

Great Saltpetre Cave Preserve Committee Meeting

November 13, 2014 – Jerry Brandenburg’s house

Committee Members Present:

Jerry Brandenburg
Tama Cassidy
Werner Jud

Neena Jud
Scott Pavey

Also attending:

James Clements

Bob Dobbs

Meeting started at 7:26 pm.

Secretary’s Report:

Minutes from the last two meetings were reviewed – October since there were so few people in attendance and no quorum, and September’s outstanding items.

Fred Ball will be the second DUG rep to the Committee.

James Clements agreed to be the Virtual Meeting Committee as he has been researching options for virtual meetings for KOR planning. The intent is to enable Committee members at a distance and any other interested people to join a live meeting via smart phone or computer. It can also be used during winter snowstorms. TeamViewer and GoogleChat were two programs discussed. He will experiment with TeamViewer for the next KOR meeting and report back to the Committee.

The water pressure issue has not been addressed. A team of 4-5 people is needed in decent weather to hike round and assess the condition of the pressure reducing valves to determine what maintenance or repair work is required.

Information on road repair that Tama Cassidy shared at last month’s meeting was discussed and handouts shared with those who missed that meeting. Sketches came from Leigh Ann Gerardi McCulla, a Stormwater Management consultant near Dayton, Ohio. She commented that these are design concepts and that Engineering is still required.

Steps to correct the rutting problem in the gravel road from the turn after Bill Carr’s house down to the Shelter include:

1. Cut down the berm (that prevents the water from sheeting off) all the way down;
2. Clean out the swale between the road and the “bench”, down to the driveway to the Tractor Barn;
3. Install a culvert across the road at the driveway to the Tractor Barn to send the water to the other side, with riprap at the culvert outlet.

Note that there is one buried boulder in the swale below the “bench” which may complicate the swale cleaning.

Our goal is to complete this work before the Spring Rains. Bill Carr should keep trying to contact Clifford Collins for pricing of this work.

WJ made a motion to accept Secretary’s Report, SP 2nd.

Caretaker's Report:

Final mowing completed. Dumpster will be emptied shortly. Tractor will be winterized. Mike McKinney would like permission to use the Cave for the Johnson Sisters to sing on June 14th, 2015. No objections were noted. Bill can let Mike know to go ahead.

Regarding the Audiovisual system for school kids program:

- Bill Carr is authorized to get the modular plate and svga cable for the system.
- James Clements has a corded microphone that he can donate.
- Jerry Brandenburg will fabricate a secure, lockable box for this system, which will be installed on the wall at a height convenient for use of equipment in box. Bob Dobbs to get required inside dimensions to Jerry. Use limited to school kids and similar official programs.
- Caver's music system can sit on top of the box, completely independent and available for all to use.

WJ made a motion to accept Caretaker's Report, SP 2nd.

Treasurer's Report:

Expenses exceeded income. Detailed Financial report available on request.

Werner commented that Electric costs have been gradually creeping up.

\$95.00 was received this month towards Wi-Fi, which has a balance of \$230.65. Patrick Gibson will send out new Wi-Fi passwords on January 1 to whomever has renewed.

Matt Cholmondeley donated \$100.00 to the Scout Shelter Fund in memory of Bill Simpson (see more below). The Fund now contains \$2690.00.

NJ made a motion to accept Treasurer's Report, TC 2nd.

Old Business

Scout Shelter: Since Bill Simpson passed away on October 13, 2014, and the Scout Shelter is to be dedicated to his efforts (as well as Jack Hissong, who started the Scout program), it is time to complete the Shelter. Werner wants to finish the installation of the T111 siding, and will send an email to recruit assistance.

Werner has discussed a memorial sign with Ron Hager.

The plan is to dedicate the Scout Shelter on Open House Weekend. Invite Landowners, put an article in the Signal. Timing: possibly Saturday at 9 am (before tours) or 6 or 7 pm (after tours). Bill's daughter Julie will also be there and wants to scatter his ashes.

Suggestions and comments on timing of dedication ceremony will be appreciated.

Related to this: an obituary needs to be written for Bill Simpson to send to the NSS News. It was suggested to contact Wes Kiefer and Alan Watts who were also at Bill's memorial service.

Scouts: Scott Pavey will be guiding a troop from Somerset next weekend. He will talk with them about a project constructing picnic tables for the Scout Shelter.

Open House: James Robinson volunteered to run Open House for 2015. Open House at GSP is a public relations event, a way to give back to the Community. As usual, we

absorb all the expenses and do not want to ask for “sponsors”. Open House donations have always covered the expenses.

New Business

KOR 2015: James Clements will be the KOR Chair. He needs a GSP liaison to the meetings. The first meeting will be 7 pm Tuesday, December 9, 2014 at Molly Malone’s. Subsequent meeting will be held one half hour before GCG Executive Board meetings.

Most positions are filled. Mark Skinner will be Treasurer. Bob Dobbs will do T-shirts. The banquet will be a pig roast, in the ground. Scott Pavey has a roaster that works on propane & cooks a pig in 18 hours. This is available if the in-ground plan has difficulties.

As in recent years, GSP would like to split cost of dumpsters & Port-o-Lets; \$5.00/person/night camping fee; same for extra nights and per night for electric sites.

Representation: For better communication and coordination of activities, it would help to have a representative from the GSP Committee at the RKC, GCG and KOR meetings. Likewise, we would appreciate someone from those groups at GSP meetings.

Also, Calendars should be kept updated. (For example Jan 10, 2015 is Winter Adventure Weekend).

Adjourned at 9:20 pm.

Next meeting will be:

7 pm, Thursday December 11, 2014 at Jerry Brandenburg’s house.