

Great Saltpetre Cave Preserve Committee Meeting

May 1, 2016 – GSP Shelter

Committee Members Present:

Jerry Brandenburg
Fred Ball (online)
Neena Jud

Werner Jud
Dan Zubal

Also attending:

Gary Bush
Bill Carr
Sean Cain (online)
Austin Craycraft
James Craycraft
Bob Dobbs

Jared Embree (online)
Patrick Gibson (online)
Cody Kisner
David Lee
Ralph Mann
Darryl Marsh

Meeting started at 10:18 am

Secretary's Report:

Meeting Minutes were distributed on April 24, 2016.

DZ made a motion to accept the minutes, WJ 2nd.

Caretaker's Report:

The new Zero turn (more information below) handled quite well this week doing a lot of mowing. It needs a set of new belts.

A “new to us”, gently used modem is waiting at the Post Office. It will be ready for Open House.

Port-O-Let cleanings have been scheduled with Shawn Loveless.

Bill proposes swapping out the small dumpster for the large one next time.

Another part is needed for Vendor's Row (for KOR). Werner will look into this.

NJ made a motion to accept the Caretaker's report, DZ 2nd.

Treasurer's Report:

Expenses Exceeded income this month. Financial Report available upon request.

Reminder: Everyone is to sign in at Kiosk when visiting the Preserve.

Old Business

Zero-turn: A gently used John Deere Z-turn was delivered to the Preserve last week. Fred Ball facilitated this acquisition from a landscaper friend in Columbus. GSP paid \$4,000 for it, and has received donations from generous benefactors to cover that cost (which will show up in next month's Treasurer's report).

The old Z-turn functions at the moment as a back-up. All who want to help with mowing MUST be oriented to the equipment.

Showerhouse has been thoroughly prepped and re-painted by Brian Pitcher & David Lee. It looks very good! Thanks!

We have working sinks in both Women's and Men's sides thanks to the efforts of Bill Carr & Gary Bush.

Werner Jud replaced the fittings for the vault in front of the Showerhouse with brass ones. This should substantially reduce the crud in the pipes (as it did in the Kitchen).

Pole light at Cave: not yet repaired due to yesterday's rain. But all lights in the cave have been checked & re-lamped as necessary, plus a new spot light was installed for the National Register sign.

Work Weekend: In addition to work mentioned above, the kitchen was thoroughly cleaned and the trees that fell at the top of the steps to the Cave last year were cut and stacked.

Suggested quick tasks: wipe off informational signs in the Cave, remove lights on those signs, get a box of "Christmas lights" from the ticket house and look for burned out bulbs in the Cave or at the steps thereto.

Not so quick tasks: Trim the back road.

Remember to log all Volunteer Hours in the book near the phone. (Add a sign at the kiosk about this.)

The last roof on the Shelter was installed in 1992. It is about time to re-roof.

Open House: Bob Dobbs notified Livingston Fire Department and purchased toys. Sean Cain has flashlights. Bob will get bottled water from Climax water next week. Ralph Mann offered to be his back-up if need be.

Neena got posters & flyers from Ron Hager. All asked to help distribute. Also more Cave Maps and Cheat Sheets are being printed.

Discussion about the Square device. David Lee will work on getting it set up.

Suggestion to ask local Scout Groups or Rockcastle High School ROTC to help with parking. Bob will contact ROTC on Monday.

Newspaper articles need to be submitted very soon. Neena will forward past press releases to Dan Zubal for quick re-write and update. They will work to get them submitted this week.

Kitchen: increase the budget by 20% or \$200 over last year's budget, but do what it takes within reason to get the necessary food. Use the tax exempt numbers for taxable items. Typically things are purchased and Werner reimburses very quickly.

We will not have re-enactors this year, but volunteers are encouraged to dress in period costume.

Interim road patching: After much discussion, BC authorized to get two small loads of Dense Grade Aggregate (DGA) before Open House – one for the back hill down to Scout Camp and the other for the main road.

Management Plan section on keys was revised. It was read out loud. DZ made a motion to accept as read, WJ 2nd.

Next step is to insert this section into the Management plan and resubmit to CGC. If approved ask GCG Executive Board to forward to RKC.

Road Repair grant funding is a possibility again. Neena needs to submit documentation of past losses in a week. BC will look for old photographs of road damage to include. We applied for a project cost of \$28,060. A question was asked about the strings attached to this grant. Neena will inquire further, but it seems that we will need to pay the expenses and be reimbursed.

GSP fundraising/friendraising: The White Collar dinner in the Cave has been postponed until tentatively September 24, 2016. That is a Saturday, 5:00 – 7:00 time slot. We need to:

- Develop a list of potential donors to invite,
- Design a nice invitation
- Resolve entertainment – Johnson Sisters and Barbershop quartet have been suggested
- Select a speaker
- Develop a professional sounding message

Gary Bush suggested a pre-dinner reception at the Shelter while people are arriving.

