

July 9, 2018 minutes – Friends of Rock Bridge Board meeting

In attendance: Sue Tillema, Jim Gast, Kevin Roberson, Lynne Hooper

The meeting was called to order at approximately 6:08 p.m. We had a quorum of Board members. The agenda was approved for the meeting. On motion made, seconded and carried, the minutes from the June 22, 2018 meeting were approved.

New from the Park from Sarah Jones

- Thailand cave issues have renewed interest in the park and the cave
 - o There were more than 600 visitors on Saturday
 - o 3600 saw the ad for the Connor's Cave Tours on Facebook
 - o 1001 shared or liked the post
- Channel 13 and Channel 8 are seeking interviews – central office has authorized talking to the media about cave safety
- Sarah pointed out that the park has boxes of old FoRB patches from a program that was done years ago – she will get a count of how many patches of each kind there are
- The trail work day on June 24th went well – Sarah plans to schedule some workdays in September
- The Handy Hosts have advised that it is too warm in the location where their RV is parked and the air conditioning cannot keep up – they suggested an awning to park under which would cost approximately \$5,500 installed – Sarah wants to do a fundraiser for the carport and would have FoRB handle the money
- Sarah has been trying to use the Handy Hosts to work on the boardwalk – a park construction crew is not available until September 19th
- Jim made a motion for FoRB to manage the funds for the awning, Lynne seconded, motion passed
- Sarah suggested that a booth on a Weekends on the Boardwalk weekend would be a good way to collect donations for the awning / maybe have the awning in place for next summer
- Sue suggested that FoRB could maybe make up any shortage in funding
- Sarah will try outreach to local organizations
- Another Handy Host couple is coming in September
- MoDOT is surveying Highway 163 for widening through the park and making provision for the intersection for Clear Creek Estates– Sarah hopes that they can repair some of the park roads at the same time
- Hickam cabin is completed except for the sign – Sarah will have a cost estimate for the sign put together for the next meeting

Treasurer's Report

- On Motion made, seconded and carried, it was decided to move discussion of the Treasurer's Report until next month when Jan can attend

Old business

- Clear Creek Estates (McTurnan property) – developer is still working on the details of the annexation agreement with the City
- Sarah said all 45 lots have been sold
- Lynne did not have an update on water quality testing

New business

- CFM Explore the Outdoors – CFM said would give us half a table for a booth for the cost of adult tickets
 - o After brief discussion, the Board decided not to pursue this
- NEEF grant
 - o Jim and Jan met and deciding FoRB needs to work on branding and marketing
 - o The purpose of the grant will be to hire a marketing consultant for \$1,500 – a survey for 600 park-goers will be developed – FoRB members would be responsible for 100 hours of surveying in the next year for match
 - o Sarah would sign a letter of support in partnership with FoRB – the letter will describe how the project will help the community and the park itself
 - o Jim emailed Jan with a few edits
 - o The survey will have a maximum of 7 questions
 - o On Motion made, seconded and carried, the Board voted to approve the grant application
- Jim will be taking over editing of the FoRB newsletter with the September issue
- Sponsor development
 - o Kevin said this may be something we want to pursue – Jim and Kevin may meet soon to talk about this

The meeting was adjourned at 6:54 p.m.