

NORTHEASTERN CAVE CONSERVANCY, INC.

Minutes

September 20, 2009, 10:00 am Sam's Point, NY

Meeting called to order at 10:20

1. Introduction and greetings – President Bob Addis
2. Attendance:
Officers: B. Addis, P. Youngbaer (10:24), B. Folsom, C. Hay
Trustees: M Chu, T. Engel, P. Haberland, A. Hicks, V. Kappler, B. Simmons, A. Traino, M. Warner.
3. Absent with Proxy
 - Craig Cantello (10:43) for Joe Armstrong
4. President's Report – Bob Addis- Attachment A (at end of document)
5. Vice President's Report –Peter Youngbaer – Attachment B
6. Treasurer's Report –Bill Folsom - Attachment C
7. Secretary's Report – Christa Hay – Attachment D (EC minutes)
 - NCC Tent at OTR, 30th anniversary, EC minutes attached.
8. Science Committee – Larry Davis – no report
9. Acquisitions Committee Report –Chuck Porter – no report
10. Bylaws Committee Report – Joe Levinson
 - I have asked numerous times for copies of the minutes from meetings, and have not received them in a timely manner for over a year and a half. In the past month, I found all the 2008 minutes on the website.
As for the two bylaws changes, it would have been better to have actually worked with the individuals making the proposals. The bylaws change with respect to breaking a tie for the election of trustees seems to be a good solution. With respect to the second bylaws change adding responsibilities to the secretary's duties, there should also be a motion removing this responsibility from the bylaws committee chair. In addition to the second bylaws change, there should be a motion requiring the secretary to get the minutes published in a timely manner, such as 30 days after the meeting, to the entire board, and all committee chairs.
11. Conservation Committee Report - Joe Armstrong – no report
12. Publications/Publicity Committee Report - Christa Hay
 - Status quo
13. Fundraising Committee Report - Alan Traino – no report
14. Office Committee Report – Emily Davis / Mike Warner
 - **Problems;** None
Progress; OTR was a success. We managed to visit with quite a few members, collect dues and encourage donations to both Merlins and unrestricted donations.
Plans; We will send out another batch of membership reminders in the next two weeks.
15. Knox Cave Preserve Report –Emily Davis/Jay Siemion
 - **Problems;** Report of beer party trash in the cave. Chuck Porter and Joe Armstrong did a cleanup trip
Progress; Camps and summer groups made use of the property with no problems. The property was visited by two groups after the International Congress.

Plans; We still want to put up boarder markers but both have been so busy this just has not happened. We hope to get it done this fall.

