

THE NORTHEASTERN CAVE CONSERVANCY, INC.
Minutes for 12/02/00
Five Rivers Environmental Center, Delmar, NY

Meeting called to order at 10:35 am

1. Introduction and greetings - President B. Addis
2. Attendance:

Officers: B. Addis, P. Haberland, J. Levinson

Trustees: C. Cantello, B. Folsom, V. Kappler, S. McLuckie, T. Rider, M, Warner
McLuckie entered meeting at 10:40 am
3. Absent with Proxy: C. Nicola- proxy was C. Hay
4. Absent without proxy: K. O'Classen
5. Addis moved to open the nomination for Officers.
2nd - Levinson
Folsom nominated Jon Allison for President and Vice President
C. Nicola withdrew nomination for Secretary 12/01/2000
Final Nominations: President - B. Addis, B. Folsom, J. Allison
Vice President- B. Addis, B. Folsom, J. Allison
Treasurer- J. Levinson
Secretary - C. Hay
6. Addis moved to close the nominations.
2nd by Rider
Passed unanimously
7. Addis moved to convene a closed meeting of the Trustees to elect Officers. Steve McLuckie will preside over the elections as Chairman pro tem of the Trustees and will report. The trustees will elect a chairman. The new Officers will be seated at this time.
2nd by McLuckie
Passed unanimously

New Officers:
President- B. Addis
Vice President- B. Folsom
Treasurer- J. Levinson
Secretary - C. Hay

The Trustees will appoint their Chairman at the 2001 Fall meeting.
Thanks were given to P. Haberland for serving as the first Vice President.
9. President's Report - B. Addis - written - attachment A (attachments found at end of document)
10. Vice President's Report - P. Haberland - no report.

11. Treasurer's Report - J. Levinson - written - attachment B
12. Levinson moved to approve the 2001 budget as presented with amended items.
2nd by Kappler
Passed unanimously
13. Secretary's Report - C. Nicola - no report
14. Acquisitions Committee Report - C. Porter - oral report given
 - a. S. Bethlehem - Callanan - on hold, Walter Young is contact
 - b. Purgatory Pit - quarry owner has contacted NCC. T. Rider is checking Vermont lawyer contact. Forming ad hoc committee for VT and TNC liaison
 - c. Ad hoc Barrack Zourie committee will be contacting the owner shortly.
15. Knox Cave Preserve Report - E. Davis - oral report by M. Warner
Palmer's continue to do surface survey - check Northeastern Caver for information.
16. Onesquethaw Cave Preserve Report - T. Engel oral report by B. Addis.
Ongoing caving
Approximately 3:30 pm T. Engel arrived. Reported that Albany County Land Conservancy wants to transfer ownership of the Onesquethaw property to the NCC and be given a conservation easement.
17. Publications Committee Report - K. O'Classen - no report.
18. Website Subcommittee Report - B. Folsom - oral report
Server has changed so there are links that are no longer linked - Folsom will re-link.
Requesting documents in html format.
19. Office Committee Report - M. Warner - oral report
Checking if the NCC has joined the NSS as an Institutional member. Michael Breen, attorney has been paid. Thank-you notes (receipts for tax purposes) to donors will be sent out by 01/31/01. Will check into the donation of \$500 from Howe Caverns.
20. Land Trust Liaison Committee Report - M. Warner - oral report
Joined the Schoharie Land Trust but not the Albany County Land Conservancy yet.
Discussion of conservation easements.
21. Legal Committee Report - D. Werner - no report
22. (Bylaws Change - 2/3's vote of all members attending this meeting.)
Addis moved to add under Article IV, BOARD OF DIRECTORS, a new Section 3:
Between regularly scheduled meetings of the NCC Board, urgent business may be conducted by a majority vote of the Board by responding to either an electronic or a US Postal Service offering. There shall be no less than two (2) calendar weeks between the initial posting and the deadline for ballots to be received. There shall be an attempt to foster discussion by listing this on the NCC's electronic discussion group at the time of the initial posting. Results of the electronic or postal voting will be made available to the Board as soon as practical after the voting.
2nd by Porter.
Passed unanimously
23. (Bylaws Change - 2/3's vote of all members attending this meeting)
Levinson moved to add under Article III: MEMBERSHIP,
Section 3. Expulsion of Members

- a. A member not exempt from paying dues shall be automatically dropped for failure to pay.
- b. By a two-thirds vote the Board of Directors may expel a member for disregard of accepted safety or conservation practice or the rights of a cave owner or for other conduct detrimental to the Organization. A member subject to expulsion is entitled to a private hearing before the Board.

