



Pennsylvania Cave Conservancy, Inc.

P.O. Box 373, Neffs, PA 18065

Minutes of Regular Meeting – February 25, 2017

The meeting was called to order at 3:43 pm by President David Briggs at the Mt. Laurel Church of God, Harrisburg, PA on Saturday, February 25, 2017.

The following officers were present: **President** D. Briggs **Vice President** C. Catherman
Secretary G. Schock **Treasurer** J. Boswell

Representation was as follows:

Bald Eagle Grotto	J.D. Lewis	Greater Allentown Grotto	Dean Snyder
Baltimore Grotto	Craig Hindman	Huntingdon Co. Cave Hunters	Dean Snyder (proxy)
Bucks County Grotto	---	Nittany Grotto	Paul Winter
Cave Hill Grotto	John Boswell	Philadelphia Grotto	Amos Mincin
Central New Jersey Grotto	Amos Mincin	Seven Valleys Grotto	Joe Schock
Commander Cody Caving Club	Mike Mostardi	York Grotto	Randy Hurst
Franklin County Grotto	Pat Minnick		

Secretary Report: The minutes from the September 25, 2016 meeting were accepted as published in the August 2016 MAR Breakdown with one correction. Under the **PCC Conservation Efforts** caption, "MAKC" should be replaced with "Clearwater Conservancy".

Treasurer Report: John Boswell provided the PCC account activity since the last meeting:

Pennsylvania Cave Conservancy

Financial Summary 9-25-16 Thru 2-25-17

Interest Checking Account

Checking Balance 9/25/16	F&M Trust Bank checking	9/25/2016	\$7,800.09
Deposit Fall MAR Breakfast		10/4/2016	\$223.00
Lost River Caverns Donation		1/11/2017	\$100.00
Philly Grotto Donation		2/1/2017	\$100.00
Interest Payment		1/26/2017	\$0.22
Ending Balance :			\$8,223.31

SAVINGS ACCOUNT (CDs):

		<u>Maturity Date</u>	
Certificate of Deposit *75	F&M Trust Bank CD	7/27/2017	\$1,117.71
Certificate of Deposit *29	F&M Trust Bank CD	7/27/2017	\$1,117.71
Certificate of Deposit *65	F&M Trust Bank CD	7/27/2017	\$1,117.71

* \$1.41 Interest credit applied to each 1/26/2017

COMBINED TOTAL : **\$11,576.44**

Web Page: Dave Fricke announced that a new PCC web site would be available soon.

PCC Breakfast: The PCC does **not** plan to host a pancake breakfast at the upcoming 2017 Spring MAR/NRO field meet. The breakfast equipment was transported to Dave Briggs's basement for storage. At Nittany Grotto's request, the PCC has agreed to provide breakfast during the 2018 Fall MAR at Rupert Cave.

PCC Brochure: George Bange and Dave Briggs have a supply of brochures available. Anyone interested in obtaining brochures should contact George or Dave.

Mail: Dean Snyder announced that no mail had been received other than the two donations to the PCC that John Boswell mentioned in the treasurer's report.

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

T-shirts: Dave Briggs reported that the PCC t-shirts are available for purchase on the PCC web site for \$15, which includes shipping and handling.

PA Cave Database: Paul Winter stated that Tony Canike continues to maintain the PA Cave Database and fields inquiries as they are received.

OLD BUSINESS:

Project and Caves of Interest List:

J4 Cave (Centre County) – Paul Winter stated there has been no action since the last PCC meeting. This cave can be removed from the project list.