16. Onesquethaw Cave Preserve Report – Thom Engel
 - Not much to report. Only problem is some ground bees have made a nest in the new changing area. This will be attended to once the weather gets colder.
17. Sellecks Karst Preserve Report – Jason Siemion
 - Nothing to report for Sellecks. Might try to schedule a work party this fall if my schedule permits.
18. Clarksville Preserve Report – Mike Chu, Thom Engel, Chuck Porter
 - Not a lot to report. There was a party near the Wards entrance. This was clean-up with the assistance of Mike Warner and Nick & Sue White, visiting Australian cavers.
19. Ella Armstrong Preserve Report – Joe Armstrong – no report
20. Education Committee Report – David Lyons – no report
21. Membership Committee – open
22. Website Subcommittee Report – Mike Chu – no report
23. Legal Committee Report – Mark Seltzer – no report
24. Special and Group Use Coordinators –Amy Cox – no report
25. Financial and Investments Committee – Joe Levinson
 - I think it is a good choice for the board to borrow against their account with the National Speleological Foundation, since this does not deplete their holdings, but give them a mortgage on the property. This mortgage can become another fundraising effort in the future to 'burn' the mortgage. Bob Addis has a copy of the latest Foundation report.
26. Volunteer Value Committee – Vince Kappler
 - **Progress:** VV totals so far for 2009: 602.5 hours of work and 137.5 hours of drive time to/from projects for a total value of \$21,840.00. The web page to submit hours, http://www.necaveconservancy.org/add_vv.php is working very well and some members are using it regularly. I encourage all Officers, Committee Chairs and Property Managers to check it out.
Plans: I will continue to collect data and maintain totals of the hours, mileage, and expenses members contribute to NCC projects. I will send periodic VV reminders to the membership, monitor data collection, and try to answer questions as they come up.
Problems: None at this time
27. Ad hoc Committee – Surprise Cave – Bob Simmons – no report (oral at meeting)
 - I have had no communication with the DEC since their general announcement on the closure of the cave in accordance with USFWS guidance back in May. I have asked for updates on our AANR Application as recently as last week. I have not received any answers to my recent emails. I am open to suggestions for ways to proceed from here on out. My guess is that with the cave closed for the foreseeable future due to the WNS emergency, it will not be a high priority for the DEC R3 Office.
28. Ad hoc Committee- Tory's Cave – Bob Simmons – no report (oral at meeting)
 - I have made little progress over the last several months, due primarily to work, health and family issues. I have been collecting additional background data (old maps, historic records, property survey, etc.) for inclusion in the management plan. I will distribute a draft Management Plan for furtherance of the eventual property transfer from the WHLT to the NCC to the Board for review and comment shortly. I would appreciate any feedback before submitting it to WHLT for their review.
The cave remains closed at the request of the CT DEP due to the WNS emergency. CCG attempted to perform a bat count/soil sampling visit with CT DEP staff in the cave last winter, but

ice accumulations in the entrance series prohibited access for the staff. A visit will be scheduled this winter, prior to ice build up to do a formal count with CT DEP.

29. Ad hoc Committee -Merlins Cave - Chuck Porter – no report
30. Ad hoc Bentley Cave Preserve Committee – Chuck Porter – no report
31. Ad hoc for Planned Giving – Bill Folsom (Chair), Youngbaer, Seltzer, Traino
 - Waiting for input from legal
32. Ad hoc committee- 30th Anniversary – Bob Addis
 - October 17th – Barn Dance
33. Ad hoc Committee – Conservation Chair Duties – Bob Simmons – no report (motion given at meeting)
34. Addis moved to open the Committee of the Whole. The Vice President will preside. Items can be entered as new business.

2nd by Traino

Passed unanimously

- Guest Carl Herzog to give update on summer bat surveys State wide Acoustic bat survey, this was actually developed 2006 (6 or 8 routes) before WNS hit the area, really started out from the issue with bat kills from wind farms. Needed to get an idea on bat populations for tree bats. Over 80 people participated. 1900 miles driven (not including drive to and from the route). Will compare the results to the few years before to get baseline since this has not been done before. Quite stark the change we can see already – little browns –they were the most common during this survey was common to drive entire routes and not get any or one. Only picked up 4 in the Albany area. Further away from Albany pick up some more. This was done in 17 other states as well. Big Brown is the most common bat species now. Red Bats and Hoary Bats showed up so getting baseline data for them. Plan to do yearly...3 years for funding now. Federal money – volunteers – their value helped with the matching funds needed for federal funding. Thanks to all the volunteers!

Bob Addis – talked to the folks that own the octagon barn in Knox and they have offered their Mast for any kind of fixed station for the bat aqustics. Info given to Carl Herzog.

Al Hicks – has gone from Carl to many states and Canada. Lots of data...separating windfarm and WNS....this is going to be tough.

Thom – will be listed as endanged? Al – they are redoing the endangered list...hibernating bats will be added. 10-15 years to come back.

