

Great Saltpetre Cave Preserve Committee Meeting

April 13, 2017 – Jerry Brandenburg’s house

Committee Members Present:

Jerry Brandenburg

Fred Ball

Tama Cassidy (online)

Neena Jud

Werner Jud

Bob Roth (online)

Scott Pavey

Dan Zubal (online)

Also attending:

Bill Addington

Gary Bush (online)

Bill Carr (online)

Matt Indrutz (online)

Meeting started at 7:10 pm

Secretary’s Report:

Fred Ball made a motion to accept the minutes from last month, DZ 2nd.

Caretaker’s Report:

Logging has begun around Chisel Cave. We may not be able to access the cave for a while.

Bill found a number of blank pages for the Open House register by going through past years sheets. These have been discontinued and are not available in stores. He also found a listing on Ebay for two packages and asked someone else to order them as UPS does not deliver to the Preserve. \$5.00 plus \$6.00 shipping. Fred Ball will order them.

Register at Kiosk needs more pages. Bill will take a ream of recently donated paper to Staples and have more pages printed.

Dumpster is almost full.

Recycling bins are full. Werner Jud will contact Rockcastle Recycling to pick up.

Two new Port-O-Lets were delivered and will remain through KOR. One Port-O-Let’s latch is broken. Bill will mention to Shaun Loveless at next servicing.

The GSP flag looks very ragged. Werner will look into replacement.

The right rear tire on the Z-turn keeps losing air. Scott Pavey will bring “Slime” for it.

Tractor starter is getting very difficult to operate. A new one from the dealership would cost \$600. Bill has found new starters on Ebay for \$122.

The Showerhouse is operational, including outside shower. The ceiling has black mold growing and this should be addressed.

For the school field trips, Bill will set the public address system up to work through the HDMI device and wiring.

Bill Carr has no keys to kitchen or cave that can be loaned out. Please pass the message to all grottos that he is not to be asked, instead contact your committee representative before coming to the Preserve.

Fred Ball made a motion to accept the Caretaker’s report, NJ 2nd.

Treasurer's Report:

Income exceeded Expenses in March 2017. Financial report available upon request.

Old Business

Lock for front gate: Fred Ball got new lock & delivered to BC. Lock is on and in use.

Front gate now has a wheel: Last time Werner visited the Preserve, the wheel was installed. He was impressed with the smoothness of operation! Thanks to Scott Pavey, the job is done. A mig welder on an extension cord from Bill's house worked fine all the way up at the gate.

Timbre concert in GSP. Justin Tucker has a ticket site up, but nothing is linked to it. Date reserved for the concert is June 17, 2017 – two months from now. Timbre asked for a \$400 deposit. The Committee said no so Justin & Brittney agreed to fund it. Then his stepfather developed serious health issues and we have not heard a confirmation.

Road Repair grant funding: Public Notice was placed in the Mt. Vernon Signal requesting comments. After 30 days we send a copy of the notice and any comments received to FEMA. An approval should follow within a couple of weeks. No comments have been received at the Post Office or through the caves.org email address so far.

Wheelchair for use in Cave: Scott has two 26" bicycle wheels as well as small tires for the wheelchair. Now he needs to figure out handles to attach to the large wheels for the user to be able to operate the wheelchair on his or her own.

Debbie's grandmother, who passed away recently, had an electric wheelchair with pneumatic tires and there is no use for it in the family. Scott will attempt to recharge it. If successful he will bring it to the Preserve to test – in to Echo Auditorium and back out. If it passes the test, they are offering to donate it.

Jared Embree & Virtual Reality Tour: He is still working on this project, while also working on his doctorate – thus no report from him in a while. The virtual reality tour will offer various versions to the viewer as well as an opportunity to hear something from many different guides.

Light on the American Flag: Gary is on it.

Open House: Neena has GSP's two "Square" card swipe devices at home and will bring them for Open House. Dan can administer the Square account, but he will be in the Kitchen most all the time. Scott will ask Debi if she would be in charge of merchandise/souvenirs since she has the broken foot and cannot get around much. She has a couple of tablets that could help. Neena reports that all the "items" are already in the Square account – including all sizes of t-shirts & sweatshirts & inventoried merchandise as well as small denomination souvenirs i.e. 25 or 50 cent souvenirs up to \$8.00 and \$20.00 souvenirs. General donations can be accepted through Square and cavers can get camping passes.

Wifi needs to be moved to the Ticket House. Patrick Gibson will handle this.

