

Great Saltpetre Cave Preserve Management Committee Meeting

June 12, 2012

7 PM at Molly Malone's

Committee Members present

Neena Jud
Werner Jud

Richard Duncan
Tim Hale

Also attending

Bob Dobbs
Janice Gott

James Clemmons
Beau Gergle

Meeting began at 7:24 pm.

Secretary's Report

Minutes from 5/6/12 were read and approved. **Motion** to accept Werner, Tim 2nd, by acclaim.

Treasurer's Report

Open House did fairly well, \$1,250.25 in donations and \$1,260 in items sold. \$1,215 was net profit on Open House. We netted more at last year at Open House. Busy month for Scout groups and cavers camping. Camping donations for May, \$914.00. **Motion** to accept the Treasurer's report, Tim motion, Richard 2nd, by acclaim.

Caretaker's Report

Bill Carr reported that he has been mowing the grass all year with little help. He needs more volunteers. The Committee suggests that new people should be trained and encouraged. The nearby oil well is underway, and a derrick will be installed. They are planning another one even closer to GSP. Neena noted that they are not planning to frack these wells, as they are only going 2,600 feet deep.

Motion to accept the Caretaker's report RD, 2nd Neena, by acclaim.

Business.

Schedule There are multiple Scout troops coming up this weekend. No one has committed to taking them on a cave trip. Volunteers for guides are needed as there continues to be a lot of scout activity this year, please contact Brian Blake if you can help bblake916@gmail.com.

6/17-23 Camp Wesley Caving Adventures Will be at GSP all next week.

6/30 – 7/7 Post NSS Convention Camp Tammy is in charge of this event.

7/13 – 15 is KOR Prep weekend

Strategic Plan Roger Brucker is taking the new GSP and RKC strategic plans to NSS to show that strategic plans can be concise and reasonable.

Open House On Saturday we ran the traditional tours in the cave, and Sunday experimented with volunteers at fixed stations. The stations idea did not work very well with the amount of help we had. The cave rat was stolen, some people misbehaved in the Devil's Raceway, and people bumped their heads without a guide. Some people commented that they learned more with a tour guide. Other people commented positively that they enjoyed going through at their own pace. Open House was very successful, with more attendees than usual, but no more volunteers than usual. Volunteers worked long hours with few breaks and were very tired. The re-enactors worked out very well, and enjoyed themselves. The V-vat demonstration went well. Thank you to Gary Bush, Mike Wuerth, Bob Dobbs & Mike McNabb for researching, constructing and demonstrating this project. What should be done with the demonstration V-vat is tabled until a further meeting.

7/14-15 KOR Work Weekend James Clemmons has volunteered to pressure wash the shelters and showers before KOR. KOR has asked GSP to be responsible for arranging for opening and closing the cave, arranging for dumpsters and port-o-lets, collecting trash and recycling, and checking and re-stocking the outhouses.

MIM People have been asking Bob Dobbs about camping at MIM. He cleared that it was alright if family and friends of cavers can camp at GSP during the event, if they are sponsored. GSP would really appreciate RSVPs from member's groups so they can provide extra port-o-lets if necessary. Camping by distant grottos or NSS members is also okay. Renfro Valley also has public camping. Advertising is going out soon, and the ticket website is up. The MIM website should add a link to Heritage Inn and other overnight venues. We should ask for sponsorships in exchange for overnight stay links.

MIM is on board for getting Wifi service at GSP which will help at KOR and MIM, but they need grotto members to chip in and donate for Wifi. It has a 6 month commitment. The first 6 months is helped by a rebate, but to keep it year round would be \$75/month, minus the \$25 that GSP already pays for phone per month. GSP is looking for about \$300 in donations for the first six months.

Accepting Credit Cards at Events Smart phones can accept credit cards through an app called "Square." The phone would be able to run through the new Wi-Fi, in order to operate at the preserve. It costs 2.75% per transaction after downloading the app. with no other fees. Richard is authorized to proceed with setting up credit card acceptance for GSP through "Square" which can be used at MIM and other events as needed.

Dedication Sign for Scout Camp shelter will say "Dedicated to the efforts of Jack Hissong and Bill Simpson."

Vascular Plant Study Ralph Thompson from Berea College wants to do a vascular plant study at GSP over a three year period. He has a herbarium at the College that we are welcome to visit. Prof. Thompson would make a number of trips to GSP and note their degree of common to rare. He will collect and press non-rare specimens and present GSP with a copy of his report. This fits with the GSP mission statement. It is a great benchmark for noting future changes in the plant community. **Motion** to allow Ralph Thompson to proceed with the vascular plant study in accordance with the stipulations outlined by email (Tim, Werner, by acclaim).

Wedding Request Angela Cope would like to plan her daughter's wedding in the cave. Weddings are generally welcomed to be scheduled, but need a sponsor from a grotto. Neena will reply.

General Liability Insurance Policy It would be appropriate to install a sign at the creek saying "Swim at your own Risk."

Meeting adjourned at 9:12 pm.

The next meeting will be
Tuesday, July 10th, 7 pm,
location Molly Malone's, Pleasant Ridge