



Pennsylvania Cave Conservancy, Inc.

P.O. Box 373, Neffs, PA 18065

Minutes of Regular Meeting - September 27, 2015

The meeting was called to order at 10:06 am by President Pat Minnick at 81 Appalachian Drive, Carlisle, PA on Sunday, September 27, 2015.

The following officers were present: **President** P. Minnick **Treasurer** J. Boswell
Secretary G. Schock

Representation was as follows:

Bald Eagle Grotto	---	Greater Allentown Grotto	Dean Snyder
Baltimore Grotto	Craig Hindman	Huntingdon Co. Cave Hunters	---
Bucks County Grotto	---	Nittany Grotto	---
Cave Hill Grotto	John Boswell	Philadelphia Grotto	Amos Mincin
Central New Jersey Grotto	Amos Mincin	Seven Valleys Grotto	Gretchen Schock
Commander Cody Caving Club	David Fricke	York Grotto	Randy Hurst
Franklin County Grotto	Pat Minnick		

Secretary Report: The minutes from the June 14, 2015 meeting were read and accepted as published in the August 2015 MAR Breakdown.

Treasurer Report: John Boswell stated the check for the PCC funds had been received from Gary Dunmire to finalize the transition of the treasurer's duties. A new account was established with F&M Trust. John plans to add Pat Minnick as an alternate authorized user on the PCC bank account in the near future.

Dean Synder proposed the consideration of better ways of investing the PCC funds that would offer improved interest rates. John Boswell agreed to research possible avenues for investment that would continue to keep the funds available for use when needed. John will report on his findings at the business meeting in February.

Pennsylvania Cave Conservancy

Financial Summary 6-14-15 Thru 9-27-15

Interest Checking Account

Cashier's Check Red'd	Nittany Bank	10/11/2014	\$10,632.99
Deposit	F&M Trust Bank checking	7/27/2015	\$7,292.46
Deposit	MUDfest Bkfst 8/2	8/10/2015	\$205.00
Interest Payment			\$-
Ending Balance :			<u>\$7,497.46</u>

SAVINGS ACCOUNT:

		Maturity Date	
Certificate of Deposit	F&M Trust Bank	7/27/2017	\$1,113.51
Certificate of Deposit	F&M Trust Bank	7/27/2017	\$1,113.51
Certificate of Deposit	F&M Trust Bank	7/27/2017	\$1,113.51

COMBINED TOTAL : \$10,837.99

Web Page: Dave Fricke reported that the web site (<http://www.caves.org/conservancy/pcc/>) is up and running. No issues to report.

PCC Breakfast: Pat Minnick stated the PCC fund raiser pancake breakfast held during the 2015 MUDfest was a success, earning \$205 for the PCC. Thanks to everyone who helped during the event. All the PCC breakfast equipment was returned to Steve Shawver's barn for storage with the exception of the grill, which is with Joe Schock. The PCC will be hosting a pancake breakfast at the upcoming 2016 Spring MAR in Shade Gap.

PCC Brochure: Anyone interested in obtaining brochures should contact George Bange.

Mail: Dean Snyder received statements from F&M Trust, a newsletter and banquet invitation from WVCC, as well as a request for some cave brochures from Miroslav Dubravay from the CZECH Republic. Dean sent some local cave-related brochures to Miroslav Dubravay.

Christmas Cards: Karen continues to manage the yearly distribution of Christmas cards to cave landowners. Contact Karen if you have a landowner you would like added to the Christmas card list.

T-shirts: No report.

PA Cave Database: Amos Mincin stated that no action has been taken to date concerning the review and updates to the county stewards list.

OLD BUSINESS:

Project and Caves of Interest List:

Dragon Cave (Berks County) – No report.

J4 Cave (Centre County) – No report.

Kepler Cave (Centre County) – No report. Cave is to remain on project list until there is a known change in status.

Cave List: Randy Hurst moved and Amos Mincin seconded to change the cave list title from "Project List" to "Project and Caves of Interest List" to allow continued discussion of caves which PCC is not directly involved but continues to hold an interest. The motion passed.

PCC Tax Exempt Status: Gary Dunmire has provided the tax exempt status filing information to John Boswell. Filing deadline is May 15 annually.

NEW BUSINESS:

Spring MAR 2016: Franklin County Grotto (FCG) will be hosting the Spring MAR field meet on May 13-15, 2016 at Harper's Park, in Shade Gap, PA. Pat Minnick reported FCG has decided on a logo for the 2016 Spring MAR. They are discussing other costs and plan to have an event flyer available by the business meeting in February. FCG is also working to have the field meet listed in the calendar of events in the NSS News. Additional information and details can be found on the MAR website as they become available.

Spring MAR 2017: Philadelphia Grotto is tentatively planning to host the 2017 Spring MAR in celebration of the grotto's 70th Anniversary.

WNS Update: Randy Hurst provided an update on the WNS status, citing that the act of disturbing hibernating bats that have been deemed "threatened" (Northern Long-eared bat) will now be

considered a federal offense. The Pennsylvania Cave Conservancy is urging all cavers to avoid caving in caves that may contain hibernating bats. It is strongly recommended that hibernacula only be visited during the May-August non-hibernation period.

Amos Mincin suggested posting the information in public forums, like Facebook, in an effort to disseminate the information. Additionally, Randy Hurst agreed to draft a notice summarizing the rulemaking in an easy to understand format. This notice will to be distributed by the PCC to organizations that may offer cave-for-pay trips in Pennsylvania to make them aware of the ruling. Carol Tideman will work with Gretchen (Red) Schock to compile a list of recipients for the notice.

Karst Information Portal (KIP): Craig Hindman reported that the VAR received notice that their newsletters are being stored on KIP, a publicly accessible internet forum. Dean Snyder also received similar information for the History Section via Bob Hoke. The PCC and other caving organizations should be aware that past newsletters or other publications may have been provided to and stored on KIP.

Hershey-Coy Cave: John Boswell stated the landowner of the Coy entrance request some assistance to improve the cave entrance area. Members from York and Franklin County Grottos performed some of the requested work on Saturday, September 26, 2015. A request was submitted to PCC to offset the cost of materials for the project (\$90 for pipe and \$20.27 for concrete). Craig Hindman moved and Randy Hurst seconded to reimburse York Grotto \$110.67 for the cost of the project materials. The motion passed.

Red Church Cave: Dean Snyder described the ongoing effort involved with keeping the cave entrance clear each year. Dean suggested a barricade could be constructed to improve the current situation. He also noted that the deteriorating oil drums will need to be replaced in the near future.

Next meeting: The next meeting of the PCC will be held on Saturday, February 27, 2016 at the Mt. Laurel Church of God, Dauphin County, Pennsylvania following the MAR Business meeting. For directions and details, please see the MAR Web Site (<http://www.caves.org/region/mar/main.htm>).

Dave Fricke moved and Randy Hurst seconded to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 11:19 am.

Respectfully submitted,
Gretchen (Red) Schock, Recording Secretary