

## **Minutes for Friends of Morrow Mountain State Park**

**January 24, 2013 10:00 a.m.**

### **Badin Town Hall**

The Board of Directors meeting of the Friends of Morrow Mountain State Park was called to order on Thursday, January 24, 2013 at 10 a.m. at the Badin Town Hall by Chair Vanessa Mullinix. In attendance from Friends of Morrow Mountain State Park: Vanessa Mullinix, Tevis Smith, John Young, and Tanya Davis. Others in attendance from Morrow Mountain State Park (MMSP) included Greg Schneider, Ron Anundson, and Karen Ake. Mayor Jim Harrison and Badin Town Manager, Jay Almond was present, along with David Summerlin.

With the meeting called to order, Jay Almond presented a Design and Planning Report for the Town of Badin. As Jay stated, the report noted renovations that had taken place on existing buildings and sidewalks, with the model taking into consideration historically accurate layout and design, and “branding” as a French-flavored town at the foot of the Uwharries. As revitalization is key for economic development, efforts are taking place to make the Badin area attractive for tourism and business and industry looking to relocate. The group saw three plan proposals and maps for long-range plans. Included were proposals for a park by the lake, museum, business development for industry, and proposed acreage to be donated to Morrow Mountain State Park when the FERC relicensing is complete. At 10:30 a.m. the presentation ended and Beverly Whitley from APCI arrived to take participants on a tour of the site proposed for donation to the park. Vanessa Mullinix, Tanya Davis, John Young, Tevis Smith, Greg Schneider, Ron Anundson, and Karen Ake shared in the tour.

Those on the tour arrived back in Badin at approximately 12:00 noon. The Board of Directors of the Friends of Morrow Mountain then convened at the Cottage House Antiques to continue the meeting. Present were: Vanessa Mullinix, Tanya Davis, Tevis Smith, and John Young. The first order of business proposed by Chair Mullinix was representation from the local chapter to attend a Friends of State Parks Conference to be held February 6, 2013 in Raleigh, NC. at a cost of \$70.00. John Young made a motion that the organization cover registration costs of the conference for two individuals to attend, and Tevis Smith seconded the motion.

A report from Treasurer Tevis Smith was provided, with a noted local balance of \$371.43 as of January 24, 2013, and a balance of \$2680.34 in the Friends of State Parks account to support various park projects. Tevis discussed Form 1120 that will need to be completed and submitted by March 15, 2013. Jim Richardson from Friends of State Parks will be contacted for clarification on how the local Friends group falls under the state umbrella for tax information purposes. Tevis will provide a quarterly Treasury report and will establish a financial audit review as established by the organizational bylaws. Secretary Tanya Davis presented minutes from the previous meeting. The minutes were approved as read by Vanessa Mullinix and seconded by Tevis Smith. Tanya Davis has scanned original signed documents related to the reorganization of the Friends of Morrow Mountain under the Chapter of Friends of State Parks. Original signed documents, along with bylaws, and the chapter’s EIN# were placed in the organization’s lockbox at Bank of Stanly. Additional committee work was noted as follows:

**The Trail & Hiking Committee** (Jim Barfield) had one meeting in 2012 where they assessed the conditions of some trails. **Trail work days were planned for volunteers on Jan. 19th and Feb. 16th at 9 a.m. All Trail and Hiking Committee members are urged to attend the upcoming February 16<sup>th</sup> trail work day. More details are posted on the website at <http://morrowmountain.org>.**

In an effort to best serve the needs of the park, the Friends group has asked Park staff to identify and prioritize a list of their top 10 needs as soon as possible. A couple of immediate repairs were identified to include the rock wall that has fallen at the entrance of the park, and a roofing project in bad need of repair on one of the restroom facilities. The "Top 10 List" will be forwarded to committee members as soon as it is received.

