

Great Saltpetre Cave Preserve

Management Committee Meeting 11/18/2012
Shelter – Great Saltpetre Cave Preserve

Start 11:00 am (after Breakfast)

Committee Members present:

Richard Duncan
Werner Jud
Neena Jud

Scott Pavay
Jerry Brandenburg

Also attending:

Tammy Otten
Darlene Kisner
Cody Kisner

Duke Hopper
Darryl Marsh
Brian Blake

Secretary's Report

September Minutes were summarized and accepted (JB motion, SP 2nd)

Treasurer's Report

September 2012 was reviewed.

Income exceeded expenses. Detailed Financial report available on request.

Report accepted (NJ motion, SP 2nd)

Caretakers Report

Weekend of 11/10&11/2012 a Scout troop left with a smoldering fire. Another troop took care of it. Thanksgiving weekend Bill Carr may drain the water from the Showerhouse, closing it for winter. He removed leaves from entry drive (better tire traction).

Committee hopes that Bill will join us in future meetings held at the Shelter.

Old Business

Virtual Meeting/teleconferencing: The meeting was held at GSP in hopes that more people (especially BGGers) could participate. Jerry Dixon is researching options for teleconferencing. Richard Duncan will ask him if he can manage our next meeting as a virtual meeting.

Archaeological Investigation: Dr. George Crothers, Ky State Archaeologist (and Camille Westmont's advisor for this project) was unable to make this meeting, but is willing to visit and talk with the Committee about this pipe joint, options for leaving it visible, and reasons to re-cover it. Most Committee members and other interested cavers would like to leave this pipe joint visible for educational purposes, considering that there are probably other joints that are still buried. Decision was tabled until Dr. Crothers can talk with the Committee.

WiFi Service: The upcharge for WiFi (and free long distance) is \$47-48 per month. If RKC, GCG, and GSP each cover one month's worth of upcharges (for their

fundraising events), and if the WiFi access code was sold for \$20.00 per year, it would take 23 - 25 people to cover the cost.

The code will change in January, and during the prime fundraising events. People who want to use WiFi will need to buy an individual pass to get the new code. People will be encouraged to not share the code with friends, otherwise they may be asked to contribute more to cover all the costs for the year.

Richard Duncan will spread the word to the grottos, and will have WiFi passes to sell.

Scout Shelter: Needs someone to pull a work crew together and schedule a weekend to get this done. James Cements is willing to lead the roofing crew. Paul Knasel is willing to help.

KOR will be July 12-14, 2013, and the work weekend will be June 29/30, 2013. Neena Jud will be the GSP liason with the KOR Committee. She asked for two Committee members to commit to being at the work weekend to avoid some difficulties perceived last year. Scott Pavey will be at the Preserve for the 4th of July weekend and will stay to handle the final mowing.

Music In the Mountain. Tammy Otten summarized the "future of MIM" meeting, and will be recommending to the RKC board to take a break from MIM for 2013. the next RKC meeting will be December 9th at the Boone County Main Library.

RKC: As a board member, Tammy Otten is equipped to take membership applications by cash, check or credit card. Special deal right now: \$20.00 covers a membership until March 31, 2014.

New Business

Projects:

Scott Pavey has taken over the project to refurbish the moonshine still. He is looking for a 30 gallon wooden barrel. Increase budget from \$50 to \$100.

Showerhouse exterior painting needs new project manager.

Clean out scrap metal pile from near upper mondo

Clean kitchen floor

Shelter column repair (low priority): need to get two shorter lengths of 10 x 10 pieces of black oak. (lap joints) Duke Hopper will ask about costs.

SP will take Tractor & mowing deck home to overhaul. He will also sharpen a number of mowing blades.

Broken boards around the rectangular vat need to be repaired. (Committee will post a list of small projects that people can do if they are at the Preserve with a few hours available. It will be on lined paper to be added to as necessary.)

Electric to the Point shall remain on Project List.

Green Latrine is 98% complete

Werner Jud proposed replacing the light fixture for Richard's Run with one like the top row in Echo Auditorium (and a shield). Budget: \$100

JB motion, NJ 2nd, unanimously approved

Scott Pavey will take on role of Project Manager for the Range Hood installation.

Trees: RD spoke with Mary Gratsch about good species of trees that could be planted at the Preserve. He also spoke with an Extension agent. He heard that you can get 100 baby trees for \$40.00 (and since we are a non-profit, we might get them donated). It was suggested to start a tree nursery somewhere on the Preserve, one suggestion was some bottom land. Some fruit trees might be nice (pawpaws or persimmons) but not near camping areas, possibly clustered on a hillside. RD will investigate more.

An Extension agent suggested that the State of Kentucky could come onto the Preserve and do a wild fire assessment. Discussion ensued expressing concern about the government getting too many tentacles into our business, and therefore telling us what and what not to do.

Conclusion – free trees seemed worth pursuing, wild fire assessment not so much.

Open House will be May 18 & 19, 2012. Someone needs to volunteer to run Open House. Discussion ensued about inviting re-enactors to set up again, but not provide dinner or bales of hay. JB will gather firewood for their campsites.

Youth Groups: Discussion about guides for scout trips. It was decided to establish certain weekends for which Scout Troops could sign up. Tammy Otten will start a Google Doc with bad weekends for scouts and share it with the Youth Group Team, in order to establish one or two weekends per month for Scout Troops who will need guides. These weekends should be shared with cavers at general grotto meetings.

A question was raised about curtailing Scout trips during hibernation season. The Team drastically limits the cave selections during that time.

No more Scout troops are signed up for trips this year.

Eagle Projects: A list of suggested projects should be circulated to scout troops who have visited the Preserve in the last year or so in case potential Eagles would want to take on one of these. (i.e. picnic tables, new wood crib)

What needs to be done to Winterize the Preserve? The tractor needs maintenance, and this is under control. Bill Carr will shut down the Showerhouse. After this, Werner Jud will do some repairs in the water shut-off box. The two banner flags and side arms will be taken down. Gravel is needed for the roads, but that is better left until Spring. Duke Hopper will visit Hansen Gravel and ask for a donation of one truck load of gravel (DGA – dense grade aggregate). WJ or NJ will contact Kevin (the trucking guy) to see if we can pay him for the transportation and spreading of the gravel.

Adjourned 1:10 pm (NJ motion, JD 2nd) and went to the Cave to view the excavation.

**The next meeting will be Thursday December 13, 2012 at 7:00 pm
hopefully as a conference call.**