

GSP Committee Meeting Minutes

March 9, 2023 Call to order: 7:01

Committee members in attendance via Go-To:

Scott Pavey	Werner Jud	Fred Ball	Dan Zubal
Neena Jud	Jerry Brandenburg		

Other attendees via Go-To:

Debi Pavey	Pat Gibson	Kevin Lorms	Sean Cain
Jimmie Hampton	Gary Bush		

Announcements:

SP Reports baseboards have been installed in the caretaker residence, except the master bath, where construction continues. They did not install it in the kitchen along the cabinetry, thinking that quarter round would go much better there. They also cased the front window and used the material removed therefrom to recase the door to the front bedroom which will become the library.

SP: During the windstorm last Friday night, a dead cedar tree was blown over onto the caretaker's residence. The tree has been removed and cut up. The damage was minimal.

JB suggests investing in gutter guards for the caretaker's residence.

Jerry & Scott delivered Josh's refrigerator and washing machine to the caretaker's residence.

Secretary Report:

Motion to accept amended February minutes: JB

Seconded: NJ

Treasurer Report:

Income exceeded Expenses during the month of February.

Contact WJ for a full, dated report.

Camping passes are available. A number have been purchased, but not quite as many as were purchased at this time last year.

PG has GSP 33 camping passes and is passing them out as he sees people.

Werner sent out the first installments to repay the lenders for the Caretaker's Residence purchase.

Motion to accept treasurer's report: FB

Seconded: DZ

Caretaker's Report: Emailed before the meeting

Not much new here, cutting up limbs from the storm.

Troop 418 is coming down this weekend, as well as some cavers to guide.

GCG Sinks cleanup is this weekend too - we'll be meeting under the shelter at 10am on Sunday.

He also expressed appreciation to Danny & Scott for the baseboards and Jerry & Scott for the transport of his appliances.

Old Business

Management Plan: WJ presented a revised management plan that has been circulated by email. FB makes a motion to accept the revisions. NJ seconds. The motion passed unanimously. After acceptance by RKC, the updated Management Plan is to be distributed to all Grottos. WJ stated that it should be printed in all the supporting Grotto's newsletters.

JH will be stepping away as the DUG rep to carry out his duties as caretaker; as is appropriate for separation of responsibilities. The caretaker will remain a special advisor to the committee and be included in our letter head; as in the past. SP suggests having two COG reps due to COGs involvement with GSP. This is acceptable per the Management Plan which stipulates eight Committee Members. Four reps shall be from GCG. At least one each shall be from BGG, DUG, & COG. The last one can be from any of the three partner Grottos. Fred has been the "at large" member while Josh held the "DUG" position. Fred will take the DUG position, and the at large position will be temporarily vacant. Dan & Patrick will bring this to the COG Board who may appoint someone. They will report back to the committee. Josh will retain his set of keys. Another set will be needed for the new COG rep.

Caretaker's Contract: WJ presented a new Caretaker's Contract and duties attachment that has been circulated by email. Minor suggestions were made. Discussion ensued. We will present the contract to the RKC board at their meeting on Sunday. GSP Committee voting will take place via email.

Merchandise: NJ has ordered more sweatshirts and will deliver them to GSP.

School Field Trips: We have 3 in the latter part of April. If you are interested in helping out, please contact NJ.

Open House: KL reports 71 days until the event.

Lacie is on board for merchandise this year again.

Fred will handle the cave gate again.

Pat will handle parking again.

Jamie and Kevin will handle the kitchen.

KL would like to paint the mondos and Outhouse during the work weekend. Discussion about paint (last meeting suggestion of painting Mondo green to help it blend in) vs stain. Stain may look a little more natural and not need re-coating as soon as paint. No objections. Upper Mondo needs bottom 12" of siding replaced before refinishing. Scott will look for left-over paint from last year's projects. If anyone has a suggestion of other large projects for volunteers on work weekend, please share with Kevin.

SP Reminds everyone that we need to keep FoGSP in the loop about Open House and work weekends.

GSP 33: PG reports that a few more COG members have joined the program and a few more have said they will next meeting. With those, we will be up to 17 people. He requested that Neena send more five year special GSP33 camping passes to him.