2nd by McLuckie

For - Rest; Against - None; Abstained - Folsom

24. Nicola moved to approve the minutes of the September 30, 2000 meeting.
2nd by Cantello
Passed unanimously
25. Addis moved to open the Committee of the Whole. The Vice President will preside.
2nd by Levison
Passed unanimously
- a. Porter - revisiting Barrack Zourie, Addis to call Dennis Robtoy
 - b. Allison - kiosks needed at Knox and Onesquethaw, has also volunteered to do the kiosk
 - c. Porter - changing station needed at Clarksville Cave
 - d. Cantello - NCC should purchase Carlisle Ice Cave outright, will look into a quick purchase. P. Haberland to do title search.
 - e. Hay - Brooks BBQ for fundraiser. Looking for 2 dates next summer – have already contacted Brooks waiting for dates.
 - f. Haberland - Publicity Chair is open
26. The Vice President moved to close the Committee of the Whole. Items from this meeting will be introduced as new business.
2nd by Levinson
Passed unanimously
27. Addis moved to appoint Aaron Jarvis Chairman of the Matching Grants Subcommittee of the Fund Raising Committee. A written proposal with progress updates will be due at the Spring 2001 meeting.
2nd by Folsom
Passed unanimously
28. Addis moved that Thom Engel be instructed to prepare a management plan with a purchase offer(s) for the Carlisle Ice Cave, Schoharie County, NY, for the Spring 2001 meeting. The Acquisitions Committee will assist in gathering a summary of associated costs (legal, survey, filing fees, estimated property taxes, etc.).
2nd by Levinson
- _____ moved to amend the motion to read that the Executive Committee is authorized to purchase the Carlisle Ice Cave, Schoharie County, NY for a total cost not to exceed \$3,000. Thom Engel is instructed to prepare a management plan by the Spring 2001 meeting.
2nd by Cantello
Vote to amend: For - Rest; Against - Kappler; Abstained - Rider, Warner
Vote for the motion as amended: For - Rest; Against - Kappler; Abstained - None
PASSED AS AMMENDED
29. Addis moved that Thom Engel be instructed to prepare a management plan with a purchase offer(s) for the Ward property containing Selleck's, Natural Bridge, Cave 575,

and possibly Levy's Caves. This shall be presented at the Spring 2001 meeting. The Acquisitions Committee will assist in gathering a summary of the associated costs (legal, survey, filing fees, estimated property taxes, etc.).

2nd by Folsom

Passed unanimously

- ~~30. Addis moved that the Office Committee investigate competitive credit card acceptance programs with the assistance of the Executive Committee of Officers. The EC is hereby authorized to enter into an agreement, advertise it to the membership, and solicit donations.~~

~~2nd by Folsom~~

Hay moved to amend the motion by deleting the second sentence

2nd by Folsom

Vote to amend: Unanimous

Vote for the motion as amended: Unanimous

PASSED UNANAMOUSLY AS AMMENDED

31. Folsom moved to refer to the Bylaws Committee for their recommendations a bylaws change to Article V, Trustees. This change will describe how to fill a trustee vacancy, and it will consider Section 5

2nd by Kappler

Passed unanimously

32. Addis moved that the Officers will conduct an Executive Committee meeting on the Saturday of the Howe Caverns cleanup. Time will be 3:00pm at Speleobooks. NCC Members are encouraged to attend.

2nd by Levinson

For - Rest; Against - None; Abstained - Rider

33. Addis moved that the next NCC Board meeting will be held on March 24, 2001 at 1:00pm. Location to be named later but will be near Carlisle Ice Cave. NCC will visit Carlisle Ice Cave and Selleck's -Levy's.

2nd by Kappler

Passed unanimously

34. Addis moved that the Five Rivers Environmental Center, T. Engel, Speleobooks, and C. Hay be thanked for their generous donation of facilities, lunch arrangements, and table signs, respectively.

