlands State Park  
Minutes of Meeting May 11, 2009**

Present: Doug & Donna Niemi, Harvey & Moe Thompson, Kevin Kelley, and Rhonda Walls

**Minutes of last meeting** Approved

**Treasurer's Report:** Reports for both April & May presented

Balance as of April 20, 2009 ~\$4281.08

Credits:

6 T-Shirts \$63.80

Total Credit: \$ 63.80

Debits:

12 Friends T-shirts & Set up Fee (Tim Lewis) \$127.00

Total Debits: \$127.00

Approved as presented

Balance as of May 11, 2009 ~\$4261.08

Credits: \$0.00

Total Credits: \$0.00

Debits:

VA Association for Parks \$20.00

Total Debits \$20.00

Approved as presented

**Old Business**

- Members are interested in purchasing more T-shirts for the Friends group. Color and fabric quality were discussed. Plan to investigate further at next meeting, since it will not be possible to order and have by the Wayne C. Festival.
- The decision was made to order the plant signs through the Distribution Center.
- Moe will resend an email requesting Friends members help with the Blue Ridge Relay events. Rhonda has volunteered to help Donna and Doug. Chad Hensly may also be interested.
- The Easter Egg Hunt went well. Approximately 26 children with 50 parents came for the event. Although the weather was rainy, cold and foggy, the activity went well. There were plenty of eggs for everyone. The idea to "recycle" the eggs did not go so well. More will need to be purchased for next year. The children wanted to keep the plastic egg and the surprise inside too.
- Moe reported from an email Joan Collins sent. She was not able to find a vendor to donate a laptop. Friends approved purchase up to \$600 for Kevin to purchase a laptop to be used for power point presentations for interpretative programs.
- Moe brought a card for all to sign and send to Don Ballenger.

**Park Manager Time**

Qualifying on April 7<sup>th</sup> passed. Vehicles have been upgraded with new radios. General Orders testing must be completed by May 31<sup>st</sup>. Brad Johnson has resigned. He will be going to Smyth County as a Deputy. Jordan will be transferring to Hungry Mother as soon as Brad's position is replaced. Seasonals are beginning to start. The Visitor Center will be open on weekends starting this weekend. The campground is sold out for the Wayne C. weekend. Currently there is plenty of water in the tanks due to all the rain we have had. Harvey was presented the Possum Award at the Manager's Meeting due to the park vehicle taken from the shop yard and the residence destroyed by fire. Gaston Rouse has inquired about Friends' sponsored events. Harvey provided some of the group's activities to him. Recycling, Adventure Rangers, Hunt sales, Park Staff Picnic Appreciation, Trail Work and Dog Show are other programs that can be included.

**New Business**

No new business presented.

Next meeting June 15<sup>th</sup> 7 p.m. at the Park Office