FRIENDS OF THE SMITH MOUNTAIN LAKE STATE PARK, INC.

Meeting Minutes---June 19, 2023

WEBSITE: smlspfriends.com

CALENDAR OF EVENTS: Trails: 2nd and 4th Tuesday at 9:30am Meet at the Visitors Center

FRIENDS MEETING: JULY 17TH AT 9:30am

Attendance: 20 members, 2 Park staff, 1 visitor

President, Nancy Galvan opened the meeting and called for a motion on the April minutes. They were approved as written. There was no meeting in May.

Treasurer, Susan Eldridge, reported on April and May income and expenses April Income: $6112.24 Expenses: $50.44 Net Income: $6016.80 May Income: $570.0 Expenses: $1900.13 Net Income: -$1330.0 Treasurer’s report accepted as read.

Park Interpreter, Jet, had a successful program on Saturday with 2 boat tours. She has made July schedule for guides, captains and PFD gurus. She has a signup sheet for greeters for the DC. There will be a program for the 4th of July…check the website

Lorraine Judd on Ray Judd’s Music in the Park, reported that while the weather kept a lot of people home, the band was great and food sales were too.

Dick Hendrix, Landscape Coordinator, is looking for a replacement. Basically, they would have to do the scheduling and he will still help. The Master Naturalists are having a Nature Expo on July 8th from 10:00am—2:00pm at Booker T. Washington National Park. He would like the Friends to set up a table to promote our Park. Contact him if you can help and Jet has been helpful in the past to give us items for the table. [hendrixonthelake@yahoo.com](mailto:hendrixonthelake@yahoo.com) He also reported that we’re having a great year with the blue birds.

Chief Ranger, Travis, reported that he has fixed a few small items on the pontoon boat. We are still having stalling issues with the boat and even with different fuel we are still having problems.

We were introduced to Scarlett Stevens, who works for the Park service (didn’t get her official title), who told us there will not be a YCC program this year as they are redesigning it. It is for boys and girls, ages 14-17 who live and work in the Park. Also, she told us of a program called “Healthy Opportunities” that are currently working with Lake Christian Ministries to help lower income families visit the Park by giving them free passes. Diana suggested they do it for Agape as well and will get Scarlett information on who to contact.

Martha, Trails coordinator, reported that the trails are doing well. See calendar of events for dates and time. There was then a lengthy discussion on “trash” with many ideas on how to fix the problem.

Peggy Bland reported for Carla that she has gone with a new company for the playground and that by the next meeting she should be able to have a report for us.

Janis Errickson reported that she received a large box of donated books. She also has a shelf for adults. We are looking for books on nature in good condition. This is an opportunity for children to read or be read to throughout the summer.

Jet commented that the landscape committee does a great job in the Spring and Fall, but need some help throughout the summer and suggested that maybe they could do something once a month.

There was a Race meeting after the Friends meeting and Nancy invited anyone to attend that was interested.

After a motion the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted, Diana Brennan, Secretary