

FFV Labor Day Meeting Minutes: 9/2/18

FFV Secretary: Ginnie M Peck

President: Rock Willoughby called the meeting to order. Thank You to the Slate River Partners for the use of the property and facilities.

Secretary: Ginnie Peck *made a motion to accept the Memorial Day Meeting Minutes as printed in the Newsletter.* Rick Mattox seconded the motion. No discussion followed. **Motion Passed.**

Treasurer: Ginnie Peck will pass the treasurer duties to Bryan Jones at the December Meeting. A treasurer's report was not available. Recommend Bryan Jones be added to the FFV State account at BB&T as soon as possible. The monthly statements should be re-routed to Bryan, at his address. **Bill Tanger made a motion for Bryan Jones to be added to the BB&T account & remove Thomas Baker.** Ginnie Peck seconded the motion. No discussion followed. **Motion was passed.**

Webmaster: Traci Martin was unable to attend the meeting. Please send all updates to Traci Martin directly: traci.martin1970@gmail.com Please also send any pictures, stories, or changes to Traci. Newsletter should be posted to the FFV Web Page prior to the final draft of the newsletter being sent to the membership via e-mail & snail mail.

Membership Chair: Scott McEwen reported 113 paid members as of Memorial weekend. Our membership is down. There are a few updates, from this weekend. Final 2018 membership number will be given at the December Meeting.

Newsletter Editor: Vera Houghton was unable to attend the meeting. Recommendations made for Newsletter Editor to make sure Newsletters are posted to the Web Page prior to sending to the membership. Please check with Membership Chair for most updated list for US Mail recipients. The ffvbusiness@gmail.com account is set up as the master e-mail list. The newsletter should ideally be sent from that account to make sure all recipients are included. If any e-mails bounce back as invalid, please notify the Membership Chair. Membership Chair should be updating the e-mail account as changes are made to the membership list.

Conservation Chair: Bill Tanger

1. **Randy Carter Memorial Award 2017** presented to Brian Williams for his continued dedication to the conservation and preservation of the Dan & Smith rivers.
 - a. Brian graciously accepted the award and thanked FFV for the award. He is very appreciative of our efforts in Conservation. He extended an invitation to host FFV'ers on the Dan & Smith Rivers.
 - b. He first got involved in the project was due to a letter from FFV several years ago. There was significant pollution on the rivers with very little recreational activity or use of the rivers.

- c. It took a few years to figure out how things work and the steps necessary to incur change. Many trips to DC and letters to our delegates.
 - d. He is currently working on community efforts to get kids and families involved in river health and activities to include education, river clean ups, fishing, and boating activities. Trout fishery is developing kid's programs and helping to change the communities.
 - e. As the health of the rivers have improved river activities have increased. There are now people fishing, canoeing, & kayaking. Fishing had been basically non-existent before the project started.
 - f. With factories gone the area is rebounding because the rivers are cleaner and fish are healthier. This has caused an economic boost in recreational activities and businesses.
 - g. There are still clean up issues and threats to the ecosystems. As education and community involvement improve the quality of our waters will continue to improve.
 - h. He thanked us again and is honored by this award because it came from "River People".
 - i. Bill Tanger has recommended we host another State Float along the Dan River.
- 2. Pigg River:** This is the largest conservation project has ever undertaken.
- a. When Duke dumped chemical big products into the Dan River per the normal protocol all local & state agencies got together to form a Trustees for that specific river & project (Pigg River Restoration Project).
 - b. The Trustees look at the level of & importance of the pollution & put together a plan for that river and water shed.
 - c. For this specific project there were 20 different proposals submitted. FORVA came out on top, of all proposals.
 - d. The Trustees went to the responsible party to confirm that they are the accurate responsible party and to help with negotiations.
 - e. The Responsible Party – Duke – was not able give money to state agencies or to the government. They gave the money for conservation & restoration to FORVA.
- 3. Balcony Falls Project – Started in 2006**
- a. Money has been set aside by Dominion Power for relicensing (\$165,000.00)
 - b. Dominion Power is obligated to address issues.
 - c. Dominion Power has put DCR in charge of deciding what to do with the \$\$.
 - d. DCR gave up and turned the money over to FORVA.
 - e. Currently working on permits to create a new access road above the picnic ground.
- 4. Rock Willoughby – Questioned where we stand with the Uranium Project**
- a. Brian Williams stated that the Uranium Companies promise that this will bring jobs to the area.
 - b. This does bring jobs for miners to the area. The miners are hired from elsewhere and leave when the job is done. This does not bring jobs to people locally.

- c. When the Uranium Companies move out the local and state agencies are left to clean up and restore the ecosystem and areas. The Uranium Companies are NOT liable to leave the area in the condition it was found.
- d. Bill Tanger stated that this is true of ALL mining companies. The responsibility and cost falls on local and state agencies.

Old Business:

1. Herb Coleman Scholarship Program

- a. The Foundation will create a board of trustees to oversee applications.
- b. Should have details to offer at the Winter Meeting

2. Bass Pro – Booths

- a. Rock, Herb, & Ashley set up a booth at Bass Pro.
- b. They saw a lot of people and are trying to get the word out.
- c. Would like to set up another booth.
- d. Recommendations were made to contact Appomattox River Company and set up booths at their demo days.
- e. Lauren suggested setting up a public page, connected to the FFV page. She will contact Traci Martin to coordinate.

New Business:

1. Chapter Treasurers duties

- f. Kitty Kimmel takes care of FFV State & Foundation taxes
- g. Chapter Treasurers are to send her an end of year statement with total deposits for the year.
- h. Recommend Chapter Treasurer information be updated on the Web Page and in each newsletter.

2. Bill Tanger made a motion to remove the “Lifetime Members” from the FFV Membership List. *The previous member has passed away.* Don Leeger seconded the motion. No discussion followed. **Motion carried.**

Meeting Adjourned: Ginnie Peck made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Carolyn seconded the motion. No discussion followed. **Motion Carried.**