FRIENDS OF THE SMITH MOUNTAIN LAKE STATE PARK, INC.

Meeting Minutes---Feb. 19, 2024

WEBSITE: smlspfriends.com

ATTENDANCE: 18 members 2 Park Staff

President Nancy Galvan greeted everyone and asked for a vote on the previous minutes. The minutes were approved as written.

VP Alison Baird reported that we have 5 new members.

Treasurer, Susan Eldridge, reported: Income $1257.06 Expenses $757.83 Net Income $481.23

The audit was finished after the last meeting.

Lorraine Judd reported that she has 2 bands and the cloggers signed up for Ray Judd’s Music in the Park. She is looking for help getting sponsors.

Park Ranger, Jet, reported that she will start field trips in April and is looking for 3-4 volunteers. March 30th will be our Easter Program. We will need lots of volunteers that day and also the day that Jet picks to stuff the eggs. Also, don’t forget your candy,,,you can drop it off at the Visitors Center with Jet’s name on it or at our next Friends meeting. Small, individually wrapped candy that will fit in the plastic egg.

Park Assistant Manager, Jared, reported that they had interviews for Park Manager. They had 60 applications. They have replaced front doors on all the cabins, doing grave site clean up at 5 Oaks, working on trail signs, in the campground they are working on the ditches and filling them with rip rap and gravel. Also, they will replace the garage doors at the shop. They are refurbishing what used to be Brian’s house.

Trails coordinator, Martha, reported that the cemetery trails have been cleaned up, and that most trails are in good shape. She was going to walk around the garden to check things out. Her group meets on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday.

Laurie Andrews, a guest, and coordinator of the “Turkey Trot” that was held on Thanksgiving Day, was here to make a donation to the Friends of SMLSP. They made $1200.00 that day and they were donating a portion of it to the Friends. They already have 8 sponsors and would like the help from the Friends. The race is from 8:30-10:30am and a “Kids Run” at 9:00. We, the Friends will be allowed to place donation boxes around and the money collected will be ours.

Sunday, March 17 from 3:00-4:00pm the Friends will present the movie “Clear Day Thunder” rescuing the American Chestnut on behalf of the Virginia Chapter of the American Chestnut Foundation. It will be held at the Discovery Center. Refreshments will be served following the presentation and there will be no fee that day.

Dick Hendrix, Blue Bird Coordinator, is looking to sign up some monitors for this coming season, We will start monitoring the last weekend in March. If you are interested in helping, send Dick an email or text hendrixonthelake@yahoo.com

We will be placing donation boxes at the tournament shed for the tour boat and another on the “Batty Wagon” Lots of people want to donate, but don’t want to stop at the Visitors Center on their way out.

We are looking for volunteers to be coordinators for the following programs: Adopt-a-Highway, Publicity, Aspiring Anglers. If you can help, please let us know.

Meeting adjourned

Respectfully submitted, Diana Brennan, Secretary