

# Great Saltpetre Cave Preserve

## Committee Meeting

March 7, 2019 – Jerry Brandenburg’s house and GoToMeeting

### Committee Members Present:

Scott Pavey  
Jerry Brandenburg  
Neena Jud

Werner Jud  
Dan Zubal (online)

### Also attending:

Bill Carr (online)  
Bill Addington  
Sean Cain (online)  
Bob Dobbs

Patrick Gibson (online)  
Josh Heinbuch “Ole Trashbags”  
Darlene Kisner  
Andrew “Stitch” Rentsel (online)

**The meeting was called to order at 7:06 pm.**

**Secretary’s report:** Dan Zubal made a motion to approve the minutes, J B 2<sup>nd</sup>.

### Caretaker’s report

Bill Carr recapped what was said last month and via email over the last few weeks regarding the flooding along Crooked Creek. The day of this meeting he hiked along the creek through the Wynn’s property, with their permission, and found not only the hot tub at the Whirlhole, but other stuff strewn along the creek including the hot tub ladder lost during the last major flood event.

The Point was scoured, it appears to be mostly a sandbar.

Discussion of the bank erosion: Bill’s opinion is that the water that is coming through the culvert pipes sends the water over to that side of the bank causing this erosion. He noted that last year our area received 27” more than the record annual rainfall, and this year in February alone we received 4” more than the month’s record.

The Internet is not working. The extenders may have been hit by lightning, and Bill sees evidence that someone has been messing with the system.

### Treasurer’s report

*Income exceeded Expenses in the month of February. Financial report available upon request.*

### Old Business

Friends of GSP: Bob Dobbs reported that the FoGSP Committee has been meeting. Ron Hager is editing a tri-fold that they prepared to advertise FoGSP with photos from Bob and Neena. This requires approval from RKC before being printed. The

Charter still needs to be approved by GCG Executive Board, which will hopefully occur via email vote in time to present to RKC at the March 24<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Scouts Darryl was not in attendance, Scouts are still visiting the Preserve, camping and going on cave trips.

Bee Garbage: We are still using them for dumpster service. Werner prepaid the dumpster rental for the first half of the year.

Open House: Darlene Kisner volunteered to be the overall Open House coordinator. Please see the attached Timeline and let her know what you can volunteer to help with.

We need to develop flyers and an article to go in the Mt. Vernon Signal. Much of our advertisement in the last couple of years has been through social media, but distribution of flyers in the local area is still good public relations. Please let Darlene know if you can help distribute flyers.

Livingston Fire Department already has this on their schedule. With the creek bank erosion and relocation of the dumpster & Port-O-Lets, we will invite a FD representative to see the situation before Open House weekend.

Patrick Gibson will handle parking again with the assistance of Rockcastle JROTC. They will likely camp out Friday & Saturday nights. Previously we discussed having hats or t-shirts for the cadets. Werner will check the inventory and let Patrick know our supplies. Patrick will ask t-shirt sizes.

Patrick relayed a request from the kitchen crew for a budget for the kitchen expenditures and an advance on some of the funds. No resolution.

Plaque: Werner sent an email to the Committee after the last meeting with more information about a bronze memorial plaque for Ellie Schiller, the Executive Director of the Felburn Foundation who proposed the formation of a conservancy (now RKC) and donation of GSP to the organization.

He requested approval of a budget of \$4000 for the plaque and mounting post. He has sent inquiries to the Felburn Foundation and RKC to each contribute 1/3 of the cost. The Felburn Foundation verbally/unofficially said they would approve this pending receipt of the formal request documents. RKC will also discuss the request at their March meeting. This would bring the actual cost down to about \$1300 for GSP.

Neena made a motion to approve a budget of \$4000 for the post and plaque as Werner sent in his email of February 28, 2019. The final location is still to be discussed/resolved. It is likely to be off the pathway at a landing above or below the lowest flight of steps up to the Cave.

For the record, Fred Ball was not in attendance but emailed some concerns to the Committee regarding the total cost, appropriateness and random memorial signs around the property. He closed by expressing a vote against it. These topics were discussed in the meeting along with the memorial wall on the side of the Ticket House. In conclusion, the five Committee members in attendance all voted to approve this motion, so the motion passes.

