

FALL BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
Saturday, September 13, 2003
Cloverdale, Indiana

Officers and Directors Present:

Richard Vernier, President
James Adams, Secretary
Keith Dunlap, Treasurer
Bruce Bowman
Bruce DeVore (by proxy Kathy Welling)
Dave Haun
Kriste Lindberg
Steve Lockwood
Nick Noe
Don Ingle
Bob Sergesketter
Tom Sollman
Bill Tozer
Bob Vandeventer
Jaime Winner

The third quarter meeting of the Indiana Karst Conservancy was called to order 2:10 PM at the property of Tom Rea, President Dick Vernier presiding. All Directors were represented.

Minutes of the June Special Meeting on Wayne Cave and the Summer Quarterly Meeting were approved as published.

Treasurer Keith Dunlap reported \$37,953 in cash and investments, \$10,800 in receivables including the Golden Eagle grant, \$183,013 in land liquidity and \$34,000 in outstanding loans yielding \$197,766 in net assets. We have 186 paid members and 16 members with delinquent dues.

Kelle Reynolds, Karst Coordinator for the Hoosier National Forest presented an award from the Chief of the Forest Service to recognize the IKC's volunteer efforts in the recent mine gating project. Vernier accepted the award on behalf of the IKC and then presented the award to Dunlap as being the project driver.

Vernier noted that working with the HNF has been a pleasure for the IKC as well. Reynolds is moving out of state having taken a new position with the Forest Service in Utah and Vernier wished her well in her new position.

Kriste Lindberg noted highlights of recent education and outreach work. A more complete report was published in the September *IKC Update*.

Steve Lockwood noted that the geocache at the Orangeville Rise is still there but there appears to be very little activity and the trail has healed. An email note has been sent to the party that originally left the stash noting that their cache violates several "rules" of geocaching and should be relocated. No response has been received.

James Adams reported on the Shiloh Cave lease situation. Five years ago when the five-year lease was due for renewal, the landowner preferred to keep a verbal lease in effect and did not feel a written lease was necessary. The relationship continues to be good. Adams apologized for not keeping the Board informed at the previous meeting. There was discussion on approaching the landowner again to re-affirm the current situation.

Dunlap reported on the Hancock Property acquisition status.

Two HNF public meetings have been held to discuss alternatives for the forest management plan revision. The IKC was well represented at both meetings. Kelle Reynolds noted that it is hoped that the discussions will yield four proposed alternatives.

September 20 and 21 have been designated for this year's National Speleological Society's Ohio Valley Region/Eastern Indiana Grotto conservation project. This year, trash will be cleared from Carcass Crypt Pit. Several preparation workdays have been held. There are about \$500 in expenses for this project. Dunlap moved to donate \$100 to the Ohio Valley Region for the clean up. Dave Haun seconded. Motion passed, 15-0-0.

At the Buddha property, a workday has been scheduled for November 8. The primary goal is to finish the fence, straighten

the information kiosk, and clear trails.

Many issues were addressed concerning the Wayne Cave acquisition. Dunlap spoke regarding the finances of the acquisition. We have raised \$51,000 toward the \$75,000 commitment. Several other grants have been submitted and are pending. Dunlap believes that the external loans will be paid off by the end of the year. He was disappointed that private donations have not been as plentiful as in the past, but hoped to be in the black by the middle of 2004. A \$10,000 Golden Eagle grant has been awarded. The Central Indiana Grotto has donated \$5,000.

Bill Tozer discussed the proposed management plan. The plan is similar to the Sullivan plan. Tozer pointed out some discussion points for the Board to consider:

- The plan uses grotto liaisons in addition to the Cave Patron for cavers to gain access to the cave.
- However, people wishing to camp at the property will still need to contact the Property Manager or Cave Patron.
- The property will be enrolled in the Classified Forest Program.
- An appendix has been included which lists "to-do" items.

Several points regarding the proposed plan were discussed that may lead to changes and refinements in two areas. Haun moved to accept the management plan with minor word changes. Seconded by Bob Vandeventer. Motion approved, 15-0-0.

A Property Manager is needed for the new acquisition. Dunlap suggested that this position be advertised by various means and have a volunteer targeted to fill this position by the December meeting.

The driveway and parking area also need to be hardened and a gate will need to be installed. These may be completed in the spring. The group agreed that a temporary cable be installed with a combination lock to try to cut down unauthorized traffic to the property.

The Board has received a draft of the Spring Mill contract received from a lawyer for the State. This draft is largely a boilerplate agreement that is quite different than expected. Most Board Members disagreed with many of the provisions. Dunlap moved that we respectively decline the document and work towards a Memorandum of Understand-type agreement that can be accepted. This MOU should address specific projects individually. Seconded by Kathy Welling. Motion passed, 15-0-0. Vernier will correspond with the Indiana Department of Natural Resources.

Nick Noe, representing the Hosier Environmental Council, thanked the IKC for their support. Noe also noted a favorable political climate in Monroe County.

Don Ingle asked that he be appointed as IKC liaison for the Western Indiana Grotto. Bob Sergesketter moved to establish a grotto liaison agreement with the WIG. Seconded by Kathy Welling. Motion passed, 14-0-1. The WIG will need to appoint that liaison.

Vernier offered thanks to the CIG for their generous \$5,000 donation to the Wayne Cave Property fund.

Dunlap has copies of an Indiana Academy of Science publication featuring a paper on bats he co-authored.

The Winter Quarterly Meeting will be held on Saturday, December 6, 2004 at the home of Nick Noe in Indianapolis beginning at 10:00 AM.

Meeting adjourned at 4:35 PM. Many attendees joined the Central Indiana Grotto annual picnic also being held on the Rea property. The traditional dessert contest was held following a pitch-in dinner. The winners were:

3rd Place (with a four-way tie):

- Key Lime Pie - Ladonna Rea
- Chocolate Eclair Cake - Jaime Fee
- Spice Cookies - Allison Lemasters
- Banana Cream Pie - Bambi Dunlap

2nd Place:

- Persimmon Pudding - Ladonna Rea

1st Place:

- Upside-Down Apple Pie - Keith Dunlap

Submitted by James Adams, Secretary.