

NORTHEASTERN CAVE CONSERVANCY, INC.

Board Meeting Minutes

Submitted by Christa Hay

06/07/02 Schoharie Caverns Preserve Schoharie, NY 2pm

Meeting called to order at 2:16pm

1. Introduction and greetings – President Bob Addis
2. Nominating Committee Chairman Robert Simmons announced the results of the Trustees' election. The new trustees are for 3 year terms and where seated.

Vince Kappler (returning)
Al Lehmann
Mike Warner (returning)
3. Attendance:
Officers: B. Addis, B. Folsom, J. Levinson, C. Hay
Trustees: C. Cantello (arrived 3:05), V. Kappler, E. Lucas, P. Murphy, T. Rider, S. McLuckie, M. Warner, A. Lehmann.
4. Absent without Proxy
J. Allison
5. President's Report – Bob Addis -written - Attachment A. (found at end of document)
6. Vice President's Report – Bill Folsom -written- Attachment B
7. Treasurer's Report – Joe Levinson - written - Attachment C
7. Secretary's Report – Christa Hay - Attachment D
8. Acquisitions Committee Report – no report.
9. Knox Cave Preserve Report – Emily Davis - oral by M. Warner
 - Regular use of cave
10. Onesquethaw Cave Preserve Report – Thom Engel - oral
 - Regular use of cave
11. Sellecks Karst Preserve Report - Jon Allison - Attachment E
12. Publications Committee Report - Christa Hay
 - Newsletter mailed out
 - Brochure updated
13. Website Subcommittee Report – Bill Folsom - oral
 - Linking issues
14. Office Committee Report – Mike Warner
 - Large block of memberships are coming due in June/July
15. Land Trust Liaison Committee Report – Mike Warner - no report.

16. Legal Committee Report – Dan Werner - no report
- B. Folsom to check with Dan on his wording for a retainer for services.
17. Addis moved to open the Committee of the Whole. The Vice President will preside.
2nd by McLuckie
Passed unanimously
- a. Joe Armstrong - Issues with ANC and Van Fliets caves, might not be a good time to approach family, Mike Warner has a tax map for Lawton property, Schoharie Land Trust may need to step in, Chuck Porter to get in touch with family when appropriate.
 - b. Joe Armstrong - Westfall Cave- dug it open, owners want to give land to NCC, not worried about liability, try to get an easement to build a better trail, Chuck Porter, Bob Addis, Joe Armstrong to approach owner. Al Lehmann will get tax maps of area and check with town planners on land-lock issues.
 - c. Paul Murphy- would like to organize a cleanup on his property- 3 caves
 - d. Bob Addis- cleanup of garbage along NSS Schoharie Cabin property, this is a large job with heavy items (old appliances etc) might need town help.
18. Folsom moved to close the Committee of the Whole. Items from this meeting will be introduced as new business.
2nd by Lehmann
Passed unanimously
19. Hay moved to accept the minutes of the March 9, 2002 meeting.
2nd by Murphy
Passed unanimously
20. Bylaws change. Reading only and discussion. Will vote on these at September 2002 meeting.
- 1) Kappler moved to substitute for Article X:
2nd by Cantello
Passed unanimously
- X. Permanent Committees
 - A. Permanent committees shall be established by an act of the Board of Directors to accomplish the work of the NCC. The duties of each committee shall be to study, promote interest in and work toward the advancement of all matters pertaining to its field of activity. Any question of conflicting jurisdiction of committees shall be resolved by the President. For administrative purposes, the Board of Trustees may divide the permanent committees into groups and will designate an officer to supervise the activity of the committee(s) within the group.
 - B. The chairman of a committee shall be appointed by the Board of Trustees.
 - C. All committee chairmen shall be current members of the NCC.
- Amended by Kappler to add the underlined wording.
2nd by Warner
Amended motion **Passed unanimously**

- 2) Folsom moved to add to Article X of the Bylaws:
2nd by Kappler
Passed unanimously

Section 12 Conservation Committee. Add to the description section: The purpose of the Conservation Committee is the protection and preservation of the cave flora and fauna, clean up of caves and karst features, and related matters. This will be on the properties of the NCC and elsewhere.

