

# Great Saltpetre Cave Preserve Committee Meeting

January 9, 2014 - Montgomery Road Panera

## **Committee Members Present:**

Chris Hacker  
Werner Jud  
Neena Jud  
David Brooks  
Tama Cassidy  
Jerry Brandenburg

## **Also attending:**

Bob Dobbs  
Traci Hacker  
Ron Hager

Meeting started at 7:14 pm.

## **Announcements:**

Neena has a Square for use to take payments. Chris will set up on his phone for use.

## **Secretary's Report:**

- Minutes from the November meeting were summarized.
- NJ made a motion to accept, CH 2<sup>nd</sup>.

We are trying to keep an updated list of who wants the minutes for emailing.

Meeting minutes are posted on the GSP website (without actual dollar amounts in the financial report). The minutes contain the facts and decisions, not necessarily all the discussions and opinions. To be fully informed, it is best to attend the meetings.

## **Treasurer's Report:**

- 9 people have purchased/received camping passes for 2013.
- DB made a motion to accept, TC 2<sup>nd</sup>.

## **Caretaker's Report:**

- Tractor coolant was filled. Unsure of where leak is. Chris will ask BC to put cardboard under tractor to determine where leak is. DB will make sure this is done if Bill fails to do.
- Firewood has been disappearing from the Boy Scout Camp. Chris will send out something requesting that people do not use Boy Scout Camp wood - instead go up to the fire-pit near the shelter for wood.

## **Old Business**

- **Wi-Fi:** A Google Doc has been set up to receive information for those who have paid for Wi-Fi. Need to make sure that Bob Dobbs, James Robinson, and Gregg Robben are notated. Looking at extending Wi-Fi to ticket house, and an ISP camera system to 'watch' the entrance to the cave.
- **Open House:**

- DB is taking on Open House... will be event-by-committee.
  - BD asked if the encampment people will be coming. NJ said that she heard that they had decided not to come due to budgetary concerns.
  - This year we'll concentrate on Open House and the National Historic Registry status.
  - Do we still want to put the Firefighters down by the ticket house? WJ noted that they like to be up near the cave - the committee might consider moving them back up top.
  - BD is looking to re-stock the store. WJ noted that we have plenty of caps, but BD noted that we need to re-stock t-shirts ASAP. NJ asked if we want to order sweatshirts as well - WJ will check the inventory numbers.
  - There will be a plaque dedication by dignitaries on Saturday morning. GSP Committee will announce this dedication instead of the Open House committee - GSP will probably request that this wording be added to any flyers and publicity information.
- **Freezer and Cooler:** Still looking for replacements. Will be addressed in a month or two when warmer weather returns.
  - **Dumpster:** WJ recommends that it be moved back to its "parking spot" in the corral because it blocks the view and is inconvenient when leaving the campground. If we want to hide it, someone can put doors on the corral. That's what it was built for, but never properly completed.
  - **Port-o-lets:** TC recommends that the shelter-side Port-o-lets be moved back to the old position near the dumpster corral. Folks doing vertical practice in the favorite tree there don't like the odor. Visitors should not have to go up and down that hill since it can get slippery and muddy. The location was a test anyway. It failed.
  - **Scout Projects:** NJ brought a list of suggested scout projects including:
    - Set posts at the top & bottom of pathway from end of Long-Bottom (near magnolia) up to Sara Corey Trail to prevent vehicles from using it.
    - Trail maintenance - rocks, sticks, face-slapping branches. Advise GSP Committee of logs to be saved.
    - Path to Lloyd Mullins old homestead - major dip at waterway keeping the trailer from passing. Culvert pipe is down there and needs to be set so it can be mowed occasionally or further trail can be bladed.
    - Work on path to Lloyd Mullins old homestead.
  - **Green Latrine:** WJ fixed the fan issue on the Green Latrine - did not cost us a thing. He sent the last one up to the manufacturer to look at - apparently our four fan failures are about half of their total fan problems. Advanced Composting has been supportive with replacements. (Cause is still under investigation)

## New Business

- **Camping Passes:** Are available for purchase. \$30 individual, \$50 family
- **Rain Garden:** Tama brought information about Rain Gardens that could control or slow down the road runoff when we implement the water bar solution to the road drainage issues we have.

- **Camp Wesley Caving Adventures (formerly known as Woodland Altars) and put on by West Ohio Conference of the United Methodist Church----got that???**, requested a week of property use from July 6-12. They will have privileged use of the kitchen and shelter. As for monetary concerns, the payment has always been based on their participation figures. We traditionally ask \$5 per head plus a facility fee but might want to raise the facility fee due to increased utility expenses. **CH made a motion raise by 10% hike to \$390. DB seconded.**
- **KOR:** Bob Dobbs is running KOR this year.
- **GSP Website:** CH and NJ have been talking about a website re-do to improve usability and navigation, and to add a calendar. CH would also like to add a webmaster/social media person to up the visibility of the committee, even if we need to pay a little for it. [WJ does not want to be in on that] Further details forthcoming.
- **Plaque:** CH would like to get a plaque in honor of the Historic Site designation saying "Great Saltpetre Cave has been listed in the National Register of Historic Place by the United States Department of the Interior". CH has done research and has found that this plaque would cost approximately \$600. TC noted that the park where she works recently purchased one for about \$140 that is about 6"x11", but does not know what the plaques are made of. The group seems to like the information that CH brought from Eagle in KY, and want to get a quote for a 24x14 size. **WJ made a motion that we begin getting a quote for this so that we can move on it. TC seconded.** Group will revisit installation location.
- **Beavers:** BD noted that we again have beavers and may want to consider dealing with them.
- **Cave upkeep:** BD recommends that we move the new V-vat to a better location in the cave. Also recommends that a re-design or way to hide the electrical at Richard's Run, using small boulders and rocks. Would like to see LEDs replace regular lights in Signature Alley and update lighting throughout the cave. WJ commented that this has been an ongoing project for him for years and has progressed slowly. DB asked if Kentucky has regulations on inspecting lights in caves. Indiana does have such regulations for commercial caves. WJ will look for an LED string to try out in Signature run.

**The March meeting will be on Thursday the 13th at 7pm, location will be at Hacker residence at 1714 Arundel Court, Loveland, OH.**

**Motion to adjourn by NJ, seconded by JB. Adjourned at 8:29.**