

Nittany Grotto, Inc.

Minutes from the Nittany Grotto, Inc. Annual Membership Meeting, June 7, 2014 at 6 pm at the Rupert Cave Preserve

Members Present: Dave Ader, George Bange, Karen Bange, Christopher Catherman, Susie Sanders Chiriano, Jenevieve Clauss, Bryan Crowell, Ariel Haziot, Dwight Kempf, Amanda Lebrado, Terrance Lovell, Andrey McKinnon, Tom Metzgar, Eric Pelkey, Kiya Riverman, Rich Schatz, Dave Seasholtz, Joe Turchick, Will White, Bette White, Paul Winter, Mark Wolfe

Proxies: Hope Brooks (held by Bryan Crowell), John Groh (held by Terrance Lovell), Abbe Hamilton (held by Kiya Riverman), Cynthia LaCoe (held by Bryan Crowell), Leela McKinnon (held by Andrew McKinnon), Kyle Rybacki (held by Bryan Crowell), Ben Schantz (held by Paul Winter), Nate Stevens (held by Kiya Riverman), Katherine Thorwart (held by Dave Ader), Rhianon Viecele (held by Kiya Riverman), Keith Wheeland (held by Will White), Wayan Wijana (held by Joe Turchick), Sarah Xenophan (held by Paul Winter)

Call to Order: There being a quorum, the meeting was called to order by the President, Paul Winter, at 6:19 PM. Kiya Riverman was elected as temporary secretary for the duration of the meeting.

Minutes: The minutes of the June 8, 2013 (Members) and April 26, 2014 (Board) were read by Kiya Riverman and approved without changes.

Finances: The Treasurer's report was read by Kiya Riverman. Total income for the year was \$4,452.11, with \$4,372.27 in expenditures. Net income gain for the year was \$79.84.

President's Remarks and Other Reports: Paul Winter welcomed NGI members, thanked them for their efforts in making the meeting a success, and thanked George and Karen Bange for hosting the meeting.

Old Business:

J-4 Access and Management Plan. The J-4 Committee report was made by Gary Dunmire. Graymont has not returned emails. The J-4 Committee has contacted a highwall survey contractor. The local fire department has requested not to be contacted before each cave trip, a deviation from the written memorandum of understanding between the Nittany Grotto, Inc. and Graymont.

Cave Reports. Two boxes of Nittany Grotto files have been moved to the MAKC library in Blairsville, Pennsylvania.

New Business:

MAR Bulletin 22. Will White reported that *MAR Bulletin 22: Caves of Clinton, Columbia, Lycoming, Union, & Montour Counties (CCLUM) or Mid-Susquehanna Valley* is targeted for completion at the end of Summer 2014.

Eagle Scout Project. Paul Winter reported that a local Eagle Scout is installing \$4,000 of bat boxes. Bryan Crowell made a motion to donate \$200 to this project. Eric Pelkey seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

CaveSim. David Jackson has contacted the Nittany Grotto, Inc. asking for a contribution to help transport CaveSim to the 2014 National Speleological Society Convention in Huntsville, Alabama. Joe Turchick motioned to donate \$100. Dave Ader seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Mud Fest. Karen Bange reported that Mud Fest has been canceled indefinitely. She thanked the Nittany Grotto, Inc. for its assistance on behalf of Todd Hancock.

Fall MAR Field Meet 2014. Karen Bange reported that the Fall MAR Field Meet will be held on October 10 – 12, 2014 at the Rupert Cave Preserve. The field meet will be hosted by the Seven Valleys Grotto.

MAR Business Meeting. The MAR Business Meeting's location has been changed to a church near the prior meeting site in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. Please consult the MAR website for updated information and directions.

Cave Gate Keys. Gary Dunmire reported that he is searching for new keyholders for Nittany Grotto, Inc. controlled caves, including Ruth, Chime, Sharer, and Miller. He noted that it is important to notify Miller's keyholder of upcoming trips to the cave. Chris Sanders expressed interest in re-gating Miller in accordance with Penn State's desire to gate all caves on their property.

Chime Cave Trip. Karen Bange requested a Chime trip for the Fall MAR Field Meet. The Executive Board of the Nittany Grotto, Inc. agreed to a trip.

Sharer Cave Trip. A trip to Sharer was requested for the Fall MAR Field Meet. The cave has few bats present in it, but the trip would be during the bat hibernaculum. The Executive Board of the Nittany Grotto, Inc. has decided to revisit the issue in the future.

Elections. Paul Winter was re-elected President and Dave Seasholtz was elected Vice President, replacing Gary Dunmire. Hope Brooks was re-elected Secretary-Treasurer. Bryan "Crow" Crowell and Andy "Karst" McKinnon and was elected Directors at Large, replacing Joe Turchick and Terrance Lovell.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:59 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kiya Riverman (Interim) and Hope Brooks, Secretary/Treasurer.