

Tennessee Park Rangers' Association  
Board Meeting  
May 8, 2012  
10:00 AM; Montgomery Bell State Park

I. Call to Order

II. Roll Call and Attendance

Board Members  
Walter Pope  
Mike Cole  
Crystal Rich  
Andy Wright  
Bridget Lofgren  
Rachel Lee

Members  
Jane Polansky  
Bill Knapp

III. Minutes From Annual Meeting.

A. Minutes from the annual meeting were approved.

IV. Treasurer Report

A. Jeff gave the treasury report via telephone.

1. Scholarship Fund \$35,247
2. Approximately \$3090 in checking account
3. 16 Rifle orders submitted at this time.
4. Ultra Sign up has been great.
5. Membership is at 72 members.

B. Treasurer Report was approved.

V. Old Business

A. Fitness Committee tabled until Ray Cutcher is present.

B. Uniforms

1. Mike said that the attention for the field was toward the badge issues.
2. Talked about the points from the meeting with Interim Director Mike Robertson and Chief Ranger Shane Petty.
3. Committee came up with ideas for the seasonal uniforms:
  - a. Strictly go by the written policy
  - b. Uniform without a badge on any noncommissioned uniform
4. Uniform Ideas
  - a. Badges sewn on shirts, and caps.
  - b. Uniform committee for the Ranger Program will blend with the TPRA Uniform Committee.
  - c. Safety Issue with non-commissioned people wearing a badge.
  - d. Follow policy
  - e. To wear a badge you must be commissioned part-time or fulltime.
  - f. Make badges more retainable when employees leave.

### C. Legislative Committee

1. Lobbyest need a panel to interview prospective candidates.
  - a. Slow down but don't drop the idea.
  - b. Talk to legislators, see if the Commissioner will back the proposal.
  - c. Look at hiring a consultant to put together a package to present.
  - d. Talk to colleges and see if as a project would want to undertake a study, to survey the benefits of law enforcement agencies, liabilities, retirement, safety, cost, the rangers that are on food stamps, etc.
  - e. Anthony Jones would like to be added to the Legislative Committee
  - f. Questions from the Leg. Committee-
    - i. When you put on a gun and badge, what do you give up?
    - ii. Benefits for law enforcement officers that are shot in the line of duty.
    - iii. The law enforcement offenses that Park Rangers handle

### D. Events Committee

1. Byrd Creek Trail Run is coming up, need helpers.
2. Savage Gulf Trail Marathon - 56 participants  
Went really well.
3. Training scholarship awarded to rangers that work events. Any event sanctioned by TPRA.
4. Spring BRAT went well, approximately 60 riders.

### E. Scholarship Committee

1. Vote on rewording application for scholarship so that TPRA sanctioned event is eligible for scholarship. Tabled.
2. Training Scholarship- currently a reimbursement. Buy insurance to cover back outs for advance payment.
3. Honoria Fund to bring in a good speaker for trainings but not to satisfy a requirement.

### F. Awards Committee - no one present

### G. Fitness Committee

1. Department of Health and Scholarships
2. Having inservice at TLETA raised participation percent. Was down at Horton.

### H. Website

1. Bill Knapp has the \$50.00 invoice for the annual cost of site.
2. Updated on May 16
3. Talk to event coordinators about last minute links.
4. Junior Ranger Camps on website- Failed lack of a motion.

## VI. New Business

### A. Byrd Creek Trail Run and Junior Ranger Camp.

1. Money was sent to Monica, in lieu of an earlier vote we thought.

2. Donation should go to Friends of Cumberland Mountain State Park- \$800.00.
  3. Discuss at who we should write the check to.
- B. Meeting with Mike Robertson and Shane Petty on April 26th
1. Committees for Ranger Program- each committee should have a TPRA Board Member sitting.
  2. Top to Bottom Review-
    - a. Medical Training - handled by situation
    - b. Audit found \$11,000 being spent per EMT trained.
    - c. System will still support medical program but training will be handled differently.
    - d. Inservice training-everything to achieve required level of training in house to meet POST standards.
- C. Training - Look into contacting Ranger Brody about speaking or teleconferencing.
- D. Positions
1. Andy brought to the board a request to speak on JR Tinch's behalf. He has served for 4 years as a law enforcement ranger and is still not qualified for the Park Ranger 2 position. Suggestion to draft a letter to Brock Hill to reclass the position due to working out of class.
- E. Next meetings were set for August 21, at 10 AM at Cedars of Lebanon State Park. November 13, at 10 AM at Longhunter State Park.
- F. Meeting was adjourned.