

FAIRY STONE STATE PARK
MASTER PLAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE
JUNE 3, 2003

MINUTES

The meeting was called to order at 3:30 PM in Fayerdale Hall at Fairy Stone State Park.

Advisory Committee members present were: Joan Pfeifer, Kim Adkins, Richard Crouch, Mr. And Mrs. Essary, David Hoback, Danny Martin, Lewis Norton, Roger Adams, Judith Winston, Jeremiah Mabe, and Andrew Kahle. John Grooms and Charlene Branch represented park staff. Robert Munson and Scott Bedwell facilitated the meeting.

Minutes of the previous meeting were approved as distributed.

A copy of the executive summary and findings of the 2001 State Park Users Survey was distributed and discussed. It was noted that the results of the survey tracked well with assumptions the committee had made in assessing current conditions and future needs in the park in our previous meeting.

The remainder of the meeting was spent developing a park purpose statement, goals, and objectives for the master plan and the park (Enclosure I).

The next meeting was scheduled for July 15, 2003, beginning at 3:30 PM. Attendees will meet at the park office. The purpose of the meeting will be to inspect certain areas with the park to identify the best location for development of a future equestrian facility. Attendance is optional.

A public input meeting is scheduled for July 22, 2003 at Fayerdale Hall from 6:30 to 9:30 PM. The purpose of that meeting will be to ascertain the public's perception of the desired future condition of the park, to solicit ideas, and to identify issues, opportunities and constraints. The draft goals and objectives developed at the June 3rd meeting will be presented for comment.

The meeting adjourned at 6:30 PM.

Draft Goals and Objectives for Fairy Stone State Park

A. Constitution of Virginia, Article XI-Section 1

“To the end that the people have clean air, pure water, and the use and enjoyment for recreation of adequate public lands, waters, and other natural resources, it shall be the policy of the Commonwealth to conserve, develop, and utilize its natural resources, its public lands, and historic sites and buildings. Further, it shall be the Commonwealth’s policy to protect its atmosphere, lands, and waters from pollution, impairment, or destruction, for the benefit, enjoyment, and general welfare of the people of the Commonwealth.”

B. Department of Conservation and Recreation Mission Statement

“The mission of the Department of Conservation and Recreation is to conserve, protect, and enhance the Commonwealth’s unique natural, recreational, scenic, historic and cultural resources. Within this broad mission, the Department manages a system of strategically located properties totaling approximately 80,000 acres.”

C. Virginia State Park Mission Statement

“To conserve the natural, scenic, historic and cultural resources of the Commonwealth and provide recreational and educational opportunities consistent with the good stewardship of these lands, waters and facilities that leaves them unimpaired for future generations.”

D. Fairy Stone State Park Purpose Statement

The purpose of Fairy Stone State Park, one of Virginia’s original CCC constructed parks, is to provide premiere outdoor recreational and educational opportunities while protecting and interpreting the natural, historical, and cultural resources of the scenic foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains of Virginia.

E. Goals and Objectives

Goal 1.0 – Protect and conserve the natural, historical, and cultural resources of the Park.

Objective 1.1 – Manage the park for the benefit of native species and natural communities.

Objective 1.2 – Implement the adopted Park Resource Management Plan.

Objective 1.3 – Implement policies and encourage practices to reduce light pollution in the park and area.

Objective 1.4 – Dredge the upper portions of Fairy Stone Lake to original contours.

Objective 1.5 – Encourage use of best management practices in the watershed to protect water quality in Fairy Stone Lake.

Objective 1.6 – Design, construct and locate facilities to complement the natural setting of the park.

Objective 1.7 – Manage storm water runoff to protect water quality in the lake.

Objective 1.8 – Co-manage wildlife and fisheries management activities on the park with the Department of Game and Inland fisheries.

Objective 1.9 – Dredge and repair the dam at the park water reservoir.

Goal 2.0 – Provide recreational opportunities for day-use visitors to the park.

Objective 2.1 – Upgrade the amphitheater to better support public performances and interpretative programs.

