Minutes May 5, 2015

White Mountains Interpretive Association

The meeting was called to order at 5:36pm at the Saco Ranger Station. Board members in attendance were Bob Smith, Doug and Kathy Somerville, Gary Gustafson, Ken Rancourt, Carol Felice and NEW board member Bruce Miller. Tiffany Benna represented the USFS.

Kathy moved we accept the previous minutes, Carol seconded, and the BOD accepted the minutes.

**Treasurer’s Report**

Ken reported that the invoices and cash looks good. Doug will sign the papers for the new account.

**Retail Discussions**

Rhonda has done the final correction to the Ben’s #.

Doug told Tiffany to send the Intuit card swipe to Rhonda.

Gary reviewed the traffic counts. Books, t-shirts and hats are our biggest sales. We might consider a new hat like Mt. Chocorua.

Tiffany proposed pre-orders of NF fleece vests for FS employees first. We also mentioned fleece jackets, polo shirts and a poly shirt with a Chocorua logo. Gary will check with NE Embroidery.

The old question of why we aren’t selling passes and maps at Lincoln Woods came up and Tiffany reminded us that there is no electricity for a POS and barely any staff.

The BOD decided to make no changes to the credit card policy regarding minimums.

Through Doug, Maxine passed on to us that Saco Ranger Jim Innis says a water bottle vending machine is incompatible and that next year they could look at a water bottle filling fountain.

Maxine and Joe are planning to train seasonals on opening & closing procedures, how to make a sale, apply discounts, record transfers and other Retail Handbook things.

Rhonda says that exchanges are still not being done and to contact her to track the problem.

Bob and Doug will do a Campton inventory May 19th if the Ranger is there. Ken will do one at Andro.

Ken will send the information that Blue Dolphin needs to go ahead with the new tees.

Gary will e-mail Tiffany the 2015 1st Qtr P&L which shows store results.

It was suggested to pin t-shirts on the upper walls of the Saco store.

Regarding a previous meeting discussion of a new bookkeeper because of the current high expense, Ken suggested we stick with Rhonda until the POS is running smoother and then troubleshoot our own needs. Then by fall, ask her to re-evaluate her fees if we are less “trouble”.

**Membership**

Kathy reported no new members. In June the renewal letter will go out. Then the campground brochure will go out with the newsletter. Kathy requests anyone to send ideas for articles.

**Interpretive Projects**

We will be meeting at the RC House Saturday May 16th, 9am, to prepare it for the open season. Carol will bring her vacuum and rags, will list the plants that will be saved in the gardens, and contact Ed Wright FS to bring the generator and extension cord and suggest a mold cleaner. Ken will check on a timer for the RC garden soaker hose. After some discussion, we decided to leave the RCH peeling ceiling paint AS IS since there is no guarantee new paint won’t peel even worse and it feels more authentic and most likely, the Russells would not have had it painted at all.

Kathy reported that 1 applicant resulted from all the ads that went to the elementary schools for RCH staff. An ad for volunteers is also out as part of a larger Saco volunteer ad.

**The summer meetings will be Friday June 12 at 9:30am, Monday July 13, 9:30am, and Thu Aug 13, 5:30pm.**

The meeting adjourned at 8pm.