

## **Minutes of the Fall 2010 VAR Meeting**

**October 3, 2010**

**Friars Hole, WV**

Meeting was called to order at 9:13

### **Reports**

**The Secretary** - Carol Tideman

A motion was made by Blue Ridge to accept the minutes as published in the Region Record. FUN seconded. Motion passed.

**The Treasurer** - John Fox

A financial report was presented. Bubble Cave to accept the minutes as published in the Region Record. Cave Board seconded. Motion passed..

**The Vice Chair** - Judy Fisher

Nothing to report.

**The Chairman** - Craig Hindman

Will be covered in the agenda items.

**Conservation CO-Chair** - Meredith Hall Weberg

No report

**VAR Outstanding Service Award** - Meredith Hall Weberg

Awards were announced for Ellie Florance & Charlie Maus.

**Landowner Recognition Awards** - Janet Tinkham

Nominate folks who help the region - e-mail a reason for the award or use the form online.

**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

Contacts need to be updated for grottos.

**Cave Bucks** - JC Fisher

Alive and well. Tri-State is closing in over 5K. Send the funds out, don't sit on them

**VSS** - Rick Lambert

Two more caves than West Virginia.

The regional library for VA & WV is being established as a different 501-c-3 organization. The building size is adequate and by spring there will be more information available on what funding will be needed.

**WVASS** - George Dasher

The Tucker County Bulletin is almost done. Grant County Bulletin is done. It will cost \$15 and contains 90 caves & 18 springs. There are more bulletins in the works.

**WVCC** - John Pearson.

Lobelia Cave has been closed by SCCI

WVCC Caves are open. Please decon. Any closures will be discussed at the November meeting - pending input, in writing, from the DNR.

**Virginia Karst Program** - Joey Fagan

No report

**SCCI** - John Pearson

No report.

**Grand Caverns/Cave Hill** - Jim McConkey

The project is going strong. The dig in Fountain Cave continues. Grand conservation and history work goes on.

**Virginia Cave Board** - Dave Socky

The summer meeting was delayed to the fall due to lack of a quorum. The next meeting will be on Nov. 20 in Richmond. They will be meeting the new head of the DCR.

Skyline Caverns - An Eagle Scout has adopted the nature trail & will install benches, etc.

**Virginia Karst Trail** - Meredith Hall Weberg

No report. Still in the idea stage.

**CCV** - Joey Fagan

Alive & well

**Spring Survey Project** - Joey Fagan

Still alive

**Youth Group Liaison** - Joey Fagan

Joey is looking for a list of folks who lead caving trips.

**Host Report** - DC & Baltimore Grottos

189 pre-registered. 10 no shows. 84 on-site registrations 263 in attendance. Over 100 from MAR

## **Old Business**

### **VAR Hosts**

Spring 2011 - no volunteers

Fall 2011 - no volunteers

Spring 2012 - no volunteers

New River is investigating a site - price is an issue to be resolved

### **WNS**

Cindy Sandenco - new coordinator for the Forest Service.

A new brochure was presented regarding caving at TAG . Do not take gear from the VA's to that area.

Some gear will be available

Left overs from Vermont's decon are available to anyone present

Clean your gear between cave trips in Va. Stay out of areas that do not have WNS.

WV Cave Protection Signs - George Dasher

Thanks to Aida Mothes for the use of the facility

## **New Business**

Crystal Caverns at Hupps Hill - JC Fisher

A detail plan is needed. The cost will be approximately \$1500 per year. We are not responsible for major repairs. The NSS can provide insurance. A point of contact would be established to coordinate use.

There would be quarterly events. Donations would go back to the VAR. The VAR would solicit grants. A committee would be created. The 3rd weekend would be set aside as a conservation weekend. Project Underground would be interested in using the site for training.

The Cave Board moves: The VAR supports "in general" the concept of the NSS's involvement at Crystal Caverns. New River seconded. Passed CCV abstained

The Chair created a committee to develop a proposal - John Pearson, Judy & JC Fisher, Jim McConkey, Bob Denton

### **Grant Requests**

No requests.

### **Elections**

DC moved to elect the same slate of officers. Cave Board seconded Motion passed

### **Announcements**

Help to tear down would be appreciated

### **Adjournment**

Tri State moved to adjourn, Bubble seconded. Meeting Adjourned at 10:26 AM

Respectfully submitted:  
Carol Tideman