- 3) Addis moved to add to Article V of the Bylaws:
2nd by Levinson
Passed unanimously

Section 9 Proxies. Add the following: An Officer or Trustee may appoint a proxy to serve in their absence at any meeting. The Proxy must be a current member of the NCC, Inc. The appointment must be made to the Secretary in writing, electronic mail, or by telephone. In the Secretary's planned absence, the President will receive the proxy designation. The proxy notification must specify if the proxy has limited or directed power to vote or if the proxy may vote unimpeded. Unannounced Board absences may be filled at the discretion and selection of the ~~President~~ Board of Directors.

Ammended by Cantello to add underlined wording
2nd by Folsom
Amended motion **Passed unanimously**

21. Levinson moved to allocate up to \$3000.00 on the closing for Westfalls.
2nd by Folsom
Passed unanimously
22. Addis moved that the Officers will conduct an Executive Committee meeting on August 3rd at 10:00pm at Bill Folsom's house in Kerhonkson.
2nd by Levinson
For - Rest, Abstained - Rider, Cantello
Passed
23. Addis moved that the next NCC Board meeting will be held September 7th at 2:00pm at the 5 Rivers (if not available then the Nature Center).
2nd by Levinson
Passed unanimously
24. Addis moved that the National Speleological Society be thanked for their generous donation of facilities.
2nd by Murphy
Passed unanimously
25. Addis moved to adjourn.
2nd by Murphy
Passed unanimously

Meeting adjourned at 4:30pm

Attachment A

Presidents Report

06/07/02 NCC Board Meeting, Schoharie Caverns Preserve

My report will be short and ho-so sweet this time!

Volunteerism. How many times have I spoken (preached?) on this topic? The fact today is that NCC volunteerism is at an all time high and climbing.

- Aaron Jarvis from 600 miles away in WV did the preliminary organization for the Levy's sinkhole cleanup, and he talked his employer into a substantial donation of cleanup equipment.
- Syracuse and Rensselaer Outing Clubs did significant trailwork, including a foot bridge and steps at the Sellecks Karst Preserve under Preserve Manager Jon Allison's guidance.
- Mike Chu - Sellecks signs.
- Al Lehmann & Paul Murphy donated & delivered timbers to mark out the Sellecks parking lot. Al also previously trucked the driveway culvert on site so that the Town of Carlisle could install it to their standards.
- Vince Kappler had all the materials & tools to build a changing booth at Sellecks during the NRO weekend, but the unpredicted snowstorm prevented it being built.
- The Officers have progressed on their normal duties & taken on additional ones as well. The newsletter, the website, new NCC symbolic devices, displays, taking credit cards and the NRO fund raising efforts.

I know that I have forgotten some, and I apologize in advance. This is only a listing of the past few months and the future of the NCC looks very bright indeed. Please remember the NSS Convention in Maine will be the NCC's chance to showcase and pick up donations, so please help as best you can. Thank you in advance.

Attachment B
Vice President's Report

06/08/02

Fundraising Update:

Credit card donations can now be accepted online via the NCC website.

NCC Booth for NSS Convention:

I am revising the Powerpoint presentation we played on a laptop at last year's convention. I have an old Apple 540c powerbook I have renovated that I hope we can play the NCC powerpoint presentation on, but have not gotten the modem to work on it yet, so taking donations "live" while dialed in may not work. Otherwise it might be problematic collecting people's credit card info and inputting it later from a legal standpoint. If someone else has a laptop we could use to get online, assuming we have access to a phone jack at the NCC booth, I have an AOL account we could use as an ISP connection in Camden for that week that would allow a local dial-up.

Caves in jeopardy:

The owner of Van Fliet's and ANC Cave, Jim Lawton, is not in the best of health and is involved in a family dispute about developing the land on Terrace Mountain. I believe this is a ripe opportunity for the NCC to formally approach Mr. Lawton with a variety of options that will preserve one or both of the caves. Joe Armstrong and Peter Haberland have more information on this.

