

Great SaltPetre Cave Preserve

Management Committee Meeting May 1, 2011
10 AM at the Shelter

Committee Members Present:

Neena Jud
Pat Hutson

Richard Duncan

Also Attending:

Bill Carr
Kelly Huron
Dan Zubal
Shane Mullins
Janice Gott
Dan Hedger
John Boyer

Bob Dobbs
Ron Hager
Matt Fille
Chanda Ziegler
Michael Kelly
Lori Jones

Secretary's Report

Minutes of 4/5/11 were read. No quorum was present, so no motion to approve was made.

Caretaker's Report

The tractor dashboard was fixed, except for the gas gauge, which needs a new sensor. The mowing is mostly done. Bill Carr suggests that the shower valve leaks are not bad, as they only leak when the shower is running, so they do not need to be replaced right away.

Announcement

Thomas Barr from Bluegrass Grotto passed away on 4/29/11. He was a lifetime member who had contributed a lot to caving.

Schedule

Before Open House there are a number of school tours scheduled. Bob Dobbs has enough volunteers scheduled to help. The week after Open House there will be more student tours. The Mullins' family reunion will be at the shelter house on the Saturday of Memorial Day Weekend. On 6/5 the Girl Scouts will have a badge activity and cave tour. Matt Fille is in charge of that event. KOR will be 6/15 to 6/19. Music in the Mountain will be 8/20, with a Prep Day on 8/6.

Camping During Events

NJ suggested that all camping should be out of sight, at events open to the public such as Open House and Music in the Mountain, in order to prevent the common question about public camping. Pat Hudson has

mowed the back field, scout camp and upper Mondo areas. For MIM we will need temporary port-o-let in the back field.

Music in the Mountain

Bob Dobbs says the posters and flyers are out. 5,000 postcards are ordered for advertising. Tickets are now available online. Susan Laws from Renfro Valley will film at Open House for advertising on KET local cable TV. Chris Hacker is in charge of Security and Ushering. Bob Yuellig is in charge of chairs in Echo Auditorium. NJ has made a seating arrangement for 800 people. RD will be selling food at the shelter house, and GSP and RKC will be selling merchandise. The Preserve will be open that day from 10 – 6. Volunteers who want to watch the concert will need to purchase a ticket, as Renfro Valley is due half of the proceeds.

Open House

Announcements to local newspapers and flyers are out. Kentucky Living Magazine and their online site have it listed. RD is doing food. BD has merchandise ordered. RKC will be advertising RKC and MIM. Their message is to keep access to caves open to cavers, and they are trying to get the word out about who they are.

Karst-O-Rama

RD needs help for kitchen shifts. Breakfast is the most intense meal and he has the least help. Serving starts at 8 am, but he needs help starting at 7 am. KOR staff gets free coffee, and kitchen help gets a free meal. NJ needs help closing the cave each night, for a sweep through and shut down.

Work Weekend

This work weekend was a great success. RD thanks everyone who just helped to scrub down the kitchen. NJ says that the Green Latrine is close to completion. She has sent a letter to the Feldman Foundation asking for a donation to help pay off its loan. It is close to budget but over.

Memorandum of Understanding

Greater Cincinnati Grotto (GCG) has had a special role in the management of the preserve which has been a very big job. They accomplish this through the GSP Management Committee. The Committee has members from DUG (Dayton) and BGG (Lexington) as well as GCG. GSP and GCG are developing more detail for a management plan, consistent with the existing strategic plan. They are looking for input from members.

Signage

Bob Yuellig is developing a list of needed signage for inside the cave. Ron Hagar will be printing the signs.

Road Work

BD has looked into repair of the blacktop area at the top of the drive. Complete replacement would be very expensive, but he wants to test spot repairs with cold patch. Most of the road has held up pretty well during the winter. The county will not help to maintain a road that is gated from the public.

Shower House Interior

Dan Zubal has offered to coordinate painting of the shower house interior, perhaps after KOR and the NSS Convention.

Green Latrine

The composter needs four 5-gallon buckets for wood shavings. Arrangements have been made with a neighbor for “starter” manure from their horse. Wood shavings are better than sawdust, but a source is needed (no cedar). Pat Hutson says pine shavings can be purchased for horse bedding at a tractor supply store.

Conference Calling

Ron Hagar can conference call up to three people. Pat Hutson cannot make weekday meetings but could call in by phone to at least the first part of the meeting. Bill Carr suggested solving the quorum problem by reducing the number of Board Members from DUG and BGG from two each to one each, and adding the extra two representatives to GCG. NJ thinks that a change like this should be negotiated between the chairs of each grotto.

Meeting adjourned at 11:50 am.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be Tuesday, 6/7 at Shane Mullins' house in northern Kentucky.