

Minutes of the Kentucky Speleological Survey

January 24, 2010

Meeting Convened at the American Caves and Conservation Association, Horse Cave, KY

Officers Present: Bill Walden, President; Jim Currens, Vice-President; Shari Forsythe, Secretary; John Cassidy, Treasurer; Don Conover and Jim Greer, Members at Large

KSS Members and Cavers in Attendance: Jason Polk, Fran von Selzam, J. Pat Stephens, Amber Yuellig, Lee Florea, Josh Brewer, Ben Miller, Pat Kambesis, Alice Woznack, Bill Copeland, Kim Gentry, Steve Gentry, Richard Gilliam, Randy Paylor, Darrell Adkins, DeWayne Hyatt, Karen Garland, Chris Clark, Mark Phillips, Howard Kalnitz and Preston Forsythe.

Welcome and Introductions/ President's Report: (Walden). Walden convened meeting at 12:15 pm. Thanks to Chris Clark of the ACCA for hosting today's meeting. Everyone was welcomed. Each caver introduced themselves. There were 27 cavers in attendance.

Secretary's Report: (S. Forsythe). Walden made a motion to forfeit reading of the November 22, 2009 minutes. Motion seconded and passed. Those minutes were included in the January 17, 2010, KSS Newsletter made available to everyone at the meeting and mailed to many, plus available on-line.

Treasurer's Report: (Cassidy). The KSS balance is \$2429.41. During the last quarter the KSS received \$225.00 from membership dues. There were no expenses. We have 30 members and 14 life members.

Discussion: (Walden).

Currens said we had only received one data request recently. No details at the moment.

Currens said John Hagee could take over the KSS website and make quarterly updates for a fee of maybe \$300 to set up and \$300 a year. John does the Bluegrass Grotto website. The new website could have a blog section. Kevin Toepke will be consulted and this issue discussed at the next meeting. Paylor said the website could be hosted on the database server to save some money.

Kalnitz said that a Yahoo group for a mailing list has been set up to announce meeting and work sessions but this has received little use so far.

www.groups.yahoo.com/group/ksscaves

There is also a Yahoo group site for the board which could be used to approve data requests.

Kalnitz gave an overview of the database and the job of county coordinator. We are working through the guidelines of responsibilities now. Many cavers have signed up to be county coordinators. Contact Walden and Atkins. Walden passed around a state map with the counties and asked people to take over a county. Many karst counties now have a coordinator. Kalnitz mentioned M/S Access or Open Office and training for the coordinators to use those programs.

Election Nominations: (Walden). The floor was opened for nominations. Nominated for President: Currens and Adkins. For V-P: Kalnitz and Steve Gentry. Treasurer: Cassidy. Secretary: Kim Gentry. Directors at Large Conover and Greer.

Election Results: (Walden). The new officers of the KSS for 2010 are:

President: Darrell Atkins.
Vice President: Howard Kalnitz.
Treasurer: John Cassidy.
Secretary: Kim Gentry.
Directors at Large: Don Conover and Jim Greer.

Meeting Time Discussion: (Walden). Discussed were dates, whether to hold meetings at state caving functions, number of meetings per year and do we want program speakers. Comparisons to neighboring state meeting schedules were made.

2010 Meeting Schedule: (Walden).

April 25, 2010, in Lexington.

July 25, 2010, ACCA, Horse Cave

October 24, Presentation meeting in Lexington. At the KGS Core Library north of town.

The January, 2011, meeting was not set.

Work Sessions: (Walden). Atkins, Paylor, Currens and Kalnitz will get together and come up with a work session schedule for 2010.

Newsletter: (Walden). Walden will continue with the newsletter. Hint, he needs material, especially from county coordinators.

KSS Publication: (Walden). Paylor will continue. He also needs material.

Membership: (Cassidy). Cassidy reminded cavers that Currens has a KSS slide presentation available for grottos or anyone to use.

WNS: (Florea). The recent involvement of the Center of Biological Diversity was discussed. The NSS is preparing a response to the CBD threatened lawsuit to close down all caves on federal land.

NSS Office Situation: (Florea). Florea briefed the group on recent steps taken by the NSS board. Kentucky was voted to be the preferred location of the NSS office. The relocation of the NSS office and library will be studied for perhaps 5 years. A search is on-going for a chairman to lead this important move.

Additional Topics: Currens made a motion to purchase a small fireproof safe to keep the main KSS data CDs. This was seconded and passed.

Kalnitz had some nice ceramic items made by his wife for sale to raise money for the KOR.

Currens and Paylor had a brief discussion on the location of all the KSS files, backups, and computers.

A hat was passed for donations to the ACCA.

Announcements: Dave Foster said there will be a Floyd Collins Festival in Horse Cave on April 16-17, 2010.

Adjournment: (Walden). The meeting was adjourned at 2 pm.

Respectfully Submitted by your Scribes,

Shari and Preston Forsythe

