**Minutes**

**Friends of Morrow Mountain State Park**

**September 8, 2013 6:30 p.m.**

**Morrow Mountain State Park Lodge**

The Board of Directors for Friends of Morrow Mountain State Park held a meeting on September 8, 2013 at 6:30 p.m. Present at the meeting were: Tevis Smith, Vanessa Mullinix, John Young, Greg Schneider, Phil Lowder, Tanya Davis, and Jim Barfield.

With an outlined agenda, Chair Vanessa Mullinix opened the meeting and welcomed everyone. As damage from the recent storm left devastation to many areas of the park, an update on park clean-up was given by Superintendent, Greg Schneider. He commended the MMSP staff for their continued dedication and efforts towards park clean-up. It was noted that because the park was unable to be opened for an extended period of time during peak summer months, incoming collections and revenues by visitors to the park had substantially decreased. Further discussion followed regarding clean-up for areas where FMMSP could be of assistance. Brief discussion also followed about how FMMSP could recognize park staff for their commitment.

FMMSP will have a table at BadinFest to be held September 20 and 21, 2013. Tevis Smith agreed to cover for the Friday evening events, and John Young and Jim Barfield agreed to cover Saturday events. This presence is a continued effort to promote FMMSP and to entice additional memberships for the organization. Treasurer, Tevis Smith will bring the receipt book for selling new memberships. Discussion regarding memberships followed with ongoing conversation about what actions may be taken to develop a database for rolling memberships. While the annual fee is currently set at $10.00, some members felt that our current system allowed some individuals twelve month memberships for $10.00, giving those sold later in the year less than twelve months for the same cost. Jim Barfield stated that a database could be developed through ACCESS to accommodate rolling memberships. Phil Lowder noted that current bylaws regarding memberships are written to coincide with a calendar year. In order to implement rolling memberships, bylaws would need to be amended and brought before the membership for a vote. This would allow members one full year of membership from the date of payment. Additionally, it is nearing time for a new membership drive. Members, with memberships due, should be notified by mail that will include a brochure and membership envelope. November 10, 2013 is the date for the FMMSP fall membership meeting to be held at the MMSP lodge.

Chair Mullinix discussed collection boxes to be placed in strategic areas of the park for donations. It was the intent of the group to move forward with the purchase of the collection boxes and Superintendent Schneider and staff would assist with suggestions for safe placement of the collection boxes in the park to solicit donations.

Publicity for Jeff Michael’s presentation on the History of Morrow Mountain was discussed. John Young has agreed to work with Stanly News and Press to secure news releases regarding the event, and Secretary Davis will email all members about the upcoming event. The event is scheduled to be held on Sunday, October 20, 2013 at 2:00 p.m. at Morrow Mountain State Park Lodge. It is the hope that with successful marketing of the event, a full-house will be present for Jeff’s presentation.

Friends of Morrow Mountain State Park will have a presence this fall at the park’s annual Old Fashioned Day to be held on November 3, 2013. FMMSP will set up a table to promote the organization and to sell coffee and hot chocolate. Last year FMMSP provided financial assistance to the park for the event in amount of $500. This year, the board of directors voted to assist MMSP with a contribution in the same amount of $500. Volunteers are needed to work at this event.

Chair Mullinix informed the group that a $1,000 grant had been received from ALCOA for digitally archiving historical data for the park. A subcommittee was formed to include John Young, Jim Barfield, and Jonathan Underwood with the Stanly County Museum. Park Ranger Ron Anundson will also be invited to attend all meetings. Subcommittee members will research computer and scanner, and discuss software needs. While the PassPerfect Software was discussed, further investigation will follow regarding a state-wide software system that may be available for archiving data. The board voted to allow this committee the flexibility to spend a maximum of $2,000 on technology to accommodate this need.

Treasurer Tevis Smith stated fund balances as follows: $4,180.00 for the total treasury. Of that amount, $545.00 is the local fund balance. The board approved $500.00 to be spent for MMSP Old Fashioned Day, and also approved $62.00 to be paid to the Badin Post Office for box fees. The subcommittee for archiving historical data will present their findings when complete for disbursement of funds. Treasurer Smith mentioned he was aware of the audit requirements as stated in organizational bylaws, and would see that financial records would be audited in the manner as directed. A three member audit committee will be appointed by Chair, Vanessa Mullinix, Treasurer Tevis Smith, and Park Superintendent, Greg Schneider. The audit committee will audit the financial records and also hold the next election on November 10, 2013.

Two positions will become vacant and open for nominations for the 2014 year. These positions include the positions of Chair and Secretary. Those recommended nominations for the offices of Chair and Secretary will be brought to a vote before the membership at the fall meeting on November 10, 2013.

Additional items on the table included discussion on better utilization of members and committees. There was brief discussion about how to better keep members informed of events and happenings with MMSP and FMMSP. With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tanya Davis, Secretary

Friends of Morrow Mountain State Park