McAlisterville Cave (Juniata County) – Red Schock had visited the cave site a week prior to the PCC meeting to assess the extent of trash that has been dumped on the hillside surrounding the cave entrance. There are enough large items, as well as the considerable amount of smaller, bag able trash to warrant the need for a dumpster for the cleanup effort. Pat Minnick moved and Amos Mincin seconded to allow the PCC board to allocate funds for the rental of a dumpster and supplies for the cleanup effort. Keith Wheeland has provided Red Schock with the contact information for the landowner for future communications regarding the cleanup. Karen Bange volunteered to contact the local newspaper to cover the event. It was suggested that the PCC may want to enlist the help of the local boy scout troop to assist with the cleanup event. Saturday, May 20, 2017 was selected for the McAlisterville cleanup effort date. Anyone interested in assisting with the arrangements should contact Red, particularly anyone familiar with the McAlisterville area. Additional information about the cleanup effort will be provided as it becomes available. Come on out and help to make a difference!

McClure Cave (Snyder Country) – Paul Winter reported that a cave gate has been contracted for installation during the first two weeks in May. Paul will determine if additional manpower from the caving community is needed for the gating effort.

The "P" Caves (Franklin County) – John Boswell has determined that any insurance policy obtained to keep the caves open would be cost prohibitive. There is no additional action planned for these caves, therefore this item can be removed from the project list.

Red Church Cave (Schuylkill County, PA) – Dean Snyder reported that Ed Kehs had acted as the project manager to install a concrete block wall to stabilize the area and prevent dirt and debris from sliding down and blocking the cave entrance. Once Dean receives an invoice for the block wall, he may approach the PCC for funds to pay for the work performed. The cave entrance itself is still deteriorating and in need of repair/attention. Dave Briggs and Amos Mincin will arrange to make a site visit to assess the current conditions before making any plans for repairs.

New PCC Logo: Dave Briggs is continuing to explore different options for developing the new PCC logo.

NEW BUSINESS:

PCC Grotto Update: John Boswell and Dave Briggs, appointed PCC representatives of the Cave Hill Grotto, reported that the Cave Hill Grotto is no longer a member of the NSS and is therefore ineligible for PCC membership.

Landowner Relations: Don Arrowood reported that he was contacted by a local landowner that had five caves on their property. Don arranged to take the landowners on a caving trip of their caves and indicated that everyone enjoyed the experience.

Web Page Maintenance: John Boswell discovered that the link to the Closed Cave List on the web site was not operational. Dave Fricke explained that he was instructed to remove the list from the site. Dave Briggs indicated that the link problems will be resolved with once the new web site is operational.

PCC County Stewards: The current list of PCC County Stewards was reviewed. Todd Hancock indicated prior to the meeting that he was no longer interested in being the County steward for Mifflin county. The Mifflin County Steward position is now listed as "Vacant." Paul Winter agreed to serve as the steward for Snyder County. Dave Briggs encourages the county stewards to work with the MAR and MAKC to provide updates for MAR Bulletins and other cave-related information.

Spring MAR 2017: Philadelphia Grotto is planning to host the upcoming Spring MAR on June 2-4, 2017 at Indian Lookout County Club in celebration of the grotto's 70th Anniversary. Philadelphia Grotto will be teaming with Central Connecticut Grotto to host a joint MAR/NRO field meet in the Cobbleskill, NY area near Albany. Amos Mincin encourages those who have not caved in that area to attend and enjoy the opportunity to explore some new and different caves! Caving options will be abundant and led by NRO members, and there is plenty of space for camping. More information will be posted on the MAR Web Site as it becomes available.

Fall MAR 2017: There is not currently a host for the 2017 fall field meet.

Elections: The existing President, Treasurer, and Secretary were re-elected to serve another year. Andy Filer was elected to serve as the new PCC Vice President. The PCC would like to thank Christopher Catherman for all his hard work and dedication over the past years as Vice President. Thank you for a job very well done Christopher!

Next meeting: The next meeting of the PCC will be held on Saturday, May 20, 2017 during the McAlisterville Cave Cleanup event, McAlisterville, Pennsylvania. Additional information will be distributed via the MAR email list as it becomes available.

John Boswell moved and Red Schock seconded to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 4:56 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Gretchen (Red) Schock, Recording Secretary