The following people volunteered to be part of the Working Committee: Bob Dobbs – chair, Sean Cain, Gary Bush, Neena Jud, Fred Ball (if dates work) and Jerry Brandenburg (and GSP Committee).

The Preserve needs a Second Signature on Accounts, preferably a person who is willing to become the next treasurer of GSP. The next treasurer should be honest, devoted and detailed. At the end of this fiscal year Werner WILL give up the treasury duties – whether or not someone steps up to take over.

Simpson-Barlage wedding reception is on the calendar for the weekend of May 21. Larry Simpson asked if the Committee would object to him placing a sheet of plywood at the drip area in the entrance to the Cave. He will pick it up afterwards. No objections presented.

Fall Scout Jamboree: Darryl reviewed possible dates to offer the Council for the Jamboree. We all agreed the best weekends (in order of preference) would be:

- September 17, 2016
- September 3, 2016 (Labor Day & OTR, but that does not affect GSP)
- August 20, 2016 (COG cookout, but that can be worked around)

KOR The next planning meeting will be May 9, 2016 at Jerry's house. Dates of KOR are June 17, 18, &19, 2016. GSP will receive \$6.00 per night per person for camping, \$6.00 per night per electric site and be reimbursed for half the cost of the dumpsters & Port-O-Lets. Darlene Kisner is Treasurer for KOR.

New Business:

Jared Embree, long time WUSS caver (caving mostly in the Carter Caves area), presented a proposal to develop a virtual reality environment based on GSP. He is a Research Assistant at Boonschoft Medical Center, part of Wright State University, for the last year working on virtual reality projects. Jared needs to sharpen his skills, so

he thought of using GSP as a sample environment. Wright State would allow him use of their resources, but GSP will own and control distribution or sales of the end product. It could also be exported to use on a phone, tablet or website if we want.

He envisions multiple versions of a tour through GSP. One could be a normal walking tour with lights on and tour guides. Another could have electric lights off, illuminated by carbide and no guides. There could be multiple variations.

Jared will volunteer his time for this. There will be no cost to GSP. He is willing to sign an agreement to relinquish ownership and copyrights to GSP, but would like to use clips or images of the end product for presentations or grant proposals.

He would like to start this project by coming to Open House, taking a number of tours and begin recording tour guides. Jared asked for a copy of survey data for GSP. It will save time taking measurements. (Gary will introduce Jared to Howard Kalnitz who has the data.) Later Jared will return to the Cave with one or two persons to take a lot of photographs and make notes. He expects to have a test version ready for review this Fall. It will not be photo-realistic, but he wants it to be detailed enough that someone who is familiar with the Cave can identify where they are. After the virtual graphics are developed then he will gather more stories.

WJ made a motion to approve Jared's proposal, DZ 2nd, no opposition.

Strategic Plan: In light of the fundraising Bob Dobbs is doing for the Educational Program and the need to get a new Treasurer for GSP, it is time to update the Strategic Plan which was developed in 2009. (It seems that RKC's should also be revisited.)

Werner Jud proposes having special meetings for this process and inviting RKC, the Executive Board of GCG and other people who are involved or interested in programs at GSP. A tentative date was set for Tuesday June 7, 2016 at 7:00 pm, location TBD. Werner will coordinate with Sean Cain, Chair of RKC and confirm.

Bob Dobbs is also working with Anne Nash to have a program on fundraising.

Please download and review GSP's Strategic Plan from the website. Note that a key component of the plan is Education and developing and Education Center.

Labelling of doors & drawers in Kitchen: Brian Devine requested permission to do this. No objections.

JB made a motion to adjourn, WJ 2nd. Meeting ended at 12:42 pm.

**Next meeting will be:
7:00 pm, Thursday June 9, 2016 at Jerry Brandenburg's house.**

Calendar Summary

May 6, 2016	Laurel County Eighth Grade Class Field Trip
May 9, 2016	KOR Planning Meeting
May 12, 2016	Brodhead Second Grade Class Field Trip
May 13, 2016	Brodhead First Grade Class Field Trip
May 14-15, 2016	Open House
May 20, 2016	Brodhead Fourth Grade Class
May 21, 2016	Larry Simpson's daughter's wedding reception
May 29, 2016	Mullins Family Reunion at Shelter
June 7, 2016	Tentative GSP Strategic Planning Meeting
June 10-12, 2016	COG will host Pittsburgh Grotto at GSP
June 10-12, 2016	Amber Yuellig's GPR project w/ Ball State Students
June 12, 2016	RKC Meeting (2:00 pm)
June 17-19, 2016	KOR
August 12-14, 2016	DUG will host Wormfest at GSP
September 10, 2016	Caver Appreciation Weekend
September 24, 2016	White Collar dinner in the Cave