Bob Dobbs will order small souvenirs (trinkets). Flashlights would be desirable, but the best time to buy those is around Christmas. If anyone can find flashlights for \$1.50 or less, we would like 2-300. They can be sold for \$3 – 5.00.

Jerry has not yet constructed the donation boxes. He will make eight square plywood boxes. Matt Indrutz offered to prepare graphics for those boxes.

Dan reported statistics from posting the event on facebook: 237 people say they are going, over 400 people have been invited (through post shares), and 1,100 are interested. Dan will post this on other organizations pages.

The Rockcastle Tourism office needs to get flyers, Werner & Neena will handle this.

Neena will send something to the Mt. Vernon Signal to publish.

The Rockcastle High School Jr ROTC will be there to help us. (Bob Dobbs contact person).

Livingston Fire Department needs to be confirmed. Werner will contact them.

There will be an orientation meeting for all guides, Saturday morning of Open House 8:30 am at the Shelter.

The route will be into Echo Auditorium, up to the North Entrance, return to Museum Section. No leapfrogging! If there is moderate heavy flow we will skip Russian Dome. Bob Roth suggested posting another person at Atlas Pillar to encourage the flow and keep everyone on the proper route. We may also want to post a few JrROTC members at the start of Devil's Racetrack to escort out those who do not want to go through this passage, or jump in the middle of large groups to keep people from touching the walls. Fred Ball will be the gatekeeper this year, with BC's assistance to get him oriented.

Caver volunteers are encouraged to wear period clothing.

Bronze plaque honoring Ellie Schiller: It is challenging to find a good photo of her to use on the plaque. Ellie deserves an individual honorarium. Our plan is to consolidate all future memorials to a single location – the Ticket House.

The Ticket House Bob shared the draft of the concept drawing prepared by Matt Indrutz (COG member). We will call it "Historic Ticket House" so people do not get the idea we are still selling tickets out of it. Bob has commitments for donations of materials and some labor that will probably get us 85% through the Structural stage (Phase One). (See description of phases in March meeting minutes)

The next step is to develop a fundraising campaign around the image developed by Matt. We need some verbiage, title credentials... Bill Addington offered to help with this.

After Open House, we need to clean stuff out of the Ticket House to provide room to work. No resolution on where to store the stuff or what to get rid of.

We also need to design the memorial panels and determine what they will be made of. Fred Ball made a motion to proceed with the three panel design concept as illustrated in Matt's drawing and proceed with structural repairs. NJ seconded the motion, no objections.

Matt will incur a scanning cost, approximately \$20. GSP will reimburse.

New Business:

Future MIM's: Since requests for concerts in the cave keep coming in, Bob Dobbs developed some guidelines for future concerts and sent them to the Committee for

review and comment. Neena briefly reviewed what he sent and it looked fine. Bob will proceed with that – someone else has made an inquiry.

EKU email: Bob Dobbs sent around an email that said the Geology Department especially was interested in working with us. Neena will contact them to set up a meeting, possibly for Thursday April 27, 2017.

WJ made a motion to adjourn, FB 2nd.

Meeting ended approx. 9:30 pm.

**Next meeting will be:
10:00 am, Sunday May 7, 2017 at Shelter.**

Calendar Summary:

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|--------------------------|---|
| April 17, 2017 | School Field Trip – 105 Laurel County 7 th graders |
| April 18, 2017 | School Field Trip – 130 Laurel County 7 th graders |
| April 22, 2017 | DUG Meeting in the Field |
| April 22, 2017 | COG hosting Central Indiana Grotto at GSP for Skylight trip |
| April 22, 2017 | Scouts (one troop) |
| April 28, 2017 | School Field Trip – 34 Roundstone 1st graders |
| April 29, 2017 | Scouts (three troops) |
| May 6, 2017 | Work Weekend at GSP |
| May 11, 2017 | School Field Trip – 44 Laurel County 4 th graders |
| May 20-21, 2017 | Open House at GSP |
| May 26-27, 2017 | Speleofest at Lone Star Preserve |
| May 27, 2017 | Mullins family reunion at the Shelter |
| June 17, 2017 | tentative Timbre concert at GSP (cancelled on 4/25/17) |
| June 17-24, 2017 | NCRC Training in Bend Oregon |
| June 19-23, 2017 | NSS Convention in Rio Rancho, New Mexico |
| July 21-23, 2017 | Karst O Rama at GSP |
| September 9, 2017 | Caver Appreciation Weekend at GSP |