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

November 11, 2014

The meeting was called to order by Pat Cooper at 5:02 pm.

Members present were: Jack Busher, Susan Simmons, Glen and Barb Scott, Erika Dragoo, Mitch Martin, Ralph Cadwallader and Pat Cooper

It was moved and seconded that the minutes be approved with one amendment. The minutes were approved by unanimous vote.

**Reports**

**Treasurer:**  Total assets are: $19,911.02

**Membership:** Steve and Joyce Johnson renewed their membership for $60. Myra and Mac McCoy renewed for $30, as did Ann Gerber. Judy Robinson is a new member.

**Communications:** Erika Dragoo said Facebook is going well. When photos are included, they receive “likes”. She asked Pat Cooper to write a paragraph for the president’s input in the newsletter.

**Volunteer update:** A donation was given to Friends by the Montessori class that enjoyed learning about prairie dogs. There was also a Webelos scout family hike.

The fitness hikes are posted on Facebook. There will be no hike tomorrow due to the weather.

Barb Scott asked Mitch Martin if schools could give donations to Friends for time given to them by volunteers. Mitch Martin said yes, no problem.

Ralph Cadwallader said he has backed off fire mitigation because he was up so high (a lot of boulders). He will get started on Pine Oaks as soon as he has a chipper. Mitch Martin said there would be a purchase order for the chipper soon. Ralph also used the brush hog to clear out the equestrian trail. He was wondering when it would open. Mitch said his goal was before Thanksgiving. He is waiting for signage. Jack Busher requested that the equestrian trail be one way up Talon. Mitch said enforcement could be an issue.

Jack said if we get good weather, he will put out an email to get workers on the trails. South Talon needs some work due to erosion. The archery range also needs some more work (bridge, steps).

**Park Manager Update:**

Darcy Mount is the senior ranger. Park ranger position will be kept open until April, looking for a good fit. If no one works out, the position may stay empty for a year.

The campgrounds are still being used. Revenue is up 30% over last fiscal year. Anticipated self-sufficient ratio is 80%, which is up from 71% last year. Final figures will be released soon.

**Old Business:** The auction brought in $535. There is still more revenue coming. $161.63 was spent. The guests enjoyed the morning. Darcy did a great job.

The next volunteer meeting will be November 19th.

Pat Cooper is looking into the possibility of having an artifact hike. (Jeremy Agnew would lead it).

Mitch said there is going to be a regent partnership meeting at 12:00 on December 3 at the Sinton office. The meetings may be quarterly. The purpose is for likeminded people to network. Friends are invited, as will be outdoors organizations and businesses.

Barb Scott has a little more work to do to get the last plants labeled.

We are coming to the end of the year. It would be a good time to request tax deductible donations. Pat Cooper will put in a request on Facebook.

**New Business:** Steve Johnson has requested being reinstated on the board. Barb moved that he be a board member. It was seconded by Jack. He was voted in as a board member. We discussed several other people. Dick Standeart’s name was brought up. Several members didn’t think he would work well on this board. Kathleen Cook has declined. Barry Cooper’s name was brought up. Pat Cooper didn’t think it would work. We need a new member who has specific skills. Janeen Igou did say she may be in a position to come back in a few months. Glen said it would be best to have an odd number and enough members to have a quorum. Everyone needs to keep their eyes open for new members. An email will be sent to volunteers asking them to apply.

New cookies will be made tomorrow at 1:00 at the visitor center.

No update on the Cheyenne Mountain run. It is still planned for the last weekend in October.

Pat Cooper brought up a fundraising opportunity at Bass Pro Shop. We could wrap presents for a donation. She will look into a date and details.

She also proposed a board planning session. We would have a professional facilitator (time donated) and discuss roles and responsibilities. Glenn felt that we would need more than two hours, probably three to four. Pat is looking at getting something set up for January 20 or 27th. It will probably be off site.

Barb said a donation box was broken. Jack moved and it was seconded to buy a new box for up to $60. It was approved.

Ann Gingrich is our new fall naturalist. Barb said we have a credit card that we could give to her. Mitch suggested it be given to Darcy.

The January 12th meeting is canceled. If there is anything we need to discuss as a board, we will do it before our planning session.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:20. Respectfully submitted, Susan Simmons, Secretary