

Great Saltpetre Cave Preserve Committee Meeting

June 9, 2016 – Jerry Brandenburg’s house

Committee Members Present:

Jerry Brandenburg
Fred Ball (online)
Neena Jud
Werner Jud

Scott Pavey
Bob Roth (online)
Dan Zubal (online)

Also attending:

Gary Bush (online)
Bill Carr (online)
Sean Cain (online)

Bob Dobbs
Brian Pitcher
Bruce Soluski

Meeting started at 7:12 pm

Secretary’s Report:

Meeting Minutes were distributed on May 31, 2016.

DZ made a motion to accept the minutes, FB 2nd.

Caretaker’s Report:

Bill Carr bushhogged the back field in preparation for KOR. The Main field is mowed, and he will do the Point next.

The old Cub Cadet Zero-turn was sold to a gentleman from Elizabethtown. He came to check it out with a friend. Bill told them it doesn’t pull well to the left in reverse. They both mowed with it and they took it as is for \$1800 in cash. BC is holding this cash.

Bill found a new commercial grade mowing deck at Benges in London, Kentucky for \$1650. It is a 72” double yoke, rear discharge King Kutter finishing mower. He sent a link with his report earlier today so the Committee could consider it. Scott Pavey looked at the information, and thought it looked pretty solid from what he could see. Purchase was authorized. Part of the remaining funds will go to purchase a manual for the new John Deere Z-turn. Receipts (or copies) should be submitted to the GSP Treasurer.

The Simpson-Barlage wedding party that remained at the Preserve until Tuesday did not clean up after themselves very well in the kitchen or the campground and were left without a sponsor after Larry Simpson left on Sunday morning.

Last Thursday BC saw a black bear near the gate as he was leaving the Preserve. It took off down the hill on 1004 and turned right into the woods past the power line.

FB made a motion to accept the Caretaker’s report, SP 2nd.

Treasurer’s Report:

Income exceeded Expenses in May. Financial Report available upon request.

It is recommended to check inventory of all consumables shortly before an event and re-stock accordingly.

Old Business

Wedding: Werner communicated with Larry Simpson about our collective disappointment with the behavior of the visitors after the wedding. Werner retrieved \$186 from the pipe that he could attribute to the group, Larry sent another \$40, and said the groom should be sending an additional \$80-100.

Some weddings at the Preserve have gone smoothly with proper cleanup. Others have left a mess, which seems to be correlated with poor or minimal sponsor involvement.

Conclusions: Dissuade non-cavers who want to use the Cave as a wedding venue by explaining all the difficulties and coordination issues; require better sponsor involvement for caver weddings; and negotiate a much larger donation.

Pole light at Cave is fixed.

Open House: Over 2800 visitors this year.

Management Plan: Since the keys section was approved by the GCG Executive Board, Werner inserted that into the document and sent the whole thing to Matt Keller with the request to forward it to RKC. As of this meeting, Sean Cain had not received it.

Road Repair grant funding: Neena has been submitting additional information for the application (including two alternatives just to show we thought this through). The next step is to have RKC review the project, sign the application, and formulate a letter of support for the project and commitment to do the work if the grant is awarded.

GSP fundraising/friendraising: Ann Nash presentation Tuesday July 12, 2016 at 6:30 pm at the Burlington Library, Main Branch. Beneficial to all non-profits. Committee members are strongly encouraged to attend.

The White Collar dinner in the Cave is on the calendar for Saturday September 24, 2016, 5:00 – 7:00. Bob hopes to resolve some issues at the RKC meeting.

RKC meeting will be Sunday June 12, 2016 at 2:00 pm at the Burlington Library. Might be able to be a virtual meeting.

KOR planning is progressing. This may not be a big profit year. Pre-registration closed at about 99 people.

Werner has the lug for the vendor panel. At the last KOR meeting, the Dixon brothers said they would handle the hook-ups.

Strategic Plan: The meeting tentatively scheduled for two days before this meeting did not occur. Werner Jud & Sean Cain will work together to determine a good time for the joint RKC/GSP strategic planning meeting to get the greatest possible participation. Watch for an invitation.

Virtual reality environment: Jared Embree began by taking numerous tours during Open House and taping the tour guides. Howard Kalnitz shared his survey data with Jared.

New Business:

An email was received by most of the Committee members describing two incidents with animals (specifically dogs) at Open House. It requested banning pets entirely from GSP.

After much discussion the following conclusions were reached:

- There is already a policy in place regarding animals: Pets must be controlled at all times, and are not to be at the Shelter during times of heavy use.
- The Committee will change the poster at the Shelter to state this policy.
- The Committee will submit something to include in the KOR Guidebook and post a similar message on the list-serves: Since GSP has repeatedly had to respond to complaints about pets they will be enforcing the rule that Pets shall be kept at a distance from the Shelter during times of heavy use.

We will revisit this issue at the next meeting.

SP made a motion to adjourn, WJ 2nd. Meeting ended at 9:34 pm.

**Next meeting will be:
7:00 pm, Thursday July 14, 2016 at Jerry Brandenburg’s house.**

Calendar Summary

June 10-12, 2016	COG will host Pittsburgh Grotto at GSP
June 10-12, 2016	Amber Yuellig’s GPR project w/ Ball State Students
June 12, 2016	RKC Meeting (2:00 pm)
June 17-19, 2016	KOR
July 12, 2016	Ann Nash presentation @ Burlington Library.
August 12-14, 2016	DUG will host Wormfest at GSP
September 10, 2016	Caver Appreciation Weekend
September 17, 2016	TENTATIVE Scout Jamboree
September 24, 2016	White Collar dinner in the Cave