GoToMeeting: The cost sharing number has been sent to the COG Executive Board. We are now awaiting their decision.

Work List: Scott has not yet posted a small project list on the bulletin board under the Shelter, but two years ago Bob Dobbs posted a Chore List which is still applicable.

Kitchen: As a follow up to Darryl's report at last month's meeting, Werner went to GSP to investigate further. The kitchen sink is now completely out of order. The faucet is off and there is no hot water. The hose bibb on the outside of the kitchen still works though. In addition to the broken filter, the damaged water line fitting and the leaky faucet the oven also does not work.

Although not due to the same freezing event, the safety valve was damaged, leaking gas into the Kitchen. Werner has one of the new parts and hopes to be able to repair it in the next few weeks. He checked the amount of propane in the tank and found we are down to 25-30%. This is a significantly higher amount of gas use/leakage over the winter. It should be filled within the next two months.

The users of the Kitchen are not taking care of it like they should. Anytime a person with a key opens the kitchen, others come up and want to use it. The person who opened it needs to close it when they leave because they are responsible for the proper operation of the equipment and its cleanliness. Using the Kitchen is a privilege, not a right/ a given for all who are at the Preserve. If anyone does not know how to operate a given appliance, don't just try and risk messing it up, instead ask for instructions. The Committee agreed that the next time major damage is found in the kitchen it will be shut down.

Neena & Werner Jud will work together to compose a message to go to the four Grottos to make all this clear.

### **New Business:**

School Kids: Bob Dobbs has three field trips committed and he knows of another. He would like a few more trip leaders and tailgunners. Please contact him directly to volunteer. (They are listed below in the calendar summary.)

Bill Carr recommended having a back-up public address system since rodents have been chewing on the wires and people have been messing with the connection plate on the wall. Bob will get with Gary Bush & Dennis Green.

Meeting in the Field: due to the recent flood damage and other concerns, our next meeting will be held at GSP the weekend of April 13-14, 2019. On Saturday we will walk around the Preserve to see all the equipment and learn or be refreshed on the history/operation/condition of everything. This will also give us a chance to see the flood damage and address the questions below.

Flood clean-up and mitigation: A question was raised by email about what additional cleanup will be recommended by the Committee. We won't be able to address that until our next meeting which will be at GSP. We would appreciate it if people who have been involved in running the sauna each year could also join us.

Creek bank erosion: Discussion ensued about what could be done to stop or slow the erosion. All agreed that we need to do something. We need a project manager to spearhead it and bring a budget & plan of work to the Committee.

GSP address will be posted by the telephone for convenience in an emergency.

Dan Zubal made a motion to adjourn, WJ 2<sup>nd</sup>. Meeting ended at 8:23 pm.

**Next meeting will be:  
10:00 am-ish, Sunday April 14, 2019  
at GSP, GoToMeeting may not be available, we'll see.**

**Calendar Summary:**

March 15-17, 2019	BSA Troop 1, 930, Loveland Girl Scouts
March 24, 2019	RKC annual meeting (2:00 pm)
March 28, 2019	Laurel County Eighth grade field trip
March 29, 2019	Laurel County Eighth grade field trip
March 29-31, 2019	BSA Troop 967, 471
April 3-5, 2019	4H Adventure Challenge (Michigan)
April 5-7, 2019	BSA Troop 107
April 12-14, 2019	BSA Troop 940
April 19-21, 2019	BSA Troop 149, OSU Mountaineering Club
April 25, 2019	Hazel Green First grade field trip
April 26-28, 2019	BSA/GSWO, BSA 332 & Redwood Coop. Kindergarten
May 3-5, 2019	BSA Troop 21, 6
May 4-5, 2019	Open House work weekend & Cinco de Mayo
May 18-19, 2019	Open House
June 7-9, 2019	BSA Troop 555
June 21-23, 2019	BSA troop 71
July 12-14, 2019	BSA Troop 4015
July 19-21, 2019	KOR
August 9-11, 2019	BSA Troop 43
August 16-18, 2019	Cincinnati Waldorf School
Nov. 8-10, 2019	BSA Troop 84
July 24, 2020	Zubal – Nicklas wedding