Objective 2.2 – Develop new, and enhance existing, multi-use trails in the park and extend them on to the Fairy Stone WMA and Philpott Reservoir project lands to create a system of interconnected trails throughout the extensive public land base.

Objective 2.3 – Develop a “single track” mountain bike trail system.

Objective 2.4 – Develop a trail around Fairy Stone Lake.

Objective 2.5 – Improve the park boat ramp and adjacent parking.

Objective 2.6 – Upgrade the bathhouse and food service facilities at the beach.

Objective 2.7 – Develop a swimming pool if lake swimming is ever prohibited.

Objective 2.8 – Replace the existing office and include space for a visitor’s center with displays, a sales area, guest check in, enhanced office space and meeting facilities.

Objective 2.9 - Replace the park’s potable water treatment system.

Objective 2.10 – Develop a shooting range in conjunction with DGIF on or adjacent to the WMA.

Objective 2.11 – Operate Fayerdale Hall to meet the need for space to conduct conferences, meetings, special events, and other social gatherings.

Objective 2.12 - Provide horseback riding as a concession activity.

Objective 2.13 - Renovate all park restrooms.

Goal 3.0 – Provide enhanced facilities for overnight visitors to the park.

Objective 3.1 – Convert the group camp to a campground with tent pads, and sites for pop-ups and small trailers with water and electric hook-ups. Replace the bathhouses.

Objective 3.2 – Provide three camping cabins in the campground.

Objective 3.3 – Construct 10 additional two and three bedroom cabins across the lake from the existing cabins.

Objective 3.4 – Upgrade the existing campground by replacing the bathhouse and rehabilitating each campsite.

Objective 3.5 – Develop a new group campground with bathhouse, shelters, and camping nodes at the old overflow campground area.

Objective 3.6 – Develop an equestrian campground.

Objective 3.7 – Provide a lodge for large group accommodation.

Objective 3.8 - Provide playgrounds for cabin and campground guests.

Goal 4.0 – Provide environmental education and cultural and historical interpretive services to the public.

Objective 4.1 – Construct a new environmental education/ nature center near the amphitheatre that can offer a range of concurrent programming and interpretive activities.

Objective 4.2 – Provide a full time park interpreter to guide interpretive and education programs from the education/nature center and on trails and water.

Objective 4.3 – Develop displays, brochures and interpretive programs that tell the story of the land and people, and the history and significance of the region and the park.

Objective 4.4 - Increase self-guided interpretive programs through the development of signage and brochures.

Objective 4.5 – Continue and enhance partnerships with local educational and cultural institutions for educational and interpretive programming.

Goal 5.0 – Participate in mutually beneficial efforts with partner organizations to enhance the entire region.

Objective 5.1 – Actively partner with other landowners within the watershed to ensure the protection and conservation of water quality and the scenery of the area.

Objective 5.2 – Actively partner with other agencies, to include the Chamber of Commerce, Office of Tourism, and the Convention and Business Bureau, near the park to promote the area and to provide information to the visiting public.

Objective 5.3 – Partner with conservation organizations, museums, colleges, local school systems, and other public agencies to enhance park offerings and educational opportunities.

Objective 5.4 – Foster community support and volunteerism within the park.

Objective 5.5 – Participate in local and regional planning efforts to foster sustainable land use and development that protects the water quality and scenic beauty of the Lake and region

Goal 6.0 – Administer and Manage the Park in a manner that fosters the public’s trust.

Objective 6.1 – Implement management plans and practices that foster good stewardship and appropriate “green” facility design that is consistent with the “CCC” design characteristics of the park.

Objective 6.2 – Provide appropriate staff levels with necessary skills and certifications to achieve the park’s goals and objectives.

Objective 6.3 – Provide services and facilities that meet public expectations for security, safety and health.

Objective 6.4 – Assure proper care and maintenance of park facilities and infrastructure.

Objective 6.5 – Construct an additional staff residence.

Objective 6.6 – Refurbish the pit privy building by shelter one and relocate it near the new environmental/nature center.

Objective 6.7 – Improve accessibility to park resources, facilities, and programs.