

Great Saltpetre Cave Preserve Committee Meeting

September 11, 2016 – Great Saltpetre Cave Preserve Shelter

Committee Members Present:

Jerry Brandenburg
Neena Jud
Werner Jud

Scott Pavey
Bob Roth (online)
Dan Zubal

Also attending:

Gary Bush
Jonathan Carmon
Bill Carr
Nathan Canaris
Bob Dobbs
Bill Gort
Mary Gratsch
Dennis Green (online)

Bill Huber
Ralph Mann
Debi Pavey
Brian Pitcher
Katherine Simpson
Mark Swelstad
Mike Wuerth
Jeff Young

Meeting started at 10:08 am

Secretary's Report:

JB made a motion to accept the minutes from last month, SP 2nd.

Caretaker's Report:

Bee Garbage would like to retrieve the large dumpster. Decision made to do this after Dinner in the Mountain. Decision made to place the small dumpster back in what is left of the corral, with one side off as it is.

Twelve pages were printed and put in the register. Darryl Marsh donated 12 reams of paper for the register. This will temporarily be stored in Bill's house until a tote is acquired so that the paper can be stored in the Ticket House.

The Forest Service person stopped by again (last name Spencer) and finally revealed that we were reported as growing marijuana, but he did not find anything.

On Wednesday, September 21, 2016 the Port-o-let for in the Cave during DIM will be delivered.

As Bill was mowing with the Z-turn, clumps of dead grass stopped the blades and broke the belt. Replacement belt cost \$45. A suggestion was made to get a lawn brush to gather up the dead grass. Subsequent suggestion to try a rental to see if it would be effective.

Bill mowed five times before KOR and ten times since then. In order to get help with this chore, he is stating that he will no longer do the mowing and that the Committee must handle it. It was commented that many times people have offered to mow, and when they arrive at GSP find that Bill has already mowed everything. Suggestions included getting bids on a lawn service, reducing the amount that is mowed, and allow local people who want to volunteer help with mowing. Many years past, Mike McGuire would mow the back field in order to collect the hay. We could ask him if he wants to do that again.

Action items:

- BC to investigate the cost of hiring someone local to mow.
- Encourage volunteers to come down and mow.
- Develop a “Friends of GSP” program and be prepared by Open House 2017 with forms for people to fill out including name address and contact information.

A decision on mowing was tabled.

John Deere manual is out of print. The only option found is through Carl (Nancy Seaburg’s son) at the John Deere Dealership in London for \$245. Scott suggested, and all agreed, that it is not worth that amount. We will do without.

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

Treasurer’s Report:

Income exceeded expenses in the month of August. Financial report available upon request.

BC commented that the *money* received for Wormfest camping seemed low for the number of people, the length of time some of them were here (a few for all week), and the use of electric sites.

Discussion ensued about the term “donation” vs “camping fees”. As a non-profit, any money received must be used for the purpose of the non-profit. The low-key, honor system we have in place seems to be losing effectiveness.

Suggestions:

- Make it mandatory to register and display something in a person’s car or at the campsite.
- Add Paypal as a payment method to the sign at kiosk.
- Publish a message in all the newsletters that it is mandatory to sign in. Jerry will do this.
- Prepare signage for in the Shelter (and maybe showerhouse) “shaming” people into signing in and paying. Mary Gratsch will do this.

SP moved to accept treasurer’s report, DZ 2nd.

Old Business

Tractor: Scott worked on the tractor. He fixed a bent blade on the finishing deck. The blades are 3/16” thick, but the mower was advertised to have 1/4” thick blades. Scott will investigate.

Road Repair grant funding: No new information. Grant application is still going through the process.

GSP fundraising/friendraising: Dinner in the Mountain update

- Nine people have told Bob they will volunteer. He needs four to five more. If volunteers want dinner and the show, it will cost \$35.00. This is not necessary to volunteer. Needs are for ushers, parking assistants, getting stuff in & out of cave, cart driver, tour guides (abbreviated tours).

- Neena compiled information about GSP and RKC for Ralph Hacker, the speaker, including statistics that Bob provided such as 1678 volunteer hours were spent last year so that visitors could see the Cave.
- Discussion ensued about what to display regarding the proposed Education Center for which we are asking donations. Since we haven't figured out what we want or where we want it to be, Neena offered to prepare a poster with a number of example images of similar Education Centers.
- Discussion about the need to recognize donors at different levels of donations. We need to prepare a press release afterwards which will include recognizing and thanking the donors. We also need to prepare a personal thank you letter as a follow up to a donation receipt. Werner will send donation receipts, Mary will prepare the thank you letters.

Strategic Plan: Date & location: Sunday, November 6, 2016 at 2:00 pm at Jerry's house.
Note that Daylight Savings Time ends that morning.

Second signature on accounts: is still needed. This would preferably be the next candidate for Treasurer.

New Business:

School Field Trips: Two are scheduled so far for Thursday & Friday October 13 & 14, 2016. A new microphone is needed by then, one with an on/off switch. Bill Huber will investigate this, he may have one to donate.

Kentucky Flag: A replacement is needed before DIM. Bill Carr will get a new 3' x 5' flag. He got the last one from Precision Marketing in 2012.

Grille: Several parts of the grille are rusted and require maintenance or replacement. Some spare parts from the old grille are stored under the new grille and are able to be used to fix this one. A new grille would cost around \$380. It was decided to perform maintenance and get by with what we have.

WJ made a motion to adjourn, DZ 2nd. Meeting ended at 11:43 am.

**Next meeting will be:
 7:00 pm, Thursday October 13, 2016 at Jerry Brandenburg's house.**

Calendar Summary

September 24, 2016	White Collar dinner in the Cave
September 25, 2016	RKC meeting at 10:00 am under the Shelter
October 13 & 14, 2016	School Field Trips
October 13, 2016	GSP Committee meeting
November 6, 2016	GSP Strategic Planning Meeting