

Friends of Seneca Creek State Park

Board Meeting Minutes from August 14, 2013

Call to order at 7:00 pm

Attendees- Steve Hackman, Earl Pfeiffer, Dave Powell, Bonnie Bell, Dave Scull, Bruce Goldensohn, Agatha DeJonge, Ron Anderson, Acquenetta Anderson, Matthew Kronzek and Ken Grundy.

Absent- Ellen Erdelsky

Dave Powell mentioned that he has an interview for the park manager position next Thursday.

The May 1st meeting minutes were approved with corrections.

Presentation by the Friends of the Seneca Stone Cutting Mill

The mill is very close to the property line between the State Park and the National Park Service. The original Smithsonian Building was built with stones from this mill. Their main goals are to preserve what is still there, put up signs and placards to tell people about the mill, and possibly rebuild some of the structure to show what the mill used to look like. People from the Benjamin Harrison chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution started this group. They have a web site and they will be posting their plans on it. The FOSCSP will discuss the possibility of putting a link to their web site on our web site. On October 2nd, the Friends of the Seneca Stone Cutting Mill(FOSSCM) will be having a wreath laying and they will be inviting many people including the board of the FOSCSP. Matthew Krozek asked us to look at the web site for Government Island in Virginia to see what they have done to preserve the mill there and stated that their group should be able to do the same thing here. Dave Powell talked about the organizing of this group, how it started and their goals. Our board had a few questions, comments, and suggestions. Noted historian and writer Garret Peck wrote a book about the mill and the Smithsonian building.

Treasurer's Report - Steve Hackman

See report.

Membership Report- Ellen Erdelsky

See report.

Ellen couldn't make it to this meeting, but she e-mailed the report to Ken.

Parking Lot Project

The last form has been sent to Terry Maxwell and we believe it is correct. The gates have been purchased, but have not been put in yet. There was some discussion about how a mule(ATV) would be part of this project and how it could be approved by the state. It was stated that the original Memorandum of Understanding could be rewritten and approved by the state. Ken will ask Naomi Manders if she can do this.

Management Report- Dave Powell

Bethany Lilliard is now the senior Ranger at the park. Brian Roshon is the new ranger at SCSP. The park may get another ranger but it will not be until next summer.

The Park Service is still looking into making a beach at SCSP but it is a huge project.

It has been a tough summer at the park. Kendall's dad passed away and he was out for a few weeks. They are still trying to get caught up on things.

The park has fixed the bridge on the Seneca Bluff's Trail and it is now open.

Dave McGill and MORE have proposed a new trail to extend the Seneca Bluffs Trail. It was submitted in the spring and has been approved.

Dave Powell asked about our large purchases over the years in reference to a notice that he received from the Park Service and how they would like to keep track of large donations made to the park.

The MOCO Epic asked Dave Powell if we would like to have a booth at this event. Although many of the board are very busy, we are going to try to do this.

Purchase Requests- Dave Powell wants signs on posts for the trees around the Visitors Center. There used to be signs on the trees, but over time they have deteriorated or fallen off. With these signs one can go on a self guided tour to find many different species of trees in a relatively small area. An amount of \$200.00 for this purchase was approved unanimously. Dave also asked for some stickers to put on existing signs to elaborate on information already on the signs. This purchase for \$300.00 was approved with one abstaining vote.

Dave Powell has been working on the trail map and hopefully it will be done by next summer. The state is working on an app with maps of the parks so you can find out where you are at any time.

Earl mentioned that he will be repainting the trail blazes on his part of the Greenway Trail and thought that the park was out of paint. Dave Powell stated that they recently got some more.

Roundtable- Everyone

Bonnie Bell said that she would organize the manning of a booth at the MOCO Epic even though she has guests coming into town that weekend. The prime hours of the event are 11:00 to 7:00 Saturday and Sunday but the main day to have the booth manned is Saturday the 12th. Ken will send out an e-mail to the Friends members about volunteering for us that day and contacting Bonnie to be put on the schedule.

Steve Hackman stated that we received a letter from the Secretary of State of Maryland about the Maryland Solicitation Act. The letter said that we may need to have a full audit if we have a certain amount of income a year. Steve filled out the letter noting that we should be exempt so we will see what happens. Dave Powell wanted a copy of the letter so he could keep the Park Service apprised of the situation.

Earl Pfeiffer noted that the peony garden is in bad shape and needs weeding. Dave Powell said that he would try to get a volunteer group together to help do this.

Bruce Goldensohn asked when the picnic and next meeting were going to be. The annual picnic is set for Saturday, November 2nd and the board decided to have the next meeting after the picnic at approximately 1:30 pm.

Ken admitted that he needs a secretary to take the minutes at our meetings and he will mention this in the e-mail that he sends to the members about the booth. Ken will also mention the date of the picnic so they can save the date.

The next meeting is scheduled for Saturday, November 2nd at about 1:30 pm.