- Life membership – approached at OTR for the possibility of life membership. Emily Davis does not think we have enough a base to do this. Thom – maybe need to redo the numbers.
- NSF Loan – Bill F. need to come up with motion for Merlins purchase. Loan ourselves up to 50% of our current amount.
- Winter cave closures – Thom Engel addressed the issue with the EC in the summer. Consensus would be that we would close some of our bat caves at one specific day. NSS and NCC preserves...looking for Oct 18. Defer to Al Hicks. (Al) Historically October 15th all the animals are in. October 1 is a safer date to close the caves. Clarksville Cave to stay open as Educational center. Knox, Ella Armstrong to close

Bill Folsom – blah blah blah etc (good quote)

- WNS – Al Hicks – DEC request on Canadian caves. Meeting in Kingston Ont. Ontario is large and they only have 3 field people. Looking for the involvement of the caving community. Al will keep us up to date as things develop.
- Peter – No more money added to USF&W
- Preserve Manager for Bentleys – Chuck close to closing on Bentleys. Need a preserve manager and Jonah Spviak has volunteered.
- Barn Dance –Oct 17th is set, octagon barn in Knox. Ticket price at \$25.

- Merlins fundraising have \$44+ towards \$95K need it by June 30, 2010, fundraising calendar by Chris Beauchamp, Fields Pond grant- asking for \$10k

35. Youngbaer moved to close the Committee of the Whole.
2nd by Folsom

Passed unanimously

36. Hay moved to accept the minutes of the June 7, 2009 meeting.
2nd by Traino

For – Rest, Abstained Hay, Simmons

Passed

37. Addis moved up to \$1200.00 be added to the 2009 budget for Development.
2nd by Youngbaer

For – Rest Against: Haberland, Engel, Hay

Passed

38. Kappler moved: The following acts should be deleted from the NCC manual:

Act 10-23 Network for Good 7/1/03

The Northeast Cave Conservancy shall enter into a contract with the Network for Good, pending a review by the Legal Committee.

Act 21-12 Management of Thacher Park Caves 6/26/99

The Northeastern Cave Conservancy, Inc. is willing to consider managing Thacher Park Caves in Albany County, NY if they approach the Northeastern Cave Conservancy, Inc. first.

Act 21-24 Managing Skull Cave 7/1/03

The Northeastern Cave Conservancy, Inc. is willing to consider managing Skull Cave in Albany County, NY if an owner of an entrance approaches the Northeastern Cave Conservancy, Inc. first.

Act 21-35 Acquisition of Onesquethaw Cave 12/5/04

The Northeastern Cave Conservancy will make arrangements to take ownership of Onesquethaw Cave and transfer a Conservation Easement to the Albany County Land Conservancy for the property. The final easement will be presented to the Board for approval when completed. Up to \$300 is allocated for the closing.

Act 40-46 Shared Cost of Lawn Mower 9/30/06

The Northeastern Cave Conservancy will spend up to \$300 to cover 2/3rd of the cost of a lawn mower, where the remaining 1/3rd shall be requested from the National Speleological Society.

Act 45-25 Spring 2003 NRO Meet 7/1/03

The Northeastern Cave Conservancy, Inc. is willing to host the spring 2003 Northeast Regional Meeting for the National Speleological Society, Inc. Bill Folsom will chair the event.

Act 45-26 Fall 2005 NCKMS 6/19/04, 7/1/03

The Northeastern Cave Conservancy, Inc. is willing to host the Fall 2005 National Cave and Karst Management Symposium. The NCC will make a deposit of \$1000.00 to the Quality Inn Hotel in Albany, NY.

Act 45-27 Cave Conservancies Forum 9/20/03

The Northeastern Cave Conservancy, Inc will help The West Virginia Cave Conservancy in sponsoring the Cave Conservancies Forum to be held in Lewisburg, WV April 15-17, 2004. The NCC will budget \$100.00 towards hosting one of the evenings in the hospitality room.

Act 45-39 2005 NCKMS Sponsored Members 9/25/06

The Northeastern Cave Conservancy, Inc. will sponsor Joanne Sokowski and Peter Youngbaer for Project Underground and Joe Armstrong for the bat workshop during the Fall 2005 National Cave and Karst Management Symposium in Albany, NY

Act 45-64 2009 ICS Field Trip 12/9/07

The NCC agrees to be a named sponsor of the planned 2009 International Congress of Speleology field trip titled # 71 Caving in New York: The National Speleological Society and Northeastern Cave Conservancy Inc. Preserves.

