

FRIENDS OF PANTHER CREEK STATE PARK
Board Meeting
11/11/2008
Staff House

The meeting began at 6:40 pm.

Present: John LeCroy, John Mitrik, Frank Oakberg, Dennis Zazueta, Tina LeBel, Jason Chadwell, John Smyth

Minutes: Minutes from the previous board meeting were read and approved.

Treasurer's report:

Deposits: \$ 1128.96
Payments: \$ 1774.00

Previous Checking balance: \$ 10,982.48
Current Checking balance: \$ 9,611.70

Total Money Market: \$ 10,415.23

Motions:

There was a motion to give \$100 to Jason for craft supplies.

Motion was passed to paying \$195 to Jason to reimburse for his EMS conferences attended to maintain state and national certification.

A motion was made and approved to pay \$900 to Brent Sewell for the Trout Lily Bridge work.

A motion was made and passed to accept Tina LeBel as a new Board member.

Upcoming Dates:

Christmas in the Park – December 13, 2008 at 1:00 pm at the upper campground pavillion.

Old Business

Brick Sales: Brick laying day went well and this practice should continue for future brick orders

Overlook: Ceremony went well. It was well attended with about 85 people there. Response from the public has been good.

Visitor's Center: John L. met with students last week from UT. First stage is to add restrooms in the back. The second stage is to remove the bathrooms from the existing visitor's center and remodel. The remodel will include having more exhibit space (i.e. features of the park and Ramsey family). UT class currently working on energy efficient ideas this semester. The new restrooms (with access outside) will be open year round.

Solar Panels at the Pool: Cost would be \$15,000-17,000 to get started from Big Frog Mountain. There are still some questions as to whether or not the pool will open next year based on state funding. This project is on hold

Friends of Panther Creek State Park
The Park's Visitor's Center is located at 2010 Panther Creek Park Road, Morristown, TN 37814
(423) 423-587-7046; www.friendsofpanthercreek.org

for the Visitor's Center renovations.

Morristown Quad Runs: John S. told the Board that a proposal was submitted to Jefferson Federal asking sponsorship of \$5000 for the 4 races on e of which is the park race.

New Business

State of the Park: John L. reports that there is less money from the state for supplies. This puts the pool opening in jeopardy as the supply cost is very high with no money made. John L. wants to maintain the park to public at similar levels.

Christmas at the Park: John S. will go to Ingles and ask for food support. John L. and Jason will come up with food list and send to John S. There was discussion about having a music group play Christmas music. Dennis & John S. will check. Jason reports needing help with some crafts. Jan to send out an email asking for help and a sign-up sheet was passed around. There was a motion to give \$100 to Jason for craft supplies.

State Funds: The state has cut funds for conferences, etc. attended by park employees. This includes training classes. Motion was passed to paying \$195 to Jason to reimburse for his EMS conferences attended to maintain state and national certification. The Friends Board agreed that having certified EMS personnel at the park is important. Board suggested that future needs can come to the group and we can possibly pay in advance. There was mention of resource management and environmental training needs that may come up later.

John L. also mentioned that he would like to have Brent Sewell work on Trout Lily Bridge this winter as there are some issues in this area. Brent was one of the summer park rangers. The problem is the state has a hiring freeze. John L. says the work will be for 3 weeks at 40 hours per week. John L. asked the Friends for \$900 to cover this expense. A motion was made and approved to pay \$900 to Brent Sewell for the Trout Lily Bridge work.

Board Member Changes: Our secretary, Thelma Metzger, sent an email saying that she is not able to fulfill her secretarial duties. Tina LeBel was present and interested in becoming a Board member for the Friends group. A motion was made and passed to accept Tina LeBel as a new Board member. Tina will consider doing secretarial duties.

Running Camp: John S. reports to the Board that he will be holding a runner camp through East High School at the park. He has about 150 kids interested now. The camp will be July 6-11th and include nutrition, coaching, shoes, e tc. for ages 10 and up.

Committee Reports:

The group decided that we should have committees only as they are needed other than the current membership and gift shop committees.

Grant Research – Park staff is working on some trail grants and visitor center grant work.

Next Meeting: January 20th 6:30 pm at the Staff House.

The meeting adjourned at 8:05 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
John Mitrik

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