2nd by Levinson

Passed unanimously

35. Addis moved to adjourn.

2nd by Levinson

Passed unanimously

Meeting adjourned at 3:34 pm.

Attachment A
PRESIDENT'S REPORT

12/02/00

1. My efforts with the Acquisitions committee have been the most fulfilling, but not completely successful by getting donations. Both the Carlisle Ice Cave and the Selleck's-Levy's properties remain in my mind worthy projects, so I have but them on the agenda to get a sense of the Board about these two specific projects.
2. West Virginia member Aaron Jarvis works for Allegheny Energy, and his employer has an Environmental Stewardship Matching Grants Program. If Aaron can work 2-5 hours per month as a volunteer for us, Allegheny will give us \$250 for the year. Up that to 5 hours/month, and we get \$500 for the year. Although modest, I think it's a great start, and I wonder aloud how many other employers have similar programs that could benefit us.

Help us find tasks for Aaron, particularly in Pennsylvania. He can represent us as a liaison with PA cave conservancies, and he can also do any photocopying of documents that need on an occasional basis (not the newsletter). Allegheny might ask for an audited financial statement from a CPA, and ours is a very simple one. Anyone know a CPA?

I'll have copies at the meeting of Allegheny's program.

3. I have come across a service to enable the NCC to accept credit cards at a reasonable rate. One calculation says it will take \$41 in fees when we take in \$500 per month. At 8.2% fee, it sounds high, but consider that we will have \$459 more dollars that month than without this service. Consequently, I have put an item on the agenda to have the officers work with the Office Committee to check other sources, hammer out the best deal for us and proceed. This one is called Northern Merchant Services from Galway, NY, and we have found others. Think about what the Southeastern Cave Conservancy has done with this scheme, and I think you'll give it a chance.
4. I'm suggesting that the NCC in many instances-Executive meetings of the officers, the newsletter, preliminary agenda-set deadlines and meeting dates so that things don't get overlooked. I'm also suggesting that new Executive Committee meet in between our regular meetings, and one topic for the EC might be to assign committees to each officer to oversee and keep on a timetable.
5. Having said all of the above, I see a greater urgency to find a chairman for our Fund suddenly available to us, and several other plans could be utilized. Help me jump start this important committee, find a leader or co-leaders.

**Attachment B
Budget for 2001**

<u>Description</u>		<u>Fund</u>		<u>Income</u>			
Carry Forward	\$ 112.50			Start			
Knox Property	\$ 625.00	General		Regular Members	52	\$ 15.00	\$ 780.00
Onesquathaw Property	\$ 25.00	Preserves		Family Members	4	\$ 5.00	\$ 20.00
Office Expense	\$ 25.00	Mailing & Office		Student Members	1	\$ 10.00	\$ 10.00
Office of the President	\$ 10.00	Mailing & Office		Benefactors	11	\$ 50.00	\$ 550.00
Office of the Vice President	\$ 10.00	Mailing & Office		Institutional Members	6	\$ 100.00	\$ 600.00
Office of the Treasurer	\$ 10.00	Mailing & Office		Total			\$ 1,960.00
Office of the Secretary	\$ 10.00	Mailing & Office					
Web Site	\$ 15.00	Mailing & Office					
Mailings (4 Newsletter, 1 Elections)	\$ 234.50	Mailing & Office		Funds	Percentage	Actual to date	Forecast over 2001
Legal Fees	\$ 100.00	Legal		Acquisition	20%	\$ 1,538.22	\$ 392.00
Petty Cash	\$ 25.00	Mailing & Office		Endowment	15%	\$ 628.66	\$ 294.00
Alliance Membership	\$ 40.00	Mailing & Office		Preserve	10%	\$ 419.11	\$ 196.00
Publicity & Education	\$ 25.00			Publications	10%	\$ 419.11	\$ 196.00
Total	\$ 1,267.00			Legal	10%	\$ 419.11	\$ 196.00
				Mailing & Office	15%	\$ 128.66	\$ 294.00
Mailings	Price per unit	Number	Total	General	20%	\$ 638.22	\$ 392.00
Copying	\$0.03	600	\$ 18.00	Life			
Postage	0.34	85	\$ 28.90	Money With NSF		\$ 8,200.00	
			\$ 46.90			\$ 12,391.09	