

**Rockcastle Karst Conservancy
Annual Meeting 3/22/2009
Minutes**

In Attendance:

Howard Kalnitz	Werner Jud	Neena Jud	Bill Addington
Richard Duncan	Tammy Otten	Dustin Kisner	Robert Yuellig
David Lee	Pete Stow	Matt Keller	Chris Hacker
Mike Rzesutock	Traci Fearday	Bill Simpson	Mike Wuerth
Ralph Mann	Brian Pitcher	JoEtta Hutson	Pat Hutson
Bob Dobbs	Gary Bush		

Meeting at Scheben Branch Boone County Library, Union, KY, Called to Order
By Werner Jud, Chairman, at 2:04PM.



2009-03-22 AGENDA

Meeting Agenda is attached:

Announcements:

- Werner announced this Annual Meeting is the 18th meeting of RKC
- Ellie Schiller of the Felburn Foundation passed away on February 10th. She directed the donation of Great Saltpetre Cave Preserve to RKC. Werner and Neena Jud attended her memorial service in Florida.

Election Results: Three Director positions were to be filled. Two positions are for 3-year terms; one position is for a 2-year term. Positions filled by decreasing number of votes cast for the candidates.

New Directors: Howard Kalnitz (3 years)

Mary Gratsch (3 years)

Gary Bush (2 years)

Other Candidates (in alphabetical order): Roger Brucker, Jim Perkins, Mike Rzesutock, Dan Zupal.

Board Election of Officers: Directors provided 1st and 2nd choices for offices. There were no contests. Director Mary Gratsch was not in attendance, but had requested Vice-Chair. Results:

Chair: Howard Kalnitz - by unanimous (4) votes

Vice-Chair: Mary Gratsch - by unanimous (4) votes

Secretary: Gary Bush - by unanimous (4) votes

Treasurer: Werner Jud - by unanimous (4) votes

At-Large (open): Pat Hutson - by unanimous (4) votes

At this point, new Chair Howard Kalnitz assumed chair of the meeting. He thanked the retiring two Directors, Jim Perkins and Mike Rzesutock, for their service to RKC and hoped they would remain actively involved in RKC. He also thanked the Elections Committee, chaired by Bob Yuellig.

Minutes of Last Meeting

Vote to accept as published in the last newsletter and on the website.

Motion - H. Kalnitz

Second - W. Jud

Vote – Aye - unanimous (4) (M. Gratsch absent)

The Minutes can now be posted on the website

Vice-Chair's Report: (None provided)

Secretary's Report: Nothing additional beyond Last Minutes.

Treasurer's Report

Details are in the attached Report, Balance Sheet, and P&L Statement:



Treasurer_report_03_21_09.pdf



Bal_sht_03_22_09.pdf



P&L_3_21_09.pdf

For the 1st quarter, 2009, total current assets (excluding land) are \$23,581. We have \$20,000 in debt, as noted below.

Misty Cave purchase was \$21,115.00, plus an expected \$120 additional. A \$10,000, 3-year loan from the Richard Blenz Cave Conservancy was used. RKC obtained a \$10,000 1-year (with 2 renewals) loan from Community Trust Bank, secured by the \$10,000 CD. Although we have cash in the bank, RKC is now Land Rich and Cash Poor.

Committee Reports

(A) Membership Committee: No Report.

(B) Land Acquisition Committee: There are 3 Sub-committees under the LAC:

(i) Legal and Financial sub-committee: (Pat Hutson) The purchase of the Misty Cave property was completed on 3/21/09. MC (aka Isaac's Cave) is north of Sand Gap in Jackson County. Property is about 14 acres. Breakdown of financials mentioned above in the Treasurer's Report includes:

\$18,000. - land cost
2,500. - American Heritage Land Surveyors
554. - Attorney Fees
61. - Filing fees
\$21,115. - Total Cost to date

Additional expected costs include: \$28 for taxes and about \$92 for bank fees and liens.

Discussion about the Misty Cave property included that the barn is close to the paved road (Lower Dry Fork Rd.) but not easily accessible from it. Overall property boundaries are very irregular. A notch in the northern property line along the creek comes within about 60' of the southern boundary, almost bisecting the plot. The cave is believed to connect, via a dome in the back, to Piney Bottom Cave.

Bob Yuellig reported that the lease for the Cornhole Cave property (Goochland Cave) is still ongoing with owner Mary Gratsch. There are 51 acres on this property. Bob's name needs to be replaced on the proposed lease by (presumably) the RKC Chair. Expected cost to execute the lease is \$50 in attorney fees and \$30-\$40 in filing fees. Next order of business is to develop a Management Plan.

RKC's insurance can be expanded to include both the Misty Cave and Cornhole Cave properties for an additional annual cost of about \$100 each.

(ii) Stewardship sub-committee: (Howard Kalnitz) A preliminary Management Plan has been prepared for the new Misty Cave property. Key points include:

- access to the property will be open
- cave is a bat hibernacula, so no entry is permitted during the winter
- group size normally limited to 12 maximum
- no camping on the property
- no hunting permitted without prior approval
- no commercial (cave-for-pay) use is permitted
- parking is limited and should be confined to designated areas
- fishing on the property has yet to be discussed



Preliminary MP for
Misty Cave Property.

See attachment for complete text.

Volunteers are needed for the eventual Management Committee for Misty Cave.

(iii) Acquisition Identification sub-committee: (Bill Addington) Plans underway for a meeting to set up the process for evaluations of future properties. Possible venue is at Open House on Saturday night. Call or e-mail Bill if interested in serving on this group.

