

**FRIENDS OF PANTHER CREEK STATE PARK**  
**Board Meeting**  
**8/14/2008**  
**Smallman Shelter**

**The meeting began at 6:40 pm.**

**Present:** John LeCroy, John Mitrik, Frank Oakberg, Dennis Zazueta, Darrel McGhee, Sheri Sullivan, Clara Belle McElhaney, Bill Andrews

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

**Treasurer's report:**

Deposits: \$ 498.00  
 Payments: \$ 865.81

Previous Checking balance: \$ 9921.39  
 Current Checking balance: \$ 9553.58

Total CDs: \$ 10,000 (due 9/9/08)

Note: There is a \$15 accounts analysis fee that we were charged. Dennis has changed this and we will not be charged the \$15. The group decided that because of the poor CD rates, we would hold the money and wait and see if the rates go up by the next meeting.

**Motions:**

Bill Andrews had a motion to sign and approve the Friends' contract with the state. Frank had a second and the motion passed all in favor.

**Upcoming Dates:**

Friends Conference – Pickwick Landing State Park – October 17 – 19, 2008

Mr. Big Hands Card Social – September 6, 2008; 6:30 – 10:30 p.m.

Tennessee Smokies Baseball Game – August 23<sup>rd</sup> (interested call or email John M.)

**Old Business**

**Brick Sales:** 36 new bricks will be ordered. We had 102 bricks prior.

NOTE: There are some board members who have yet to buy a brick.

**Overlook:** The landscaping has started and the stairs are complete. Panels will be ready at the end of August. John L. will have dirt moved in place then the panels will be put in. John L. will schedule a volunteer planting day in September or October depending on the weather. The group agreed it was too dry to plant anything now.

The group also discussed the dedication and it was thought that October 11, 2008 might be a good day. Sheri has a list of contributors to the Bill Catron Memorial Fund and those folks will be invited. Also all Friends' members will be invited. Bill Andrews to get a list of all who donated services for the project and they will be

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included on the website as well as invited to the dedication.

John L. will get list of students for the certificates as well as names for the plaques. Sheri will order the plaques.

John M. suggested that we plant some trees around the park to offset the lumber used to construct the overlook. John L. suggested very mature trees as they have had trouble keeping some of the recent ones alive. John M. will look at Sunlight Gardens near Norris.

**Card Social:** Dennis has reserved the banquet room at the Ramada Inn. The entry fee is lowered to \$75 for individuals since the dinner is covered by a sponsor. The cost for couple is \$115. Board members are invited to attend. 48 people is the break-even point. At the time of the meeting, there were no paid committals.

**Gift Shop Items:** A logo contest was again discussed and decided to have a community wide event. More will be discussed at the next meeting. Darrel has been added to the Gift Shop Committee. A logo was discussed as presented. The group will get together and decide on the contest.

Hiking medallions are on their way. It was decided that Friends members will get 10% off purchases from the gift shop as was a long time practice. John L. to get information on organic sweatshirts.

**Pool Solar Panels:** The grant previously thought promising does not include non-profits. John L. is contacting a person in Knoxville about this project.

**Letter:** Darrel presented a letter. John M. will put it on letterhead, sign and send it.

**David McCoy Monument:** John L. talked to Lynne. The plan is to make a stone walkway to the front of the monument. The walkway is underway.

**Friends Emphasis:** The Friends meeting appeared in the newspaper. The group discussed having a Friends member social meeting. It was decided that for the Fall, the Overlook dedication would serve as the meeting.

**Board Social:** The Board social will be at John L.'s house on September 27 at 5:00. We will be watching the Auburn vs. UT football game (War Eagle!) depending on the time of the game. More details will follow from John L. as to what to bring.

**Friends' Conference:** The next conference is Oct. 17-19 at Pickwick Landing State Park. Bob clarified that the state will pay for one room. Other Board members should consider going. Sheri is a maybe and John M. will likely go. Carpooling could be arranged.

**Friends Contract:** Bill Andrews had a motion to sign and approve the Friends' contract with the state. Frank had a second and the motion passed all in favor. John M. will sign and send to the state.

## **New Business**

**Visitor's Center Renovations:** John L. discussed the plans for the Visitor's Center renovations. The first phase will be the addition of a building on the back to house bathrooms. The bathrooms will then be removed from the main center to make room for more office space. This project will be costly although no cost figures are known at this time. UT architects are working on this project as well.

## **Committee Reports:**

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

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Membership – Sheri gave an update post-race to be currently 252 members and 31 corporate members. Sheri noted that the race registrants did not have a spot for their email address so we will have to mail lots of newsletters in the future.

Grant Research – Frank will contact Earl Rowe about interest for this position.

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**Next Meeting:** Saturday, September 27 at John LeCroy's house at 5:00 p.m.

**The meeting adjourned at 8:26 pm.**

Respectfully submitted,  
John Mitrik