NCC Picnic:

Robin and I would like to open our house in Kerhonkson for an NCC barbecue/picnic on Saturday August 3rd. Other than fundraising together, the NCC has not had an actual social opportunity to gather outside of our regular board meetings. It will be nice to have a function to invite all members to without the formal structure of an organizational meeting. Details to come, but mark your calendars now.

Matching corporate gift donation:

Like last year, my employer is allowing double-matching of any donations I make to the NCC, up to \$2000. In other words, \$1000 becomes \$3000. Any parties interested in participating please see me for details.

Attachment C
Treasurers Report
For
The Northeast Cave Conservancy, Inc.
8-Jun-02

We have filed our income tax for the NCC. We had \$10,658.14 in our account. I am awaiting an accounting on our holdings by the foundation. When I have this accounting, I am planning on investing a portion of our current bank account with the foundation. They have a tendency to do fairly well, and there is no cost directly to us other than a portion of the interest. I have had very little time to devote towards the NCC. This fall I my involvement with the NSS convention should be coming to an end.

Respectively submitted,

Joe E. Levinson

Attachment D
Secretary's Report

06/08/2002

Spring NRO Dinner: Co-Chair with Emily Davis - The menu was sausage with peppers & onions, macaroni or potato salad, green salad, brownies, fruit cup and lemonade. The total profit was \$354.29, due to the weather not all the meals were sold but we still managed to make a profit. Office Committee will have specifics on rest of NCC fund raising at NRO. Wrote an article for the newsletter on the dinner. Thanks to everyone for helping on the dinner.

T-shirt vendor: I have received the replacement order of T-shirts from Shipmates/Printmates. I did several test wash and dries and the ink is holding.

Sellecks Clean-up Day: May 4th was the clean up day at Sellecks. Wrote an article for the newsletter. We had 10 people (and 2 dogs) working on the dump next to Levys Cave and working on the parking area.

Display Board/Brochure: I have started to update the display board for the NSS Convention. Since it will be setup inside we will not have to worry about sun or water damage. I have also put together a display on the Sellecks Karst Preserve. Most of the pictures I took during the clean up day but will try to add more or at least get a nice photo album. The brochure has also been updated to include Sellecks Karst Preserve. (Can we add link to Network for Good?)

Correspondence: Thank you letters were sent out to Price Chopper for the \$25 gift certificate and to Allegheny Energy for donations of garbage bags and work gloves for the Sellecks clean up. This was due to Aaron Jarvis and I also thanked the company for supporting him and our efforts - Aaron is also in the company brochure for the work with the NCC.

EC Meeting: Minutes from EC meeting held end of April will be emailed to all board members. Sorry for the delay.

Fund Raising: Continue to search for sources of money. Pacific Gas & Electric Co. might be a possible source. They focus on education and most of the grants are in the range of \$5000. Grants have been given out in this geographical area. Will continue to research.

NCC needs a project to work on. Ideas?

Attachment E
Sellecks Report

Submitted by Jon Allison
06/07/02 NCC Board Meeting, Schoharie Caverns Preserve

As mentioned in the president report, Sellecks has been busy! Work has been done to clean out the Levys sinkhole, make paths and signs, mark off the parking lot, and just the other day Mike Chu mowed the parking area and the path back along the field.

There has also been a flurry of digging in Levys Cave. The other day Mike, Joan, Chuck and I finally broke into the stream passage. Some additional work could still be done in there to make sure it doesn't collapse back next time it floods but the lion's share is done. The cave downstream is wet and one really needs a wetsuit. It starts as a crawl in water and then gets to some walking stream passage and the 12-foot drop. The drop can easily be done with a cable ladder and the bolt from 1987 is still there and looks great. I think we should put a second bolt in to belay off of since getting on and off the ladder at the top is a little awkward.

Work that still need to get done over the summer is to clean up around the dig site, more trash removal, cutting a trail through the back part of the property, and making a register for the property.