

Great Saltpetre Cave Preserve

Management Committee Meeting

October 18, 2011

7PM at the Jud Residence

Committee members present:

Neena Jud
Werner Jud

Richard Duncan
Mike McNabb

Also attending:

Shane Mullins
Matt Keller
Tammy Otten

Bob Yuellig
Bruce Soluski
Brian Pitcher

Announcements

Neena and other Grotto members took the Little Egypt hike organized by Kentucky Heartwood to educate people to the value of the Little Egypt area that is being considered by the U.S. Forest to log above Waterfall Cave. This logging will affect bat hibernacula and old growth forests including a stand of very old Hemlocks. As an alternative to logging the area, Kentucky Heartwood is proposing that the Forest Service develop a hiking and equestrian trail system that promotes the cultural and natural history of Rockcastle County .

Secretary

Minutes read no corrections.

Treasurers Report

Werner reviewed Revenues and Expenses for September 2011. Income for the month was \$1,154.39 that includes \$100.00 donation from Peoples Bank and \$480.00 from RKC for services and accommodations for MIM. Expenses for the month were \$814.75 for a profit of \$339.64.

Budget for the year was also reviewed. Most budgeted expenses are in line for the year. Open House cost was about twice the \$300.00 budgeted amount and the Green Latrine is about \$1,600.00 over budget. Grants and additional funding are covering the difference.

Projected income for the year was also discussed. Grotto and cavers camping is a little under budget as are scouts. Youth and other larger groups are significantly down including KOR. The kitchen and merchandise sales are better than projected. Camping income reviewed from 2007 to present. 2008 was our best year, 2009 was the worst. To date 2011 should do just a little better than 2009. Camping pass donations, scouting groups are good. KOR and overnight stays are significantly down. Over night stays stand out with over \$2,000.00 per year in '07, '08 and '10. In '09 (our worst year was \$1,727.29). Even with the rate increase this year to date shows donations amounting to only \$1,258.00. It was questioned as to whether camping was down significantly or are visitors not donating?

Caretakers Report

Not much to report. Horses have wandered onto the property about a week before this report and still here. Have called probable owner but no call back yet. Mowed for a wedding in the cave and helped guide wedding party into the cave. Showerhouse will remain open till colder weather comes in. BC will winterize tractor in a few weeks.

Business

Schedule updates.

10/22 school fieldtrip

10/23 Grotto Halloween Party

10/29 Cub Scout Pace. Grotto Halloween Party

3/23-25 Mammoth Cave Project

3/31 – 4/1/12 NCRC Orientation to Cave Rescue

5/19-20/12 Open House – anniversary of the War of 1812

7/1-6/12 Tammy's post convention field camp

Green Latrine. Just a few small projects to go. Will activate in the spring.

Pat Hutson will bring down his BobCat once the farming season is over to landscape around the GL and move gravel to some rutted areas in the road.. Checking into availability of wood shavings in the London area.

Cave Signs. RKC sign will be attached to the stone outside the entrance to the Great Saltpetre Cave. A second one will be

posted at the Kiosk. The files for the interior signage have been sent to Ron @Patron Graphics.

NCRC Orientation to Cave Rescue. Matt Keller asked if we, the committee would consider waving camping fees for the instructors on May 30-31. The GSP Committee had no problem with that.

Scouting camping fees. RD researched this. Got feedback from the Dan Beard Council and the current treasurer of his old Troop as to what is the cost of a typical weekend. Our current request of a \$7 donation is towards the lower end and quite reasonable. RD also researched other scouting activities similar to what we offer. We are considerably less expensive. Example: An afternoon of canoeing the Rockcastle with one night camping is \$25.00 per scout and the Via ferrata (rock climbing near Red River Gorge) is \$50 per scout for a day and \$30 per night for the entire troop to camp.

Karst O Rama. Camping fees discussed. Werner pulled all records available to create a 10 year history of KOR income and expenses. Agreement with GCG has been consistent till 2011. GSP will review and cost out options for port o lets and dumpster. Many misc. KOR conversations. KOR plywood still on the point stills need to be removed. Bob Yuellig asked that we look into running electric service along the creek to possibly move vendors.

Storage request. Bruce Soluski asked permission to present a proposal to store his camper on the Preserve for a fee. Tractor. Matt Keller would like to line up the tractor to bushhog a few acres at Cornhole. We will try to coordinate this with the weekend Pat has his Bobcat down so we can transport on the trailer.

**The next Committee meeting
will be at Molly Malone's 6111 Montgomery Road 45213
Pleasant Ridge.
Tuesday, November 8th at 7PM**

