

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

Present: Rhonda Walls, Donna Niemi, Moe Thompson, Kevin Kelley, Shirley Loan Babb, Deana Blevins, Evalyn Halsey
Minutes of last meeting Approved

Treasurer's Report: Balance as of March 21, 2011 \$5858.79

<u>Credits:</u>		<u>Debits:</u>	
Garden Plant Sales (to Donna)	\$21.75	Jerry's Typewriter (200 letterhead stationary)	\$ 20.00
		Wildseed Farms (seeds for flower gardens)	\$ 43.20
		Gardens of Blue Ridge (plants for flower garden)	\$105.90
		Lowes (plastic garden edging, cultivator, posts & wire)	\$ 78.07
Total Credits:	\$21.75	Total Debits:	\$247.17

Approved as presented

Old Business

- Some of the plants Donna ordered are: Turk's cap lily, blue cohosh, butterfly gentian, and various bulbs. She sold 3 Winterberry plants to herself.
- Donna has received some older pictures from Deana for the Friends' website
- Kevin has made some changes to the parks' activities for the season. Wayne C. will not be playing at the park Memorial Day weekend as he usually does. Kevin will let Moe know of changes so she can make them on the Friends' website calendar.
- The park is looking into other musicians to fill the void of Wayne C not being available. Kevin mentioned Emily Spencer and the Whitetop Mountain Band as a possible alternative. Kevin inquired if FOGH might sponsor the cost of an alternative band for this weekend. Members feel that this may set a precedent for future bands, and also unfairly favor some over others who have played in the past.
- The VA Association for Parks Spring meeting will be April 7, 8, and 9 at Claytor Lake State Park. Rhonda plans to attend. She brought the agenda in case anyone else is interested in attending.
- Rhonda continues to work with the IRS, and will be submitting the articles of incorporation. She is requesting 2 copies from the state at a cost of \$5.50 each copy.
- Rhonda requests she receive the 75th Anniversary logo for the decoration on the cakes. Moe will get this to her. FOGH will provide cakes only, no drinks. They will be served during the Wayne C. Festival.
- Moe reminded those present that there is still time for filming a "Happy 75th Anniversary From the Friends' of Grayson Highlands State Park." All interested members are encouraged to meet on April 25th at 6:30 p.m. (prior the the FOGH meeting) for filming this project. An idea of forming "75" with rocks outlined with limestone and the friends' members gathered was proposed.

Park Manager Time

Harvey is away at the Park Managers' meeting at First Landing State Park in Virginia Beach.

New Business

- The park will hold an Earth Day Activity on Wednesday, April 20th for 5th - 7th graders.
- Grayson Highlands School will be bringing 90 Pre-K – Third grade students to the park to spend the day. The school plans to have an Easter egg hunt and other activities at the park.
- The Annual Park Easter egg hunt will be April 23rd. FOGH will provide the cost for the eggs. Deana suggested purchasing "pre-stuffed" eggs. She will provide ordering information to Kevin.
- Kevin says there are lots of performers for the Wayne C. Festival and the music will probably last until 6:45.
- Kevin mentioned there will be a contest to name the campgrounds during the "75 days of summer." He did not have the exact dates. Names can be submitted, but not a person's name. FOGH expressed an interest in assisting with the selection of the winner.
- Kevin requests FOGH help with the purchase of a new high resolution digital SLR camera for the park to be used for taking pictures for interpretive programs, Flicker, Virginia Blog, and damaged areas within the park. Deana commented that the SLR may not be the best type to purchase. She thinks either a Cannon or Nikon would be best. Kevin is to check back with other park staff to see exactly what features are requested. Deana will help Kevin with determining which camera fits the need. FOGH agrees to support a purchase up to \$500.
- As part of the 75th Anniversary Celebration, Park staff would like to purchase a large stuffed pony (funded by FOGH), and sell raffle tickets. Members are willing to support this effort, however not interested in being responsible for selling the tickets. Shirley says Grayson National Bank will make tickets at no cost. FOGH would like the tickets numbered. FOGH recommends \$1 per ticket for ease of handling the money. Staff will check on cost of pony and report back at our next meeting.

- Kevin says Shirley, Teresa and Kaye are beginning to work on plans for the Haunted Hayride. Kevin is requesting volunteers for this in order to be successful. He is unsure of how it will work changing the location from the campground to the picnic area. Logistics are being worked out. Donna says FOGH will need to have more hot chocolate and cider available. She will get the cups, napkins, and plates.

The next meeting is scheduled for April 25, 2011 6:30 p.m. at the park office. ***Time is 6:30 due to FOGH videoing for 75th Anniversary Celebration. Normally we switch to 7:00 meeting time in April.