

Minutes of the Fall 2009 VAR Meeting

September 27, 2009

Strasburg, VA

Meeting was called to order at 9:01

Reports

The Secretary - Carol Tideman

A motion was made by Bubble Cave to accept the minutes as published in the Region Record. Pine Mtn. seconded. Motion passed.

The Treasurer - John Fox

The \$500 grant was not disbursed due to the lack of information regarding where/who it should go to. Bob Hoke & John Pearson will send John the information.

The Vice Chair - Judy Fisher

Nothing to report. Judy in China

The Chairman - Craig Hindman

Reported on awards received by VAR members at the ICS/NSS Convention

Conservation Chair - Meredith Hall Weberg

Karst Trail work at done at VAR in April

Crystal Caverns algae abatement

Scouts will finish Cave Hill sinkhole cleanup

Calling for scouts to assist with VA Karst trail

VAR Outstanding Service Award - Meredith Hall Weberg

Given to Bill Royster, John Pearson & Bob Thren

Landowner Recognition Awards - Janet Tinkham

There are two pending nominations to be reviewed by the committee.

Landowner Legal Support Committee - Bob Hoke

No new is good news.

Region Record - Bob Hoke

Send articles and pictures - Deadline for next issue December 15.

VAR List Server - Walt Pirie

No report.

VAR Web site - Jim McConkey

Nothing new - trying to put e-mail addressees in new form for contact information.

Cave Bucks - JC Fisher

Send in the money you collect.

VSS - Will Orndorf

Crossroads has been reopened with protocols

WVASS - George Dasher

No report

WVCC - John Pearson.

The Banquet will be on Nov. 14th

Reevaluating WNS after every board meeting

Ladder was installed in Maxwellton's

Need 20K to pay off the loan

Fred Grady has reopened Haynes with deconned gear

Elections are in progress

Virginia Karst Program - Will Orndorf

The EPA is no longer supporting Karst Protection for Karst. The funding has been cut.

Virginia Heritage is committed to continue using assorted small contracts to support the program. There has been staff reductions.

SCCI - Walt Pirie

No report.

Grand Caverns/Cave Hill - Jim McConkey

The project continues - We will start the 6th year in November.

Virginia Cave Board - Dave Socky

Will be putting out a newsletter

Active in Karst Trail work

Virginia Karst Trail

Covered in conservation report

CCV - Dave Socky

Election materials have been mailed out. Counts to be performed shortly.

Spring Survey Project - Bob Thren

16 people have been trained. 15 have equipment. Half have started monitoring. Someone is needed to manage the data base. Also need someone to write grant requests.

Host Report - BATS

101 in attendance - Thanks for coming activities provided. Thanks to the planning committee and thanks to those in charge of projects or trips.

New River moves to thank our hosts. Bubble seconded - passed

Old Business**VAR**

Bubble Cave will host the Spring VAR at the fairgrounds in Fairlea WV. May 21-23

It will be on the weekend after the NSS announces their position on WNS.

There will be trips to caves that are open

Host Grotto for the Fall 10 meeting - none

Host grotto for the Spring 11 meeting - Frederick is thinking about it

Host Grotto for the Fall 11 meeting - Baltimore considering

WNS - report given during the event

Sligo moved the VAR create as host grotto bailout fund. FUN seconded - after considerable discussion

FUN moved it be referred to an ad hoc committee for review, Blue Ridge seconded - motion to refer

passed. Committee consists of Jim McConkey, Bob Hoke, Jerry Bowen & John Pearson. McConkey is the chair

Grant Requests - none received

Elections

Blue Ridge moved to reelect the current slate of officers. BUBBLE seconded. The train whistle blew & the motion was passed

Announcements

Janet Tinkham - the NSS EC will be holding their next meeting at Crystal Caverns at Hupps Hill. There will be a reception in the log cabin at 7PM.

Adjournment

Bubble Cave moved to adjourn, New River seconded.

Meeting Adjourned at 10:26 AM

Respectfully submitted:

Carol Tideman