

## Friends of Midway State Park

### Summary of August 28, 2010 meeting

Attending: Evelyn Thorndike, Julie Reece, Andy Hillman, John Michael, Bob Terreberry, Bill Locke, Pat Locke, Binnie Kurtzner, Nancy Mentzer, Ren Collins, Matt Kraft, Evie London, Larry London, Shar Trenkamp, Kathie McCarthy, and Bob Wooler

Bob Wooler called the meeting to order and introductions were made around the tables. Kathie McCarthy offered a reminder and update on the Coke online voting sweepstakes challenge. Bob reviewed the goal of the meeting – to receive feedback on the draft membership brochure and letter and to discuss priorities in the state master plan so as to better coordinate the Friends' goals with the state's goals.

Andy Hillman, the park manager, offered a few updates:

- In the next year the state will be making repairs to the hippodrome roof and will reconstruct the piers for the carousel roundhouse, enabling the carousel to be moved back to its more protected location.
- Some shoreline restoration work will be done with plantings starting from the Viking Club side of the park shoreline.

Bob offered that shoreline restoration and trail and park area enhancements that are eco-friendly could be among the Friends' priorities because such grant funds are more possible to get. The carousel was affirmed as a top priority and the Friends' focus on horse and painting restoration was endorsed by Andy.

Larry London asked about networking with other Friends groups and park restoration organizations to find out about their grant sources, and Bob confirmed that was a good idea. Members who want to assist with this activity will be organized through e-mail contact.

Two suggestions came forward regarding copy changes in the brochure: emphasizing our focus on projects and not park operations, and including mention of fireworks in connection with "events."

The brochure will be printed and available at a membership table which will be set up for the Labor Day cruise-in. Pat and Bill Locke will staff the table – others are invited to spell them during the day. Because we will not have our 501c3 status in 2010, contributions made this year will not be tax-deductible, but given that we are pursuing such status immediately, we are not considering a temporary charitable fund such as one at the Chautauqua Region Community Foundation at this time. We will take steps to open a bank account, and M & T was suggested as a nonprofit-friendly bank.

A priority of fall and winter activity will be to build and launch an attractive website, build membership, and network extensively for contacts and support.