

Great Saltpetre Cave Preserve

Committee Meeting

May 5, 2019 – GSP Shelter

Committee Members Present:

Scott Pavey
Fred Ball
Elizabeth Copelin

Neena Jud
Werner Jud
Dan Zubal (online)

Also attending:

Bill Carr
Bob Dobbs
Josh Heinbuch

Debi Pavey
Danny Young
Mike Wuerth

The meeting was called to order at 10:16 am.

Secretary's report: Dan Zubal made a motion to approve the minutes, FB 2nd.

Caretaker's report

Bill Carr reported that he will mow again the week of Open House.

Bill will call Everett Wagner for the small (12 ton) load of Dense Grade Aggregate (DGA) for the spot at the base of the Sara Corey trail as previously decided. He has been waiting for a couple of consecutive dry days. He also explained the need for another load of DGA from the base of the asphalt to the split of the loop, and one more from about the upper Mondo down to just into the trees. **Neena Jud made a motion to allocate funds for two more loads of gravel. DZ 2nd. No objections.**

Bill reminded the Committee of an item that was discussed and approved before, which was to install a donation box at the Shelter.

Treasurer's report

Expenses exceeded income during the month of April. Financial report available upon request.

Old Business

Friends of GSP: Elizabeth Copelin reported that they are all ready for Open House, with the exception of opening a checking account. FOGSP is currently in debt \$300 for the printing of the tri-folds.

Scouts Josh Heinbuch reported Scouts are going well, troops have been to GSP most weekends.

Creek bank erosion: Bob Dobbs reporting: Pat Hutson suggested contacting a Soil & Water Commission, but Bob found there is not one in Rockcastle County. He was able to talk with Randall Kimble of the Farm Agency, who visited yesterday. Randall gave a few suggestions from least expensive to more.

1. Plant willow sprigs (live cuttings) in bank.
2. Dig a trench in the bottom of the creek, line it with geotextile fabric, and top with boulders to interrupt the force of the stream flow towards the bank.
3. Construct fins of boulders (barriers) from in the creek up to the bank, at just the correct angle to direct the water so as to naturally silt in behind the boulders which will rebuild the creek bank.

They do not do grants for this work, but if we are approved for a project they would incur the cost of the engineering design, we would do and pay for the work, and then they would reimburse for most of the cost (possibly up to 90%). One of the terms & conditions is that all members of RKC would need to sign a paper saying they have annual income of no more than \$90,000. Randall thought that other agencies may be able to help.

He also mentioned that our dam and culverts would not be approved today as currently built.

Josh was listening in on this meeting and agreed that it certainly would not hurt to get willow sprigs anyway, even if some wash away – if there are some willow trees from which we could get some at no cost.

Danny asked if the Committee has any objections to trying the willow sprigs. No objections were expressed. If Danny can get some from his father's pond, he will bring some down.

Scott Pavey reported that Ohio CAT would pay \$20/hour to GSP for Jeff Werner to operate their equipment, and also have a program to loan equipment to a project. Since Jeff is both an approved driver as well as operator, he would qualify to haul equipment down here and operate it. On Memorial Day weekend, Jeff will come to GSP with Scott, and will re-assess the project. Scott asked for patience and he will report back next month.

Scott expressed his concern about having bureaucrats or representative of governmental entities on the property who may discover other areas of regulatory non-compliance (like our kitchen).

Plaque for Ellie Schiller: nothing new.

Open House prep: A number of things were completed yesterday to prepare the Preserve for Open House:

The Kitchen was thoroughly cleaned – thanks to Dan Zubal.

Since GSP's address did not fit on the main sign, Scott Pavey constructed a new panel of fence, 8' long x 4' high, to the left of the entrance drive gate. He will get metal numbers and install the address before Open House. Bob Dobbs has a 4' wide x 18" high sign that says Open House 10-4 which can be hung from that fence panel.

Scott Pavey repainted the Scout Camping sign with white letters (as well as the No Parking signs on the Shelter, which Scott had never noticed).

A lot of stuff was moved out of the Ticket House, at Bob Roth's request. Scott & BC mentioned Bob's intent for this building to become a museum. Werner

suggested that the Committee should give Bob input on the layout. Bob Dobbs suggested that people offer to assist him with the construction work.

Open House: Debi Pavey will bring a Tablet to which the Square device can be connected for credit card sales.

Dan Zubal will get with Patrick Gibson to reconnect the internet & Wi-Fi to the Ticket House.

Scott & Debi will get 20 cases of Climax water on Friday morning.

Help setting up the tents on Friday night will be greatly appreciated.

BC reports that the Showerhouse will need to be locked up during Open House while visitors are on site.

The eroded creek bank will need to be fenced off with orange construction fencing behind Livingston Fire Department. We have approximately 85' of that fencing. They will have use of the area from about the kiosk down to the road to the Point.

We will get an additional four Port-O-Lets, and place them on the other side of the road to the Point. They will be cleaned Friday and on Saturday.

The dumpster is now half full. BC will monitor it and will call for it to be emptied when needed.

Discussion about renting a golf cart to shuttle people who cannot manage the steps up to the upper parking lot. Arguments against included additional cost (estimated at \$200-300 for two days), and possibility that folks would take advantage of it. Parking is provided up there for seniors and folks with mobility challenges. Sargent Graves with the JROTC brings a golf cart. We could ask him if he could help if someone needs transport again. Scott asked all to be observant and make a note if someone just doesn't go to the Cave because they can't do the steps. We will reassess next year.

Dan Zubal reported statistics from the facebook event: Open House 2019. 3,814 people were interested, 92,000 people reached.

Kentucky Living magazine has featured Open House at GSP on their events page.

There will be a meeting for all Tour Guides & tail gunners 9:00 Saturday morning at the Shelter. Scott will remind all tour guides to mention that we are all volunteers, ask for donations, and mention the other work we do such as school field trips and wild caving for youth groups like scouts.

We need register sheets, Neena will talk with Ron Hager about printing some.

Werner shared the donations received and expenses for Open House over the past four years. The novelty items have greatly improved our income. We have about \$2000 of expenses for the event.

Bob Dobbs reports that Tony Renner will be providing entertainment both afternoons at no charge to us.

A number of snakes have been seen around lately. If anyone sees one in the next couple of weeks, please ask for assistance in relocating it.

No New Business:

Werner Jud made a motion to adjourn, DZ 2nd. Meeting ended at 11:51 am.

Next meeting will be:

7:00 pm Thursday June 13, 2019

Location TBD (Werner will see if a library is available)

Calendar Summary:

May 16, 2019	Brodhead Third grade field trip
May 17, 2019	Brodhead Fourth grade field trip
May 18-19, 2019	Open House
May 20, 2019	International Society of Scratchboard Artists (WJ sponsor)
May 25, 2019	Mullins Family reunion at the Shelter
May 31, 2019	Lyla Mullins Powell group to Shelter
June 6-9	Foxboro Neighborhood trip (Mark Swelstad sponsor)
June 7-9, 2019	BSA Troop 555
June 11, 2019	Sonlight Christian Preschool Field Trip
June 17-21, 2019	NSS Convention in Cookeville, Tennessee
June 21-23, 2019	BSA troop 71
July 5-6, 2019	KOR work weekend
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, BSA Troop 41
Nov. 8-10, 2019	BSA Troop 84
July 24, 2020	Zubal – Nicklas wedding