2nd by Hay

For -Rest Against -Engel, Cantello

Passed

39. Kappler moved: Act 50-68 should be amended to allow anyone to advertise on our website and remove the restriction on where any fees may go. <delete> <<insert>>

Act 50-68 Website Ads 9/21/08

The NNC shall accept <\$500 from Speleobooks to place an> ad<<s>> on our website running no longer than 12months. The <Board> <<Executive Committee>> will <apply these proceeds to the Merlins fund.> <<set the fee for each ad.

2nd by Chu

For: Abstained: Haberland, Warner

Passed

40. Kappler moved: a new Section 4 is added to Bylaw X: Standing Committees.

Section 4. Removal of a Committee Chairperson or volunteer: Any Committee Chairman, or volunteer who has accepted an assignment, who fails to execute the duties of office or their assignment may be removed by a majority vote at any Board meeting provided that the Committee Chairman or volunteer to be removed is notified of the intention to take such action at least 21 days prior to the vote on removal.

2nd by Folsom

For

Motion amended and now to just amend Section 2 of Bylaw X;

2. The chairman of a committee shall be appointed by the Board of Trustees *and serve at the Board's pleasure.*

For: Rest Abstained Traino

41. Bylaw 1: Youngbaer moved an election tie shall be broken at the meeting following the election by a written ballot of those current officers, continuing trustees and newly elected trustees, excluding any trustee who is involved in the voting tie.

42. Bylaw2: Kappler moved Article VI (Officers), Section 3.c (Duties of the Secretary), be amended by deleting the hyphen in the first sentence and adding between Line 1 and 2, "The Secretary is also responsible for editing and publishing the Board Manual. The Board Manual will contain all actions approved by the Board which establish policies or procedures. The manual may also contain historical data such as lists of Officers, Trustees, meeting dates, etc. The Secretary may appoint assistants as required.

Bylaw change will be postponed and voted on at the December meeting due to only 20 day notice.

43. Informational Point: President appoints Vince Kappler (Bill Folsom) as chair of ad hoc committee to study NCC life membership and report to the board at the December 2009 meeting.

44. Folsom moved to borrow up to \$15,000.00 from the amount now held on account with the National Speleological Foundation to fund the purchase of Merlins Cave.

2nd by Warner

For: Rest: Abstained: Cantello

Passed

45. Hicks moved that the NCC will close access to the caves on the Knox Cave Preserve and Ella Armstrong Cave Preserve on October 1, 2009.
2nd by Warner
Passed unanimously
46. Hay moved to establish the Bentley Cavern Preserve, Jonah Spivak is appointed preserve manager.
2nd by Traino
Passed unanimously
47. Kappler moved that the following committees are created to conduct the business of the NCC: Acquisitions, Bylaws, Finance & Investment, Fundraising, Legal, Nominating, Office Committee, Publications, Conservation, Science Coordinator, Special Use Coordinator, Knox Preserve, Onesquethaw Preserve, Sellecks Preserve, Ella Armstrong Preserve, Bentley Cavern Preserve, Merlins Cave Preserve.
2nd by Folsom
Engel amends to change Science Coordinator to Science Committee and Special Use Coordinator to Special Use Committee and will delete Conservation from the list.
2nd by Traino
For: Rest Against: Cantello Abstained: Simmons
Passed amendment
- Final Motion
Kappler moved that the following committees are created to conduct the business of the NCC: Acquisitions, Bylaws, Finance & Investment, Fundraising, Legal, Nominating, Office Committee, Publications, Science Committee, Special Use Committee, Knox Preserve, Onesquethaw Preserve, Sellecks Preserve, Ella Armstrong Preserve, Bentley Cavern Preserve, Merlins Cave Preserve.
2nd by Folsom
For: Rest Against: Simmons
Passed
48. Youngbaer moved to make a \$100 donation to the Nature Conservancy for their facilities at Sam's Point and thank them.
2nd by Engel
Moved by Traino to change it to \$50.
Passed unanimously
Back to amended motion
Passed unanimously
49. Board thanks Joe Armstrong for his work on the Conservation Committee, Joe Levinson for his time working on the board manual and Vince Kappler for his work on the Board Manual.
50. Informational Point: Executive committee meeting will be held November 8th at 10:00 am in Cohoes, NY.
51. Addis moved that the next NCC Board meeting will be held December 6th at Speleobooks at 10:00am. (Chocolate Party night before).
2nd by Simmons
For: Rest Abstained: Cantello
Passed
52. Addis moved to adjourn.
2nd by Engel
Passed unanimously

