

Friends of Seneca Creek State Park

Board Meeting Minutes from August 17, 2011

Call to order at 7:00 pm

Attendee's- Steve Hackman, Ed Branges, Earl Pfeiffer, Dave Scull, Kim Lloyd, Josette Wiggins, Bruce Goldensohn, Ellen Erdelsky, and Ken Grundy.

Absent- Dr. Stan Forster

Approved minutes from June 15, 2011 meeting with corrections, which was the May meeting.

Treasurer's Report- Steve Hackman

See sheet. We received a \$100.00 donation from a lady who was visiting the area and liked the park. Ellen sent her a thank you letter

Expense of \$50.00 was our Costco membership fee, \$12.16 was our web site domain name fee.

We purchased a winch and a cradle for \$1110.73, and the rest of the money noted was for port-a-potties.

Membership Report- Ellen Erdelsky

The May report (see separate sheet) was handed out since it was not done at the June meeting. The August report (see separate sheet) stated that we have 4 new members. There is also one new member that did not make this report. Bruce mentioned that we should send an invitation letter to join the Friends to all of the City Council and the Mayor.

Management Report- Kim Lloyd

There was a meeting between the Black Rock Road neighbors, the MNCPPC, and the DNR Police that did not involve the Park staff to discuss the issues with the users of that area. The mill, the parking lot and the mill race are being leased by MNCPPC from the state park service. North of the bridge and the parking areas along the creek belong to the park and are their responsibility. MNCPPC will continue to care for this area for the time being. However, they are going to try to get out of this lease. During

the time that they have leased the area they restored the mill. Jim McMahon, the manager of Black Hills, is in charge of the mill operationally. The park staff often picks up trash in the area. Kim is planning on reposting "No Swimming" signs after Labor Day. One incident of note was a tree that caught fire on the park side of the creek.

Kim mentioned that many parks that have swimming areas were being closed because they had reached maximum capacity, one of them only a few minutes after they opened for the day!

The park is now considered fully staffed with 8 full time people. Recent additions include Park Tech's, Alan Zlotkowski and Adam Franklin and a Ranger named Dave Naftalin.

The park is busy renewing their agricultural leases. That is why the equipment and maps were in the lobby. It was mentioned that the price per acre will probably go up.

The Darnestown Civic Association proposed to the park that they build two, 1 acre deer enclosures. It was agreed to try two, ½ acre enclosures. One site is off of Route 118 up stream of Seneca Creek and the other is off of Haddonfield Way.

Delegate Shane Robinson held a fundraiser at the park on September 10th.

We heard from Naomi Watts that the trail grant project has been given preliminary approval.

The Seneca Ridge Trail is completed and the Seneca Bluffs Trail is almost done and the bridge that was mentioned at the last meeting has been completed.

The park is working on rerouting the Seneca Greenway Trail so it will bypass the WSSC road between Riffleford Road and Great Seneca Highway due to erosion.

Purchase Requests-

The park asked for a 35" to 40" flat screen television screen and parts for the lobby of the Visitor's Center for \$600.00. The motion was reluctantly approved by the board. I did not get a vote count.

Kendall Mott mentioned that he wanted a mig welder but we did not have enough information to vote on this item.

There has been some talk at the park about putting a parking lot at the old Gun Club for trail access.

Roundtable- Everyone

Dave Scull noted that the trail work has been moving quickly.

Bruce Goldensohn asked if the park wanted to know about injured deer. He has had a 3 legged deer around his house for a while. Kim said that if the deer can walk about 10 steps than it will probably be OK.

Ellen Erdelsky mentioned that three new comprehensive posters have been put up. Apparently, we still have 9 of them. The vandal proof cases are ready and just need to be put out. Ellen asked the board for a paper cutter and the purchase was approved for \$100.00.

Ken Grundy stated that he needed to update the March meeting minutes with an addendum that includes the purchase approval of the Park Quest Donation and the laminator.

There was a discussion about the trail grant and it was noted that the board has not approved or voted on anything. There was a verbal agreement between Naomi Manders and Ken Grundy that the Friends would be the name on the grant application and that if it all worked out and we felt that we were guaranteed to be paid back by the state, that we would front the money needed for the project in small increments.

Next meeting scheduled for Saturday, November 19th at about 1:30 pm, after the Annual Meeting and Picnic.