

RKC Meeting Minutes
Friday, March 18, 2005

Meeting held on UK Campus, Mines and Minerals Building, Lexington, Ky.

In attendance:

Andy Niekamp
Werner Jud
Pat Hutson
Joetta Hutson
Pete Stow
Jerry Dixon
Lisa Pruitt-Thorner
Bob Dobbs

Annual Meeting called to order at 7:10 p.m. by Andy Niekamp. The first order of business concerned the finalized Bylaws. The Bylaws were discussed, unanimously voted upon and officially adopted by the 3 current directors:

Andy Niekamp
Pat Hutson
Werner Jud

The Bylaws are now the official governing document of the RKC.

Following adoption of the bylaws, the three directors discussed the necessity of adding 2 more directors, based upon practicality and recommendations of the Felburn Foundation. Lisa Pruitt-Thorner was nominated as a fourth director. All three directors above unanimously voted upon and elected Lisa Pruitt-Thorner as a fourth director.

Following the election of a fourth director, officer positions were discussed. Andy Niekamp made a motion, based upon the bylaws, to appoint/elect directors for the following officer's positions:

Andy Niekamp	-	Chairperson
Pat Hutson	-	Vice Chairperson
Werner Jud	-	Treasurer
Lisa Pruitt-Thorner	-	Secretary.

Motion was seconded. All four directors accepted nominations for said officer positions and the board unanimously voted upon officer positions. The four directors now hold the above offices. Andy Niekamp requested that the secretary begin her official duties by keeping minutes for the meeting and she agreed.

The next order of business was the 501(c)(3) IRS application for recognition of tax exemption. Lisa Pruitt-Thorner has been working on the application and she passed out copies of her work in progress. Various items and portions of the 501(c)(3) application were discussed. Lisa suggested that a summary of the Rockcastle Karst Conservancy and/or Great Saltpetre Preserve would be a supportive attachment to the application. Werner Jud agreed to provide said summary.

Lisa said that she would rework the budget to reflect more realistic numbers for RKC's next three years. Various sources of possible income and fundraising opportunities were discussed by board members and attendees.

The next order of business was the institution of a Membership Drive. Andy Niekamp handed out a proposed application for membership. The board approved the application by unanimous vote. Ideas for membership opportunities such as charter members for 2005, membership cards and membership numbers were discussed. Andy Niekamp volunteered to be chairperson of the membership committee. Andy Niekamp became the first official member of the RKC. Several board members and attendees paid their dues and also became initial and charter members of the RKC.

Andy Niekamp discussed a fundraising drive and the preparation of an informational brochure or "fact sheet" for RKC. A tri-fold one page model seemed best suited for RKC's budget and efforts. Andy asked board members to obtain member addresses from local grottos.

Andy next brought up RKC's logo. Rob Coomer has put a significant amount of time into developing eye-catching professional logo designs for RKC. Andy presented several different versions which were prepared by Rob Coomer. The board and attendees discussed which ones were preferable and two or three were picked out as the best options.

Werner Jud discussed conservation and the NSS newsletter. The February NSS newsletter had an emphasis on conservation. Cave cleanups were discussed and the National Geographic feature.

At 9:10 p.m., all board members unanimously voted to adjourn the first official and annual meeting of the Rockcastle Karst Conservancy. Once approved and signed, these minutes shall also serve as an official resolution to adopt the bylaws, to elect officers, to adopt the membership application and to elect a fourth director.

ANDY NIEKAMP

WERNER JUD

PAT HUTSON

LISA PRUITT-THORNER