**Friends of Cheyenne Mountain State Park Board Meeting**

May 12, 2014

The meeting was called to order by Pat Cooper at 5:00 pm.

Members present were: Pat Cooper, Susan Simmons, Steve Johnson, Glen and Barb Scott, Erika Dragoo, Jack Busher, Rod Erin, Ralph Cadwallader, Lori O’Hare and Mitch Martin.

It was moved by Glen and seconded by Ralph that the minutes be approved. The minutes from April were approved by unanimous vote.

**Reports**

**Treasurer’s Report:**  Total assets are: $21,038.77. It was decided that it is a good idea for Pat to sign a receipt if Barb writes a check for cash. Barb asked if we wanted renew our membership of $60 to TOSC. We voted to make the donation.

**Membership:** Since the first of the year, there have been $1,222 in memberships. Nalda Mitchell, Lydia and Phillip West, Jim Budnella, James McCorkle, Pat and Lydia Grove, Tom Wilson, and Eric and Erika Dragoo have all renewed or are new members this month.

**Communications:** Erika received many positive comments about the new Friends newsletter. One thought was that people may not open the newsletter because they think it is junk mail. Erika and Pat were going to take a look at that potential issue. Facebook had 51 views and 2 likes. The website had 105 views and 4 comments.

Pat has requested a bio from our new board members so that can be updated on our website. Pat will also post the results of the Dinosaur Prediction Race on the websites along with our goals.

**Volunteer update:** The mitigation for Tuesday has been canceled due to snow. There will be work done on Saturday. There has been great media coverage for the mitigation. It was even in the Denver Post.

Erika is leading a new fitness hike and using an app for it. It was set to be every other week, but she is changing it to every week because of hiker’s requests. It is at 10:00. Steve is helping with the basic hike and Karen Littrell does the advanced hike.

Wildflower hikes will be every other Wednesday and this Wednesday will be the first one.

Nest monitoring starts this week. Mike Lundy saw the head of baby bird in the Red Tail nest.

During April and May, there are over 40 events at the park, not counting yoga!

There will be a meeting May 22nd at 5:00 to review the Dinosaur Prediction Race. There were 50 registered participants. We will vote at our next board meeting if it should be an annual event.

The history booklet, put together by Jeremy Agnew is near completion. They might want to include a picture of the old lime kilns (Rich Dudley and several Friends will be hiking the valley to find the kilns). It was suggested by Rod that somewhere on the booklet, Friends should be mentioned. We will need to discuss how to market and sell and the booklet.

The shed on top the mountain is still standing, but the foundation is 1/3 gone, due to the massive rain storms we had in the fall. Repairs will need to be made.

**Park Manager Update:** Everything is running smoothly.All the staff has been hired. Our new ranger is Darcy Mount and she will begin June 1. She is coming from Lake Pueblo. The Governor is coming this Wednesday to sign three military bills into law. He will be at the Prairie Skipper Pavilion.

**Old Business:** The winners of Indy Gives will be June 4th.

$200 will be used to purchase new plants for the Visitor Center garden. The Glen and Barb donated $50 for the effort and there was also an anonymous donation from another board member. Lucy, Barb and Stacey will buy some plants this weekend at the Native Horticultural Plants sale in Monument Park. There is no date set for planting.

**New Business:** Pam and Dan Scott were wondering if we might want to check into USA Archery. It is the organization that monitors the Olympics. Since we already have a 501C in place, USAA could take advantage of that. We could then get things cheaper. Mitch said that he was looking into the potential of an archery club here. If the club was an off shut of Friends, 1. They could be accredited, 2. Friends could manage the funds, 3. We could be in charge of the calendar and special events. Ralph asked if the archery club would be a sub club of Friends. Rod thought we could amend the articles of incorporation. IRS and liability could be issues. Mitch didn’t think we would have to deal with dues. He said he would get in touch with the Scotts. The National Field Archery Association is another consideration.

Jack said some Friends would like to see a broader interest served. Possibly an adult event, such as a photography class would be in order. It would be great to get someone like John Fielder. Jack will look into this.

There will be Karma Hour at Bristol Brewing from 5-9 on May 27th. Erika said she would send out an invitation using Smile Box. There was some discussion about using that site to communicate with Friends, as many people may not open the e-mail, thinking it is spam. Pat and Erika will look into using Smile Box. Glen suggested looking into Google Apps for the newsletter, as it might have the same abilities as Smile Box. Some experimenting will be done.

At 9:00 on the 21st of May, we will meet to help reposition retail and moving things around for our designated Friends spot at the Visitor Center.

The selling of firewood project was mentioned and we were told that after further investigation Mitch concluded it wouldn’t be a good project because it was not cost effective.

Pat Grove requested a band for Ranch Day. $400 for 1½ - 2 hours. There was a discussion and there was concern that last year there weren’t enough people to make the band make any sense. Pat Cooper will talk with Pat Grove and let him know what our budget looks like. Steve suggested looking into a powwow instead of a band.

Ranch Day is June 14th. Pat said that the new publicity person (Abby Wall) is really good, so hopefully there will be some great publicity.

Our next meeting will be at 5:00 on Monday, June 9 . Motion was made to adjourn. Motion approved unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 6:30.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Simmons, Secretary