

What's Rockin' at Rockhound for February, 2016...Update

February Garden Care...Wednesday, February 17th...9:00 AM...

ROCKHOUND 50 MEETING.....10 AM after Garden Care on Wednesday, the 17th

February Monthly Meeting...Friends of Rockhound Birthday Party and Elections...Wednesday, the 24th

.Board Meeting / 9:00 AM...Election and Party / 10 AM...Visitor Center

We had a delightful and informative January meeting with members of the Deming Gem and Mineral Society and DGMS president Marilyn Page shared some history of the club, as well as some beautiful geologic specimens. We hope that several members of the Gem and Mineral Society can be with us at our April Native Plant Sale/Rockhound 50 event! **If you're interested in being involved** in helping plan this event, please join us on **Wednesday, February 17th at 10 AM** at the Visitor Center.

It is said that many hands make light work. There are a lot of important things that take place that make Friends of Rockhound the wonderful organization it is, and we are grateful that...

...Ben Kellogg has agreed to be our monthly Greeter at our meetings, as well as our Popcorn King at the Music at Rockhound summer events...

...Charlene LeMaster and Sherry Pryor will be taking care of our Friends' Library...

...Patrick and Mary Seltzer have taken over the Friends' Scrapbook job!

We're still looking for a **Director of Programs**. This is not a hard job and a lot of our monthly programs are set this year. This just includes contacting guest speakers and setting up the details of their talk.

Thanks everyone, for all you do for Friends!

Gratefully, *Sally Allen*, Friends of Rockhound State Park, Inc.

FRIENDS OF ROCKHOUND STATE PARK, INC.

Board Meeting Minutes- January 27, 2016

Board Members Present: Sally Allen, President; Keith Harris, Vice President; Veronika Barnes, Secretary; Donna Whitten, Treasurer; Marilyn Goble, Director. Absent: Art Vasquez, Immediate Past President. Also Present: Robert Apodaca, Park Manager.

Meeting called to order by President Sally at 9 a.m.

Minutes of October 28, 2015 read (no meetings in Nov-Dec); motion to approve by Keith, seconded by Marilyn, motion carried.

Treasurer's reports of November and December 2015 and January 2016 were read; Donna pointed out pen & ink corrections: 12/31/15 report's Savings/Checking account balances dates should read Dec 31, 2015; 1/31/16 report, same items, should read Jan 31, 2016.

Motion to approve as corrected by Marilyn, seconded by Keith, motion carried.

ROBERT'S REPORT

1. The glassed-in display case for the education building (REB) came in. Robert added a bottom frame with wheels. The case was purchased with funds allocated for education from the Coleman Memorial Fund.

2. In a meeting with NM State Parks Region 3 manager Melissa Torres, she suggested that expenditures for improvements to the REB be made within our own budget for the moment, and then send a proposal to Santa Fe for budgeting.

3. Store Sales: We have a number of annual permit holders, who RV full-time between our three parks, and don't make purchases at the store as out-of-area visitors might; hence, fluctuations in sales.

4. Ranger Carlos Tafoya has obtained his CDL (Commercial Driver's License). He is also in training as a water operator, which qualifies him to analyze water samples monthly from the park's well.

NEW BUSINESS

a. Coleman Memorial Scholarship (2nd year of 4) in the amount of \$500. Keith to collaborate with the school and review with Sally, with recommendations, and final decision made by Lori Coleman.

b. Slate of board member candidates for February 24th annual meeting/elections needs to be accomplished. Marilyn will procure cake and ice cream for the meeting.

SPECIAL PROJECTS / EVENTS

a. The Luminaria Festival of December 12th, 2015, was not a great success due to weather, which included snow, rain, wind, and cold temps. But the intrepid FOR members, candle lighters, Mr & Mrs Santa, Marines with Toys for Tots, went on with the show, hosting the few brave visitors with hot cider and biscochitos. Better luck next year!

b. Upcoming: ROCKHOUND 50, celebrating the 50th anniversary of Rockhound State Park, in conjunction with Desert Alive and native plant sale, on April 9, 2016. Planning meeting for this event to be held on Wed, Feb 17th, at 10 a.m., following garden care. Friends members are invited to attend the meeting to give input to help make this event a big success!

There being no further business, meeting was adjourned to a presentation by the Gem and Mineral Society.

Respectfully submitted by Veronika Barnes, Secretary