

MINUTES

The West Virginia Cave Conservancy

Board of Directors Meeting
6 June 2010

In attendance:

Directors: Frank Abbato (President), Pauline Apling, Carroll Bassett, Fred Grady, Bob Handley, Cliff Lindsay, Alex Sproul, Ed Saugstad, Ed Swepston.

Members: Bob Hoke (Treasurer), John Pearson (Secretary), Susi Weston (Vice President), Charlie Williams (Web Master).

Meeting called to order at 11:54 a.m.

I. Reading of Minutes of 20 March 2010.

Motion: Swepston moved to dispense reading of the minutes. Seconded by Abbato. Passed unanimously.

II. Treasurers Report. Hoke.

A. 2009 Financial Report.

Motion: Grady moved to accept Treasurers Report. Seconded by Saugstad. Passed unanimously.

B. 2010 Budget. Deleted from agenda.

III. Newsletter. Meredith Hall Weberg. It was reported that Jean DeVries jdevries@aol.com will be the new layout editor. Deadline for the next issue is July 10, 2010. Obviously, send articles.

IV. Web Site. Charlie Williams. Reported that a new web site has been designed and implemented.

A. The new website will give all directors, officers and advisors the ability to add articles and update content. To log on, go to "About WVCC" tab and you can log on with your first name, space, last name and request a password. A password will be sent to your email account.

B. Bassett reported a few links didn't work for him and will work with Williams to identify any problems.

C. Newsletters can now be sent to members electronically. This feature will save the organization money for members that opt for the electronic version.

V. Membership. Apling reported that there were 198 members and 16 complementary memberships. She is working with Hoke on a new Renewal Reminder letter.

VI. Future Meetings. No changes

- A. November 13, 2010. Banquet at the Brier Inn.
- B. November 14, 2010. Members and Directors Meeting. At Lost World Caverns, Lewisburg, WV at 9:30 a.m.

VII. Committee Reports.

- A. Acquisitions Committee (Abbatto). Had nothing to report. It was reported by other directors that there were 3-4 acquisitions being looked into.
- B. Advisory Committee.

Motion: Sproul moved to add Jeff Bray as an advisor pending acceptance. Seconded by Saugstad. Passed unanimously

- C. Fundraising Committee (Jeff Bray). It was discussed that WVCC send letters to NSS Grottos announcing the Wild Cat acquisition and the Maxwellton Sink purchase. The letter should include major accomplishments such as the reopening of Conservancy caves and additional acquisitions are in progress. Bassett and Balfour to work on a Wild Cat map. Pearson and Hoke to work on the letter.
- D. Directives Committee (Lindsay/Pearson). No update.
- E. Foundation Committee (Lindsay). The Committee received the Bylaws Template from the lawyer and has had several constructive meetings, working on the Template. Committee is ready to sit down with the attorney and produce a first draft of the Bylaws. The next step is to begin working on the proposed contract between the Foundation and the Conservancy. It is the goal of the Committee to have documents for Board review at the November 2010 meeting.

VIII. Old Business.

- A. Motions regarding Bylaws for consideration at the June 6th meeting:

Motion: Eliminate the 21-day advance notice for supermajority votes. Tabled by Sproul.

Motion: The supermajority requirement should be relaxed. Tabled by Sproul.

Motion: Director terms be reduced from nine years to three years. Tabled by Sproul.

Motion: Officer terms of office shall be lengthened to 3 years. Tabled by Sproul.

Motion: Sproul moved the following Meeting Notice Directive be adopted: “Such notice shall include the tentative agenda of the meeting and the text of proposed motions.” Seconded by Swepston. Passed unanimously.

Motion: Sproul moved: Limited proxy voting be permitted at Board meetings. Seconded by Abbato. 5 For (Abbato, Apling, Grady, Saugstad, Sproul), 4 Against (Bassett, Handley, Lindsay, Swepston). Motion Failed.

B. Appointed Board Members. Deleted from Agenda.

C. White Nose Syndrome (WNS) and WVCC Cave Closure.

Motion: Handley moved to open Rapps with special permission of the owner and cave manager in accordance with the lease agreement. Seconded by Lindsay. 1 For (Handley), 7 Against (Abbato, Apling, Bassett, Grady, Lindsay, Sproul, Saugstad). 1 Abstention (Swepston) Motion Fails.

Motion: Bassett moves to allow the manager of Rapps Cave be empowered to enter the cave for cave management purposes. Seconded by Apling. 7 For (Abbato, Apling, Bassett, Grady, Lindsay, Saugstad, Swepston). 0 Against. 2 Abstentions (Handley, Sproul). Motion passes 7-0-2.

Draft Management Plan for Rapps to be circulated by Handley to the Board for discussion and adoption at the November 2010 meeting.

D. Wild Cat Acquisition Closeout.

- a. Final Cost. Not yet available. Appraiser has been too busy to complete appraisal.
- b. Property Management Committee.

Motion: Lindsay moves that the Acquisition Committee be appointed to be the Property Management Committee, which consists of Balfour, Bassett, and Pearson). Seconded by Swepston. Passed unanimously.

E. WV Landowner Liability Law. Deleted from Agenda.

IX. New Business.

A. 2010 OTR Plans (Bray/Pearson).

- a. Friday Wine & Cheese scheduled for 6 p.m. Abbato to handle cheese and supply acquisitions and the Board will supply the wine. Table to be set up outside the WVCC booth.
- b. New Booth Banner. Bray and Apling are handling.
- c. Ask IMO for bungee donation, Sproul reports they have an over supply. Pearson to get tarp measurements to Hoke. Bassett suggests Gorilla Tape repairs to get us through this year if needed.

Motion: Sproul moves to allocate \$100 for tarp repairs and trailer hitch acquisition. Seconded by Abbato. Passed unanimously.

- d. Wild Cat Sponsorship will be the main fundraiser.
- e. Discussion of allocating \$500 for bumper stickers. Hoke wants to research pricing.

B. 2010 Banquet Committee (Swepston). Scheduled for the Brier Inn on November 13, 2010. Happy Hour is 5:30 to 7 and dinner begins at 7. Sproul suggested Stephen Alvarez or Chip Clark, both National Geographic photographers, as tentative speakers.

C. Review of Committees. Tabled.

D. Cave Property Reports.

- a. Island Ford. 14 people attending Spring VAR performed cleanup, both inside and out.
- b. Haynes. Grady reports that property needs brush abatement.

Handley and the entire board expressed appreciation for all the work Susi Weston did in setting up the meeting.

Motion: Lindsay moved to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Bassett. Passed unanimously.