Ticket House: WJ has re-started wiring. JB reports “that that is one GD sexy light switch” that WJ installed at the back door entrance. WJ will resume electric improvements ASAP.

Cameras/WiFi / Phone: This topic gets postponed each month until better WiFi is available at the Preserve. SP will reach out to Beau Gergel to see if there’s been any update regarding an alternative provider.

Stormwater Management: SP reports the tree at the corner of the driveway to the Tractor Barn is a poplar tree, not a sycamore tree. In discussions with Pat Hutson and others, they are working on redesigning the stormwater system to divert water further up the hill through another culvert.

WJ reported Josh’s observations: he cleared the grate of small sticks and clumps of leaves during the last storm. This allowed all the storm water to flow down the drop tube and through the culvert. Josh’s opinion is that the effort to keep the grate clear may be more valuable than adding a new drain & culvert. JH also suggests deepening the swale beyond the Tractor Barn driveway to the rules sign. Both swales need to be cut deeper for their entire length, but bedrock will interfere in places in the upper swale, so the additional culvert may still be a good idea. Further evaluations will be made.

It was noted that the collection and culvert diversion of water near the steps to the cave has been working well.

Freedom Bus: JB has been in contact with Christine and Stitch. They need to recharge the battery before they can move it.

Electric service repair: WJ reports the triplex running along the tractor barn upper 4WD road has fallen to the ground due to limbs breaking. For safety reasons, WJ thinks we need to disconnect it from the tractor barn and make arrangements to rehang it if we want to keep power to the upper parking lot.

PG is looking at the possibility of running fiber from the caretaker’s residence to the shelter house. JB advises against running a trencher through that area due to bedrock so close to the surface. Both triplex and fiber could be hung from poles.

FoGSP: There will be a road clean up along Mullins’ Station Road on March 18th. They also have a picnic scheduled at the end of April.

GSP Library: We are considering using a bedroom in the caretaker’s house as the library.

New Business:

Masons: Jimmie would like to bring a York Rite appendage body Mason’s group to the cave for a meeting/ritual on September 30, 2023. They would start late morning and go through the afternoon. Jimmie reports that as with his Blue Light Masonic Chapter, only York Rite members are allowed into the meeting. He is not a member, but he will make sure the cave will be left as they found it, or he will strangle those involved.

We tentatively placed this event on the calendar, pending Jimmie & a representative of this York Right chapter attending our next committee meeting to answer questions. Jimmie's email is hampton2033_13@yahoo.com. Send him the meeting invite early.

Timbering: Howard McHargue has reached out to us to let us know he will be timbering an adjacent property and would like us to mark our property line. He will be meeting someone regarding Kristen Harper's property line on Monday April 3rd. NJ suggested we could meet with him possibly Saturday April 1st. Committee members are encouraged to be there. Werner would like a team of four people to hike and mark the line as we have done before. McHargue timbered the French land and appreciated the marking that we did.

Next Meeting:

Thursday April 13, 2023 @ 7 pm at Jerry Brandenburg's, virtual will be available for those who cannot attend in person.

8:45 PM: Motion to adjourn: NJ

2nd: FB

Minutes recorded by DZ

Calendar:

April 15-16, 2023 – NCRC

April 21, 2023 – Laurel County Middle School Special Ed Field Trip

April 27, 2023 – Mennonite Youngster cave trip & hike (need assistance)

April 28, 2023 – Brodhead Fourth Grade Field Trip (need guides & tailgunners)

May 6-7, 2023 – Open House Work Weekend

May 7, 2023 10 am – GSP Committee Meeting at GSP

May 20-21, 2023 – Open House

June 26-30, 2023 – NSS Convention Elkins, WV

July 14-16, 2023 – KOR

August 4-6, 2023 – Cave Capers

September 9-10, 2023 – Caver Appreciation Weekend

September 23, 2023 – Blue Light Masons Cave Degree

September 30, 2023 – York Rite Masons ritual - Pending

Next Meeting:

GSP Committee Meeting

Apr 13, 2023, 7:00 – 9:00 PM (America/New_York)

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