FRIENDS OF THE SMITH MOUNTAIN LAKE STATE PARK, INC.

Meeting minutes---July 18, 2022

WEBSITE: smlspfriends.com

CALENDAR OF EVENTS: July 23rd Ray Judd’s Music in the Park 8:00—10:00pm

AUGUST 15TH 9:30AM FRIENDS MEETING

President, Nancy Galvan, greeted everyone and opened the meeting. The minutes of the June 20th meeting were approved.

Attendance: 22 members and 2 Park staff

Susan Eldridge gave the Treasurer’s report: Income: $1072.25 Expenses: $1203.06 Net Income: -$130.81 The Treasurer’s report was accepted as read.

Chief Ranger, Travis, reported that the boat is still not fixed. The YCC girls accomplished a lot while they were here with many projects...mulch, installed fence, replaced 3 benches, repaired other benches, cut overgrown areas, cleaned up cemetery, and enjoyed Ray Judd’s Music in the Park. Travis will be setting up a CPR and First Aid class for boat captains, PFD crew, and guides and anyone else who might want to take it. He will get a list and set it up. He reminded us that background checks are due every 2 years. He also reminded us that volunteer hours should be submitted by August 1st forthe State’s annual report.

Our new Park interpreter, Meagan Preston, thanks and appreciates the Friends for all we do. Meg will be with us year-round.

Lorraine Judd reported on last month’s MIP ...great attendance, great band, great help. She would like to purchase 2 fans to use at MIP under the pavilion where the dancers and band are. They would also be good for us to use at our picnics when it’s so hot. Travis will supply us with Park’s fans for this month’s MIP.

Dick Hendrix, landscape and blue bird coordinator, reported that the garden is looking great and he will have a cleanup in the Fall. He will have the butterfly bushes removed and thanked the Park for removing the junipers. The blue birds are doing great with lots of fledging.

Martha Kuon, is our new trails coordinator. She is looking for previous members to help again and give her some pointers. Dave and Donna Gearhart have offered to help.

Debi Kingston suggested that maybe we could number our benches to identify where someone is in case of an emergency. Martha will look into it.

Carla Esarey, Playground coordinator, is looking into grants to help with the project and she will be visiting the Daleville playground and touch base with their originators. Our playground is in need of several repairs in the near future...chains that are rusty, seats that are torn, Plastic that is peeling and have pressure cracks, etc.

Doug Kuhn, reported on Aspiring Anglers, October 1st. He needs volunteers to cook and to get prizes and sponsors. $25 gift cards are needed. He will buy the food and we will have fliers made to put out in the schools.

Nancy brought up the scholarship project. The Board had discussed it and decided that they would rather concentrate on the playground as it benefits the general public and is something tangible that everyone can see. After a unanimous vote, the Board vetoed the scholarship project and was brought up at our meeting. Dick Hendrix made a motion to rescind the scholarship project and use those funds to go toward the playground. Motion was seconded by Robin Pickering. Vote by membership was unanimous and scholarship project is vetoed.

Janis Erickson, Children’s Book Corner, is still looking for books and thanked those who had given her some. You may leave them at the Visitor’s Center or notify Janis and she’ll make arrangements to get them.

Doug Kuhn, is concerned about the new variants of Covid and would like to see members wear masks at our meetings. While this is recommended, it is not mandatory...you do you.

Nancy read a letter sent to her by the helicopter pilots, who were treated to lunch by an unknown person who is a Friend of the Park. They just wanted to thank them and to let us know we have awesome Friends.

Meeting adjourned.

Thank you to all who brought refreshments

Respectfully submitted,

Diana Brennan, Secretary

.