

Great Saltpetre Cave Preserve

Committee Meeting

February 8, 2018 – Jerry Brandenburg's house

Committee Members Present:

Jerry Brandenburg
Fred Ball (online)
Elizabeth Copelin (online)
Tama Cassidy (online)

Neena Jud
Werner Jud
Scott Pavey (online)
Dan Zubal (online)

Also attending:

Bill Carr (online)
Sean Cain (online)
Kari Hemmert (online)

Darryl Marsh (online)
Debi Pavey (online)

7:08 Jerry called the meeting to order.

Announcement: (shared at the end of the meeting) BC reported that Joel Sneed came across four previously unknown vintage postcards of GSP and send Bill copies of them. Bill already has copies of a few and this is a great addition to the archives of GSP.

Secretary's report: Dan Zubal made a motion to accept the minutes from the last month's meeting, SP 2nd.

Caretaker's report

Bill Carr reports that it has been quiet and slow at the Preserve this month. Some people visit on weekends, but no one is camping.

Bill forwarded the invoice from the Post Office to Werner. It is \$92 per year for the P.O. Box.

SP moved to accept the caretakers report, DZ 2nd.

Treasurer's report

Income exceeded Expenses in January 2018. Financial Report available upon request.

Old business

Road Repair: Neena emailed the sign-in sheet to someone to sign it and forward to another attendee. No one at tonight's meeting had seen it. Neena will check into this.

It is looking more likely that work will get underway in March. Weekends of the 17th, 24th, and 31st are not already committed. People are asked to keep those weekends and the intervening weeks available. Neena will communicate via email.

The Ticket House status is unchanged.

Electric to the Point is unchanged.

Data Logger: no new information about this.

Property Line survey: The property line hike is delayed due to weather.

Friends of GSP: Bob Dobbs sent a brochure to the Committee before the meeting that he and Elizabeth prepared. (Dan Zubal made a pdf of it and distributed it to the attendees since some could not open the Publisher file.) Two suggestions were made during the meeting: add zip code to the mailing address, and add a date code for when this gets printed.

All are asked to give it greater consideration and give more input at next meeting.

Solar Array: Werner assessed the kilowatt hours we used over the past eight years and called Jackson Energy. He was placed on hold for too long, and hasn't got back to it.

Open House: Neena distributed the Timeline (which was prepared by Bob Dobbs in 2010) along with last month's meeting minutes. It should be updated to include COG. January has come and gone, and **we still need someone to run Open House**. Someone needs to contact Kentucky Living Magazine as well as Rockcastle Tourism. DUG & GCG have published the dates, COG will do likewise. BGG has no newsletter, but this will be shared in meetings.

Kari Hemmert is enrolled in the Ecotourism degree program at Hocking College. Students are always looking for volunteer opportunities. They have been trained in "interpretation" of the natural & cultural history of a place and are quick learners.

She offered to visit other classes to share information about GSP & Open House and recruit people to help. Kari proposes to bring the interested students to GSP on the last weekend in April for an introduction to the Cave & Preserve and will try to get them to return for Work Weekend. She asked if we wanted to limit the number of students, a good turnout could be 15. The Committee appreciates volunteer assistance and will make good use of these folks.

Our initial thought is to utilize these students as tailgunners, which will enable past tailgunners (who feel ready) to guide their own trips. It is important that all guides are knowledgeable about the Cave and what we do.

Werner will communicate with Kari to share the Tour Guide "cheat sheet", a link to the National Register nomination, and information about the relationship between RKC, the Preserve, and the Managing Grottos and our relationship with landowners & the local community.

Google My Business: Last month BC reported that an envelope addressed to Darryl c/o GSP was delivered to our P.O. Box. Darryl explained that Google auto-created a "place" for GSP similar to how Facebook auto-created a "page". A while back Darryl successfully merged our page with the auto-created page, and now, by providing information, he obtained control of the GSP "place" from Google just in case we wanted to do something with it.

New Business:

Project Review: Neena updated the Preserve Project List by removing completed projects (i.e. Trash can “collar”, Scout Shelter Bulletin Board, and Flagpole lighting) and moving Electric to the Point from potential to active status. She also added the dates for Open House and KOR. She noted that Howard Kalnitz is listed as the project manager for putting all data about the Cave into GIS. With the potential relationship with Eastern Kentucky University (EKU), this may be a project for students to take on.

EKU: Neena shared that communication has resumed between RKC and ECU on an agreement. Refer to June 2017 meeting minutes for more information.

Kitchen Plumbing: Jerry visited the Preserve and found that some kitchen piping and the water filter burst due to freezing. Apparently the GFCI tripped so the heat lamps and heat tape protecting the pipes could not work. Frequent power surges tend to trip GFCI's. Werner will check the condition of the water heater and is considering removing the GFCI from that circuit. Jerry will get Keith to assist with piping replacement and proposes to use Uponor brand PEX (crosslinked polyethylene) tubing. The kitchen water is out of order until repairs can be made. All other aspects of the kitchen are functioning normally.

Water: Werner reported that Kentucky American Water Company (KAWC) has closed on the purchase of Eastern Rockcastle Water Association (ERWA). There was an article in the January 25th Mt. Vernon Signal about this. Hopefully we will not see a change in our water bill.

Calendar: See below for full listing. Orientation to Cave Rescue (OCR) is a valuable training weekend for cavers. A large Scout group requiring many guides was double booked for that same weekend. *A few days after this meeting, the Scout group rescheduled freeing Darryl to take the class.*

Waivers are currently available on paper or pdf, to be signed and stashed in someone's basement. Darryl asked whether there has been any thought given to making them available electronically for digital signatures. Werner offered to discuss this with Gary Bush and report back to Darryl.

Motion to adjourn was made by WJ and seconded by SP. Meeting ended shortly after 9 pm.

Next meeting will be:

7:00 pm, Thursday March 8, 2018 at Jerry Brandenburg's house.

Please see Calendar Summary on next page

Calendar Summary:

February 10, 2018	GCG Cartography exercise in GSP – Howard Kalnitz
February 17, 2018	Venture Crew 128
March 3, 2018	BSA Troop 41 day trip – David Lindemuth sponsor
March 4, 2018	RKC meeting at Boone County Main branch library
March 10, 2018	BSA Troop 249 – Delaware, OH
March 17, 2018	BSA Troops 1, 967, & 474
March 24, 2018	BSA Troop 320 – Kenney Hedges sponsor
April 14 2018	BSA Troops 952 & 18
April 19, 2018	Rockcastle High School Jr ROTC 75 youth day trip
April 20-22, 2018	Waynesville BSA Troop 51 – David Young sponsor/guide
April 21-22, 2018	Orientation to Cave Rescue – BGG sponsor
April 21-22, 2018	West Chester BSA Troop 940
April 28-29, 2018	Dirty Martinis – Angie Pullano sponsor
April 28-29, 2018	CIG – COG sponsor
April 28-29, 2018	BSA Troop
April 28-29, 2018	BSA Troop 98 – Mark Swelstad sponsor/guide
May 5, 2018	Open House Prep weekend
May 19 & 20, 2018	Open House
May 26, 2018	BSA Troop 170
June 8-10, 2018	KOR
June 29-July 1, 2018	HAGS Cleveland (Girl Scouts)
July 19-21, 2018	BSA Troop 349