Meeting adjourned at 2:40

Attachment A
PRESIDENT'S REPORT
9/15/09

Without a doubt, the efforts of many in the NCC have been directed towards fund raising for Merlins Cave purchase and positive results are coming in!

The Fall 09 NRO was an outstanding success in so many ways – A \$1752 deposit by the Office Committee attests to that!

Merlins Pint Glasses - \$569 Profit	
Auction	486
Raffle	337
Dues & Donations	- Remainder

Merlins Pint Glasses - A hearty thanks goes out to Jonas Spivak, Steve Millett, and the glass company and others who helped but names escape me now. They got a great design, found a manufacturer and then donated the costs to the NCC! About 20 glasses still remain and they're at Speleobooks if you don't have one. Get one!

The Auction had some fine donations, including a pair of snowshoes valued at \$240 from Bob Dion's snowshoe company. The NRO organizers, particularly Mike Taderillo (SPELLING??) rounded up some great donations for the Sunday Raffle, so the Berkshire Diggers really came through! Big Thanks.

On September 14, the NCC got a grant application for \$3,000 to the National Speleological Foundation for the purchase of Merlins Cave. We'll see how it's treated and how much we get.

Finally big in the plans is the Fund Raiser-30th NCC Anniversary Knox Barn Dance to be held Saturday, October 17 at Ken and Andrea Fortuin's in Knox. Many details need to be worked out but reserve that date and tell your friends. It should be fun!

Bentleys Cave Donation. Lawyers are drawing up the papers for the Bentleys' final signature and it should happen soon.

Attachment B
Northeastern Cave Conservancy
Vice President's Report – September 20, 2008

The Executive Committee met via conference call on August 29. The physical location was at Bob and Christa's, in Cahoes, and a couple members were also present.

Most energy has focused on fundraising for Merlin's, our 30th Anniversary, and closing on Bentley's. Progress is being made on all fronts.

Between meetings, there are tons of emails on routine NCC business ranging from the Office reports (dues, correspondence, etc.), to preserve work projects, to updating of the Board manual, and many others.

White Nose Syndrome issues dominate my time. At the EC meeting, we discussed what to do with our preserves again for this fall and winter, and there will be a motion at the Board meeting for closure of some of the preserves for the winter. I will work to coordinate the dates with the NSS preserves.

Since the last NCC meeting, I've also attended a three day workshop on WNS at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, sponsored by the National Institute for Mathematical and Biological Synthesis. Here, about 30 of us worked to bring mathematical modeling and epidemiological expertise to the table

to help predict WNS disease progression and geographic spread. The presentations and a summary are posted on the NSS WNS web page.

At the International Congress on Speleology/NSS Convention in Kerrville, Texas, I organized a four hour meeting on WNS with scientists, federal and state wildlife officials, and show caves representatives. These presentations are also being posted on the web page and may be up by the time we meet.

At the ICS, I also did a couple shifts at the NCC table, conveniently co-located next to the 2010 NSS convention table.

The US Fish and Wildlife Service also just held a three day meeting in Pittsburgh, PA, which I was unable to attend, but have been in contact with several attendees about the proceedings. I was privy to the advance materials, and have seen some of the work product. USFWS has said they will post the presentations on their website. This focus was on management strategies, as opposed to the science strategies which were the focus of the Austin, Texas meeting at the end of May.

A lot of the summer has also been spent tracking the progress of new WNS research funding (or lack thereof) in Congress. With Congress now back from their August recess, the Appropriations bills are moving quickly toward final resolution. I have been actively monitoring and advocating, working with many people across the country to enhance the research funding level.

