



**Nittany Grotto, Inc.**  
P.O. Box 685  
State College, PA 16804-0685  
[www.caves.org/nittany](http://www.caves.org/nittany)

## **Nittany Grotto Inc. Annual Membership Meeting Minutes**

7/20/2024

At Rupert Cave Preserve, Mifflin County, PA

### **Call to Order**

7:16 pm Quorum is established, and President Eric Hill calls the meeting to order.

30+ Members were in attendance!

Moment of silence for Bette White who has been a beloved member of the grotto for many years.

### **Last year's minutes:**

No amendments proposed. Dave Seasholtz motions, Jeff Morissey seconds. Motion passes unanimously.

### **President's Report**

Eric Hill reports that the grotto has participated in many community outreach presentations for boy scout troops this year.

### **Vice-President's Report**

Little to add- feels that it has been a productive year.

### **Treasurer's Report**

Treasurer Paul Winter gave the financial report. Total assets are \$4174.22. Net increase of about \$1200. This is from dues payments, donations, many of which from the Nittany Grotto Caving Club for equipment purchases.

Current dues are \$15 per year.

### **Secretary's Report**

No report- keep being awesome everyone



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## **Committee and Officer Reports**

### Library

Bryan “Crow” Crowell is no longer in charge of the library. Library has been moved to Kepler House- please contact Paul Winter if you would like to review materials. Crow thanks everyone who helped to move the library- lots of material there!

### Newsletter

Olivia McAllister – Send in your trip reports! New newsletter at end of the year.

### Members at Large

Devin Moore- no report.

## **Unfinished / Old Business**

Eric Hill brings up the new bylaws that separate the position of Secretary-Treasurer into two positions, Secretary and Treasurer. The new bylaws have been sent out to the membership for review and will be published on the website shortly.

### Sale of Maitland Cave

Rick Smith reports that the cave has been sold to a new person (Michael) who is friendly with cavers. Contact Rick Smith to go caving there.

## **New Business**

### Informational Updates

#### Centre County MAR Bulletin

Goal to complete new Bulletin by Spring of 2026

#### Sharer Cave Gate Follow-up

Gate has been repaired and is now being greased more frequently- no issues with seizing since then. Gate may need to be painted in the new few years. New landowner is very friendly with cavers! Contact Paul Winter if interested in caving there.

#### Trash Clean Up Update

Rick Smith organized a trash clean up at Mt. Rock Cave with the MAKC. Got a lot of trash out!



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### Meeting Location

George and Karen Bange have graciously hosted us for many years- thank you! We will need to find a new meeting location.

Paul Winter suggests holding the meeting and potluck in similar fashion, possibly at Lincoln Caverns near Huntingdon, PA.

Eric Hill motions that the board investigates finding a new meeting location. Paul Winter seconds. Motion passes unanimously. Board will investigate and report back.

Andy McKinnon suggests having a list of keyholders or cave access information on the NGI website for caves that NGI controls access to.

Rick Smith would like to relinquish the key to Seawra due to bad landowners' relations. Key is given to Paul Winter. Rick Smith still maintains Mt. Rock and McAlisterville Cave keys

Tim Smith asks if there is a catalogue of what is in the Library- The board needs to appoint a new librarian. Danny Brumbaugh notes that he has access to a scanner that could be used to help digitize the library including prior issues of the Nittany Grotto news.

Keith Wheeland would like to have more reports of grotto activities submitted to the newsletter.

Gary Dunmire reports that he has a lot of grotto stuff- old helmets, bat houses, grotto kitchen supplies. Would like to have it gone.

Paul Winter makes a motion that we remove the stuff from Gary's house by the end of the summer. Eric Hill seconds. Motion passes unanimously.

Olivia McAllister motions that we post the gear availability and sign out procedure on the website. Paul Winter seconds. Motion passes unanimously.

### **Officer Elections**

Nominations for President: Eric Hill.

Motion to close nominations unanimously approved.

Eric Hill was elected President by acclamation.

Nominations for Vice President: Eric Pelkey.

Motion to close nominations approved unanimously with a vote.

Eric Pelkey was elected Vice President by acclamation.



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Nominations for Treasurer: Paul Winter.

Motion to close nominations approved unanimously.

Paul Winter was elected Treasurer by acclamation.

Nominations for Secretary: Olivia McAllister.

Motion to close nominations approved unanimously.

Olivia McAllister was elected Secretary by acclamation.

Director at Large: Devin Moore.

Motion to close nominations approved unanimously.

Devin Moore was elected Director at Large by acclamation.

Board is elected by acclamation

**Motion to adjourn the meeting made at 7:53 pm.**

**Unanimously approved!**

Respectfully submitted,

Olivia McAllister

Secretary NGI