

Great Saltpetre Cave Preserve Committee Meeting

October 8, 2015 – Jerry Brandenburg's house

Committee Members Present:

Jerry Brandenburg

Fred Ball (online)

Tama Cassidy (online)

Neena Jud (online)

Werner Jud (online)

Scott Pavey

Dan Zubal (online)

Also attending:

Bill Carr (online)

Gary Bush (online)

Bob Dobbs (online)

Patrick Gibson (online)

Darlene Kisner (online)

Ralph Mann (online)

Shane Mullins (online)

Chanda Ziegler (online)

Meeting started at 7:08 pm with only two people at Jerry's, seven people joined online from GSP, and the remainder joined from their own homes.

Caretaker's Report:

Bill Carr mowed for the school field trips. Critters have been getting into the recycling. The tractor parts have been ordered, expected in from Moon Tractor shortly. The horses continue to come down the hill, but keeping the cable across the road at the creek is effective at keeping them out of the main campground. The SVGA cable has been purchased for the video system, and it is in the secure box.

Bill changed the Wi-fi password last week. He received a list of 14 people who had paid for a Wi-fi pass this year from Sherry Johnson-Clements, which he passed along to Bob Dobbs with the new password to distribute.

Treasurer's Report:

Expenses exceeded Income this month. Financial Report available upon request.

Old Business

Unlimited Long Distance & Wi-fi:

Mark Skinner will send \$10.00 collected by Sherry Johnson-Clements.

A number of ideas have been proposed to fund Wi-fi/Long Distance. The annual additional cost is approximately \$620.

- Asking GCG to cover the extra expense for the Long Distance and Wi-fi;
 - Variation: asking all four managing grottos to split the cost equally;
 - Variation: asking all four managing grottos to split the cost proportionally;
 - GCG has KOR as a way to raise money. BGG, DUG, and COG do not have income streams like that. They would be hard pressed to contribute.
- Sell LD/Wi-fi passes for \$30.00 each.
 - Make them available at Grotto meetings from November through May like camping passes.

- Payments in November and December cover the person for the entire next year.
- Make them available year round through the donation button on the website, requires paying through Paypal. Thus available for use by infrequent visitors with educational or organizational needs.
- Increase the amount for camping donations and camping passes and make the Wi-fi password available to anyone who makes a camping contribution.
 - Scout camping donations would not increase. They already donate \$7 a night. Scouts will not get the Wi-fi password, but Long Distance will be available.
 - Nightly camping donations could increase by one dollar to keep it in whole dollar amounts.
 - Annual camping passes could increase by maybe \$30 Family and \$20 individual (Camping Passes did not change at the last increase in January 2011).
 - Variation: Increase the amount for camping passes (amounts above) and make the Wi-fi password available to anyone who gets a camping pass.
- For any option in which only pass-holders get the password, Gary could add a Members Only section to the GSP website, and a list of paid people could be maintained online.
- Bill Carr is willing to keep the current simple system (with one password for everyone) running, but will not be responsible for sending out the new password to all. He will give the new password to someone else to distribute.

Pertinent information shared via email between the meetings: Werner contacted Windstream. It is not possible to delete the voice mail feature with a cost savings. The bundle includes Wi-fi, unlimited long distance, and voice mail.

Also, 22 Camping Passes were sold each year in the last two years, split evenly between family & individual. A few more were sold three years ago.

Pertinent information shared after the meeting: Treasury records show 17 people contributed for Wi-fi and should get the new password.

Jerry will ask Beau to put something in the Electric caver asking for a Wi-fi person to handle funds and the technical side of it, or assist BC with sending out updated passwords quarterly.

Resolution of this issue was tabled again until November meeting.

COG/Waiver: The draft version of the waiver was sent to the RKC Board and Managing Grotto Boards for review. At the September RKC meeting, the waiver was accepted.

It was also noted that RKC will need to approve the change to the GSP Management Plan when the verbiage to include COG is incorporated. GSP & GCG to continue working on modifications.

Copies of the new waiver will be needed at the Preserve. Neena to send the waiver to Ron Hager for copies. Target cost less than \$100.00.

Giant gopher mound (was: swampy zone repair near road in front of Showerhouse) is settling and has been walked on, compacting it a bit. The Committee decided to scrape

off the dirt mounds sometime in or before March. The cost of this project is falling within the Property Maintenance budget for the year.

Water Regulator repair project: Keith, Werner & Jerry will talk about costs of additional parts necessary for the project.

School Field Trips: Two field trips last week, one today, one tomorrow and one next week. The Port-O-Lets have been serviced.

Deb Bledsoe's memorial service was well attended. GSP sent a small floral arrangement.

New Business:

Paranormal investigators visit. In early September, Werner took a call at the Shelter phone from someone with a local paranormal investigator's group who wanted to visit the Cave and see what they could pick up. Fred Ball volunteered to get back with them and coordinate a visit. Tama Cassidy will be his second. Fred contacted the guy in charge of the group, and has not heard back on a date.

Fred suggests we insert a clause in any contract regarding filming in the Cave: if any film crew makes money from filming in GSP, the Preserve shall get a percentage of the profits.

Movie: Jerry & BC have not heard anything from Himkar Tak, the filming guy initially mentioned in the Feb 2015 meeting minutes.

Bob Dobbs mentioned that a Group from Richmond will be visiting Friday afternoon 10/9/2015. They say they have grant funds available, and would like to help us get funding.

Online meetings since April 2015 have been using "GoToMeeting", courtesy of the office for which Dan Zubal works. Sometime in the future we will need to purchase our own plan or a similar program. We can get this through TechSoup.

Meeting ended at 8:15 pm.

**Next meeting will be:
7:00 pm November 19, 2015 at Jerry Brandenburg's home.
(this is one week later than typically)**