The budget request that was submitted by those of us who testified to Congress back in June was for \$55 million over 5 years, including \$17 million in up-front research to try to get out ahead of the rapidly spreading disease. The House put no new money in; the Senate Interior Appropriations subcommittee put in \$500,000 for "increased monitoring."

We are working on an amendment to that committee report and may have some news by our meeting. Without additional significant research funding, we will continue to simply watch (monitor and surveille) as WNS continues to spread and close more caves.

The acoustic monitoring that was conducted in NY over the summer confirmed that we have lost much of our bat population – particularly in those WNS-affected species. Similar reports of maternity colonies around New England, completely gone, or virtually gone, provide additional confirmation of the devastation.

Cave closures across the country, including many well outside the WNS-affected region, continue to disrupt caving activities. I am getting a lot of feedback about responsible cavers being the only ones suffering, caving event attendance down, caving vendors hurting for lack of activity, youth groups not seeking information about caves, and more.

I don't anyone working on the WNS issue that does not believe we will see much more spread of WNS this winter. Look especially for much more in Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Virginia, Kentucky, and Tennessee.

I just spoke with Dr. David Blehert, USGS National Wildlife Health Center laboratory, who has worked over the summer on analyzing all the soil/sediment samples that were collected last winter. The news is not good. First of all, the hoped-for simple PCR test was not successful – due to the over-abundance of related *Geomyces* species fungi in the samples. The test could not discriminate. A second, much more expensive test (\$500 per sample vs. \$5) was devised, after a complex process of cloning and gene sequencing. Some 25 samples from sites within and outside the known WNS region were then analyzed. There was no evidence of *Geomyces destructans* outside the region, nor from non-affected sites within the region. Three WNS affected sites showed the G.d. fungus in the sediments. That means it is present in the cave and mine sediment at at least some of the affected sites, and can be picked up by humans and moved.

Clean and decon your gear, and don't take it out of the northeast. Thank you.

Peter Youngbaer
NCC VP

Attachment C
Treasurer's Report

September 20, 2009

	Aug 31, 09
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
Checking	2,631.82
Money Market	53,490.09
PayPal Checking	252.48
NSF Account (3/31/09)	32,778.00
Total Checking/Savings	89,152.39
Total Current Assets	\$89,152.39

1. As of September 10th, the Merlins Cave Fund stood at \$42,462.50.
2. Connecticut Secretary of State Annual Report and \$25 fee were mailed on August 21st.
3. 2009 Budget vs. Actual YTD:

Northeastern Cave Conservancy Inc
Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual

09/10/2009

January through August 2009

	Jan - Aug 09	Budget
Ordinary Income/Expense		
Income		
Donations	2,409.80	3,000.00
Donations Restricted		
Merlin's Cave Fund	11,709.20	
NCC White Nose Fund	363.20	
NSS White Nose Fund	5,000.00	
Total Donations Restricted	17,072.40	
Auction Proceeds	340.50	1,000.00
Interest Earned	150.93	200.00
Membership	2,220.00	3,500.00
Promotional Items	0.00	215.00
Total Income	22,193.63	7,915.00
Expense		
Sponsorships	0.00	100.00
Meeting Expense	50.00	100.00
Acquisitions	0.00	1,000.00
Bank Charges	10.94	15.00
Conservation	0.00	300.00
Donations -outgoing	303.20	350.00
Education	0.00	100.00
Executive		
President	0.00	200.00

