

IKC Spring Director's Meeting Minutes

Saturday, February 21, 2004

Bloomington, Indiana

All Directors were present:

Dick Vernier, President

James Adams, Secretary

Keith Dunlap, Treasurer

Bruce Bowman

Bruce DeVore

Dave Haun

Kriste Lindberg

Steve Lockwood

Nick Noe

Don Ingle

Bob Sergesketter

Tom Sollman

Bill Tozer

Bob Vandeventer

Jaime Winner

The February Board of Directors Meeting was called to order at 6:19 PM at the Bloomington home of Kriste Lindberg. All Directors were present with no proxies necessary for the first time in several years (June 2002). President Dick Vernier presiding.

Keith Dunlap reported cash assets of \$28,298.45 and total assets of \$211,311.61. We have 194 member of which 60 have already renewed for 2004.

Lindberg has received a photo taken at the recent Forest Service awards presentation honoring the cave biology inventory project lead by Dr Lewis with assistance from several IKC members. She has authored an article regarding IKC education and outreach activities that will appear in the *NSS News* upcoming conservation edition.

Wonderlab of Bloomington has asked the IKC to sponsor a program on bats. Dave Haun moved to sponsor the program for \$100. Bob Vandeventer seconded. Motion passed, 15-0-0.

Jerry Lewis has written a paper titled *The Subterranean Fauna of Leonard Springs Nature Park*. Lindberg indicated Bloomington Parks & Recreation is interested in input regarding the gating of Shirley Springs Cave which they would like to pursue at some point.

Lindberg has been working with Carla Striegel on some educational outreach projects.

Dunlap reported on various acquisition efforts.

Elections will be held at the March meeting. Three officer positions and four Directors positions are open for election. Vernier and Dunlap will re-run for President and Treasurer respectively. Steve Lockwood, Don Ingle, Nick Noe and Jaime Winner all agreed to re-run for their expiring Director positions.

Bob Sergesketter accepted a nomination for the open Secretary position. Brandon Stevens and Sue Vernier accepted nominations for Director positions. Bruce Bowman moved to accept the ballot. Vandeventer seconded. Motion passed, 15-0-0.

Bill Tozer volunteered to serve as Election Teller.

Regarding the Wayne Cave acquisition, Dunlap reported that the IKC has received \$3,800 from the National Speleological Foundation. There is also a \$1,000 grant request before The Robertson Association. Several donations were received after Dick Blenz recently agreed to match donations. The total raised so far is \$51,628.30 along with \$18,662.16 previously in the land acquisition fund. With the Blenz match, we have only \$2,589.02 to go.

A response has been received from the NSS regarding the IKC's decision to decline the NSS offered grant because of the required Right of First Refusal stipulation. The NSS response was previously circulated to the Directors for review. There was discussion. It was pointed out that the NSS response mentioned that the NSS is not specifically mentioned as the primary benefactor of IKC assets if the IKC dissolves. After further discussion, the IKC will stand by its decline of the grant offer.

Dunlap moved to fund up to \$2,500 for proposed driveway improvements at the Wayne Cave property. Bowman seconded. As outlined by Property Manager Robert Sollman, this will include six loads of #2 rock and three loads of #53 rock plus a culvert. Tom Rea has donated a 20-foot farm gate. Dunlap volunteered the use of a tractor and drag blade if a trailer can be obtain to haul the tractor. Motion approved, 15-0-0.

Dunlap noted that he has received the final paperwork enrolling the Wayne Cave Property in the Classified Forest Program.

Lindberg noted that the Brood X Cicada Study by an Indiana University professor is ready to proceed at the Wayne property. Haun moved to allow the Property Manager to coordinate our cooperation on the project. Ingle seconded. Motion approved, 14-0-1.

The IKC's current bylaws do not specifically name the NSS as the primary benefactor of IKC assets if the IKC is dissolved. Dunlap proposed specifying that the NSS, The Nature Conservancy or similar non-profit organization be made the primary benefactor. Specific language will be presented to the membership and voted upon at the March meeting.

Under-Earth Day: Dunlap proposed that April 3 be designated Under-Earth Day 2004. Activities might include replacing and re-flagging trees, cutting grapevines, benching the tail and other like activities at the Sullivan property. He also outlined some other activities at various properties for other days.

The St. Joseph Valley Grotto has asked to participate in the Grotto Liaison program. Ingle moved to include the SJVG in the program. Vandeventer seconded. Motion approved, 14-0-1.

Vandeventer commented that there are tours into Sullivan Cave almost every weekend. Visitation continues to rise.

D. Vernier reported he and others had a meeting with the staff of Spring Mill State Park and reaffirmed that both parties are still interested in working together, but there was nothing new to report regarding a Memorandum of Understanding.

Ingle reported that during a recent trip to Bealey Cave at the Crosley Fish and Wildlife Area he observed considerable graffiti and trash. Photos of names in the cave were made and some investigation pointed to specific individuals. The property management will follow-up.

The 2004 Indiana Cave Symposium will be held on Saturday, April 24 at Milltown. Bowman moved to fund the symposium for up to \$50. Sergesketter seconded. Motion approved, 15-0-0.

The next meeting will be March 27 at the Greenwood Library, beginning at 10:00 AM. Meeting adjourned at 8:26 PM. Thanks to Kriste Lindberg for hosting the meeting and supplying good food and drink.

Submitted by James Adams, Acting Secretary