FRIENDS OF THE SMITH MOUNTAIN LAKE STATE PARK, INC.

Meeting Minutes---August 21,2023

WEBSITE: smlspfriends.com

CALENDAR OF EVENTS: Saturday, August 26th at 8:00pm---Ray Judd’s Music in the Park Trails: No trails day on Sept. 12th. Next one Sept. 26th. Martha will send emails

FRIENDS MEETING-- Sept. 18th---No morning meeting, but picnic at 5:30 pm. Chicken will be provided. Please bring a dish to share…salads, veggies, or desserts. Cost will be $5.00 per person

ATTENDANCE: 26 members, 2 Park staff

President, Nancy Galvan, opened the meeting and began by asking for a vote on the previous meeting minutes. The minutes were approved as written.

Treasurer, Susan Eldridge, gave the Treasurers report. Income: $965.87 Expenses: $757.55 Net Income: $$208.32 Her report was accepted as read.

Chief Ranger, Travis, reported that 4 dump truck loads of rip rap had been put down around the cabin docks.

Interpreter Jet, has sent out the new September schedule for boat tours. She would like some volunteers to sign up for some public tours. She has 3 groups wanting to take the boat tour. Laura Podyma , with the American Chestnut Association, informed us that they have a new documentary and would like to present it. We’re thinking it would be a good subject for the “Winter Lecture Series”.

September 23rd is Public Lands Day, which is an all Parks event. Ours will be from 1:00pm - 3:00pm and we will be working on Beechwood Trail. Trash bags and grabbers will be provided. Volunteers should meet at the overflow parking lot (across from the entrance to the campground).

Lorraine Judd reported that we’ve been very lucky with the weather for the last 3 Music in the Park dates and hopefully this Saturday we’ll be as lucky. We are featuring a new band and this will be our last Music in the Park for the season.

Matt Doyle, Boat coordinator, reported that he thought they were done, until Jet schedules more.

Marthe Kuon, Trails coordinator, reported that the trails are looking good, except for Stryker Cove, which has lots of leaves and knee high weeds. Needs lots of work and a weed wacker. On the gardens, she reported that she and Nancy Galvan mulched them. The gardens are always needing weeding and she is looking for volunteers to help. The Master Naturalists are going to help and we will be getting a plant list.

Carla Esarey, Playground coordinator, reported that she has a new design and that she brought pictures of the playground setup, adding that there will be significant work to be done.

Doug Kuhn, Aspiring Anglers, is ready to go on the Saturday.

Janis Erickson, cochair with Catherine Eubank, reported on the Winter Lecture Series. The series runs on the 1st Sunday of Jan., Feb., Mar., and Apr. They have 3 programs planned and are working on the 4th.

Nancy Galvan reported that the Osprey Race is coming along and that we have 17 runners signed up so far and we’re a little ahead of the number we had last year at this time. She would also like for someone to volunteer to do publicity

Since we will not have a business meeting next month, a budget committee was set up and it includes Bernie Tipton, Doug Kuhn, and Nancy Hughes. Susan will be in touch with them as to the date and time.

Diana asked Charlie Walker if he had any info on the pictures we are supposed to get from AEP. He will check on it.

Meeting was adjourned,

Respectfully submitted, Diana Brennan, Secretary