VP	0.00	100.00
Treasurer	0.00	100.00
Secretary	0.00	100.00
Total Executive	<u>0.00</u>	<u>500.00</u>
Legal Fees	0.00	2,000.00
Licenses & Permits	145.00	50.00
Miscellaneous	0.00	100.00
Office Expense	63.20	150.00
Postage	157.50	50.00
Preserves-Maintenance		
Bentleys	0.00	500.00
Clarksville	0.00	200.00
Ella Armstrong	0.00	1,100.00
Knox	0.00	25.00
Sellecks	0.00	25.00
Total Preserves-Maintenance	<u>0.00</u>	<u>1,850.00</u>
NSS White Nose Fund Expenses		
Postage	586.70	
Supplies	2,370.62	
NSS White Nose Fund Expenses - Other	1,975.18	
Total NSS White Nose Fund Expenses	<u>4,932.50</u>	
Promotion/Fundraising		
Advertising	30.00	30.00
Printing	279.49	50.00
Promotional Items	0.00	900.00
Total Promotion/Fundraising	<u>309.49</u>	<u>980.00</u>
Publishing		
Website	0.00	60.00
Mailings	0.00	200.00
Total Publishing	<u>0.00</u>	<u>260.00</u>
Taxes on Properties	14.72	10.00
Total Expense	<u>5,986.55</u>	<u>7,915.00</u>
Net Ordinary Income	16,207.08	0.00
Other Income/Expense		
Other Income		
In Kind donations	0.00	0.00
Volunteer Value	0.00	0.00
Total Other Income	0.00	0.00
Other Expense		
In Kind Out	0.00	0.00
Volunteer Value Exp	0.00	0.00
Total Other Expense	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>
Net Other Income	0.00	0.00
Net Income	<u>16,207.08</u>	<u>0.00</u>
Net Gain or Loss from NSF Fund (3/31/09)	-688.00	
NET Income after NSF Fund Gain/Loss	<u>15,519.08</u>	

Attachment D
EC Meeting
Saturday August 29, 2009
Cohoes, NY
11:30 pm

Bob, Christa, [Peter, Bill – conference call], Chuck, Thom

- NRO – decon – Peter Y will work with Steve M on the decon at Fall NRO. Bob and Christa to bring Simple Green 24 to auction off at NRO
- Bentley – lawyer has created a draft sent to Bentley's lawyer. Johan Spknak will be preserve manager....need to finalize this. Parking area needs to be worked on. Thom needs to do botany survey on the property. Have a draft management plan but the biological survey is from sellecks as place holder. Rensselaer Land Trust – in future ask about conservation easement for Bentleys.
- Would be great to get an activity for Bentley once we get it....tie it into the 30th anniversary.
- ESCOT – see letter to Bob Addis – overall cost \$1100.00 to help us with fundraising. Where should we take the money from in the budget? Open up new line item for budget for next fiscal year. Need motion on agenda get from Bob.
- Merlins – Bob did not hear back from lawyer yet will contact him again. Looking over the purchase contract then will give us a proposal for re-writing any areas to give to Belknap. Chuck and/or Bob will contact Belknap to say this will not happen this year to make sure he will still be on board. Status of NSF grant proposal – Bob to finish that this week before OTR...Bill will work on Field Pond grant as well.
- Motion to NSF to loan us up to half of our funds. Bob will hopefully have rough draft of NSF grant ready to take to OTR since Burt Ashbrook will be there to check it over. Also Bob will talk to Ted Kays about motion for NSF loan on NCC
- NRO – merlins glasses, NCC auction will be going on, Raffle as well.
- 30th Anniversary Barn Dance October 31 Halloween party. Looking over other places for party. Band is free...Reno. Continue to pursue this. Maybe look over by Bentley's area. Thom E has some ideas and will look into them.
- Peter Y to talk to Mike Chu about putting a blurb on ncc webpage for 30th anniversary
- Cave closures for the winter. Thom asked. Peter Y should close all the bat caves. To stay open Onesquethaw...Clarksville is the question....ask Al Hicks about it. Peter will contact Al.
- Board meeting at Sam's Point. Need to send out info to the group. Pot luck meal . All they ask is to make a donation to the nature conservancy. Permission to map ...Bill Folsom set up survey for Shingley gulley
- Discussion on preserve visitations. I need to find the WNS brochures. Send about 50 to Peter before NRO
- Board manual – no need to print out...people can print their own. Needs to be on the NCC website. Went thru the list Vince had concerning the cleanup of the manual....remove acts.