**The History Committee** had a planning meeting in November and again in January about providing GPS coordinates and more detailed information for many historical aspects of the park like old home sites, CCC Camp, mill sites, etc. The History Committee also plans to organize several oral history interviews in 2013 about the park's earlier history. **The next meeting of the History Committee will take place on March 14, 2013 at 6:30 p.m. at MMSP lodge. Everyone will be invited to attend by email and this meeting date should be posted soon on the website at <http://morrowmountain.org>**

The Special Events Committee strongly supported Morrow Mountain's Old Fashion Day with many volunteers, and donated necessary funds for food that was provided for volunteers and exhibitors. **The group noted that Morrow Mountain's Old Fashioned Day is scheduled for November 3, 2013 at the park. The Friends of Morrow Mountain will again plan to lend assistance for this event.**

**The Promotion and Marketing Committee** is working on printed materials like FMMSP brochures, and is working toward a major gift to Morrow Mt. State Park of a new Apple iMac Computer (approximate price \$2300) and new archival/museum quality software (approximate \$550) so that all the important, ancient, Native American artifact history of the park can be properly organized and recorded along with the rich details and photos of the history of the area before and after the park was created. Alcoa should get its new FERC license for their four hydro-dams along the Yadkin River in 2013 and then, within about 2 years, Alcoa's gift of 1,100 acres on the west side of the Falls Reservoir and the famed Hardaway Site, the oldest site of Stone Age occupation in the Carolina's, will be added to Morrow Mt. State Park. This will be one of the most important land gifts in the history of the NC State Park system. Along with this gift, the Promotion and Marketing Committee will be working to identify and retain funding and grants for identified projects. Vanessa Mullinix presented a card design for use by the organization and to sell as a fundraiser. She will check with Stanly County Historical Museum to confirm ownership and permission for use of proposed artwork. A letterhead will also be designed for Friends of Morrow Mountain by this committee.

With committee reports complete, the Board then focused on upcoming events, future meetings, and effective communications to keep the membership well informed. **The annual board meeting of the Friends of State Parks will take place at Morrow Mountain Lodge on May 4,**

**2013.** Approximately 15 state board members are anticipated to attend. The local Friends of MMSP will assist in hosting the group with morning refreshments, lunch, and other needs as identified by park officials. **All members of the Friends of Morrow Mountain State Park will be invited to attend a presentation with FSP beginning about 1:30 p.m. Following the presentation and a brief tour of the park, light refreshments will be served. Please mark your calendars for this event.**

The board meeting of the FMMSP was scheduled during the day, and it was noted that meetings scheduled during normal working hours made it difficult for some members to attend. An evening or Sunday afternoon meeting time was discussed in place of a weekday meeting. In keeping with the noted quarterly meetings established in the bylaws, discussion to have a full Spring membership meeting on May 4<sup>th</sup> was placed for consideration. This proposal was presented to Jim Richardson, and he was much in favor of including in their agenda a presentation for FMMSP membership on the afternoon of May 4<sup>th</sup>. A third quarter meeting (Summer) was proposed for either Sunday, September 8<sup>th</sup>, or Tuesday evening, September 10<sup>th</sup>. We are awaiting lodge availability prior to establishing this date.

**A fourth quarter (Fall) meeting is scheduled for Sunday, November 10<sup>th</sup>.** At the fall meeting, Section 8 of the bylaws calls for election of two offices for the following year. The two positions for 2014 consideration are Chair, and Secretary.

The last order of business was discussion about **hosting Jeff Michael at the park lodge as a presenter for the park history.** Stanly County Historical Museum and Badin Museum may like to partner with the Friends group in hosting this event. Notifications will also be emailed (a few mailed if no email is available) to all membership. **The date for this event is scheduled for October 20<sup>th</sup>.** A press release prior to Jeff's presentation will need to be submitted, with a second news release following the presentation. It was noted that mention of old family home sites at the park may generate additional interest to attend Jeff's presentation.

Please note that minutes and committee meeting schedules will be distributed to all members via email. Additional details will be posted on the FMMSP website. Anyone wishing to be deleted from the distribution list for minutes and committee notifications should contact Secretary Davis.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tanya Davis, Secretary  
Friends of Morrow Mountain State Park