(C) Fundraising Committee: (Dan Zupal) - No Report

Chair Kalnitz reiterated that we now have serious debt and need to aggressively begin fund raising efforts.

(D) GSP Committee: (Bob Dobbs) Highlights of the report are:

- A meeting to develop a Strategic Plan is scheduled for April.
- Several expensive projects are expected for this year.
- Beavers are active again. Many trees on the hillside and island are down.
- The upper driveway badly needs repaving.
- The process for granting access to GSP is working now, so no change is expected. However, the committee is adding a section for "banishing" anyone guilty of serious improper conduct. A draft of the new section is attached for review and comments. After suitable review, the changes to the Management Plan will be submitted to the RKC Board for approval.



Banishment_GSP_Dr
aft2.pdf

Attached draft:

- A reporter from WTVQ, Channel 36, was on-site at GSP to do a "Kentucky Backroads" presentation on the cave. During his interview, one of our neighbors gave a glowing report on the GSP Committee's service to the community. Bob Dobbs gave an interview for which he had previously given the reporter his targeted talking points.
- Ken Tankersley was on-site at GSP to examine cave drawings and graffiti for historical significance. Special items were flagged and photo-documented.
- Work weekends are being scheduled for this year. A possible casual, social get-together is being planned for everyone to enjoy.
- Finances for 2008: Income of \$21,434.00. Expenses of \$13,275.24. Detailed report to follow.



GSP REPORT for RKC
March 2009.pdf

Full text of GSP Report:

Werner Jud thanked the GSP Committee for their efforts, commenting the RKC Board did not have to worry about GSP. Bob Dobbs reiterated that visitors are to stay off of the Wynn's property, including Crooked Creek Ice Cave and Hard Bakers Cave.

(E) Ad Hoc Committee for Property Access: (Mike Rzesutock) - The general consensus of the committee is that no change to the access process is warranted at this time.



Access Committee
Report.pdf

Full report is attached:

From the floor, Tammy Otten presented comments to the written report:

- Under members' comments: A big concern that RKC's mission is to protect and preserve caves. The proposed, tabled motion for changes to the access rights did not support this mission. It provides "no level of investment" and more visitation would increase costs and require more hours of support.
- Access control is a Management Committee responsibility.
- She suggested RKC members should attend more work weekends at GSP.
- RKC Board members could sponsor other RKC members for granting access.
- Initial visits by members who do not belong to one of the 3 grottos would be with a sponsor. Subsequent visits would be decided on a case-by-case basis. Consideration for unrestricted access rights could be somewhat determined by other affiliations of the member.
- Only 25% of RKC members do not belong to GCG, BGG, or DUG.

The access policy is a dynamic entity, requiring constant updating. The question was raised if there was an RKC Members Manual that described how one gets access to the properties. There is not, but one should be considered.

Chair Kalnitz suggested the committee should be continued to address the issues and concerns raised. He requested that Mike, Mary, Tammy, and Matt remain on the committee, if they agreed.

Old Business

(A) Proposal for Open Access: - The motion, made at the last meeting and tabled, was brought to the floor for a vote. The motion required a minimum 45-day waiting period, as it is a By-Laws change.

Text of the motion:

Perkins moves: "Resolved: All members in good standing of the Rockcastle Karst Conservancy shall have equal access, regardless of grotto affiliation, to all properties owned, leased or administered by the Rockcastle Karst Conservancy."

Vote: Aye - 0; Nay - 4 (unanimous). Motion defeated.

(B) Financial Transparency Act: (H. Kalnitz) - The FTA had been approved by the Board via an e-mail vote in February, 2009.



Financial
Transparency Act - Fi

The attached document is appended into these minutes for the record:

A modification was suggested from the floor: According to Kentucky law, such purchases must be signed by the Chair, Vice-Chair, and Treasurer.

New Business

(A) White Nose Syndrome Concerns: - The RKC must decide if concerns about WNS might impact the decision to open the gates to Goochland and Waterfall Caves. RKC controls the keys to these two caves. RKC needs to formulate a position pertaining to WNS and cave access. At a minimum, we need to promote proper decontamination techniques for gear and clothes.

Floor debates included whether or not RKC should raise the question of closures with the appropriate government agencies. The NSS is participating in multi-agency meetings. Chris Hacker had been asked to revive the Boone Karst Task Force. None of the governmental agencies want to say "No" to one another, so the BKTF could serve as a forum for local discussions on WNS policy and avoid the emergence of differing or conflicting policies.

Chair Kalnitz suggested an Ad Hoc committee be formed to investigate and promote such a local forum. Suggested members were Hacker, Niekamp, and Bush.

RKC does not have an official stance on Karst-O-Rama. KOR already has plans to enforce gear decontamination on-site. The decision on whether or not to open the gates at Goochland and Waterfall Caves will be deferred until mid-April to allow additional WNS information to be released. Similarly with Misty Cave visitation. Baby bats won't start flying until at least May 1st. During large regional or national events, access to bat hibernacula caves should be closed.

Hacker suggested that caves with colonies of endangered species will also have additional requirements for visitation and/or closure.

SCCI has reportedly closed all their hibernacula caves for the year. Illinois has similarly closed all their caves.

(B) Felburn Foundation: - Ellie Schiller was our contact with the Felburn Foundation. Larry White was the attorney handling the donation of GSP to RKC. We need to establish a new liaison for RKC. One reason for Werner and Neena Jud's trip to Florida was to initiate a new contact.

(C) Donations: - A suggestion was made to establish raffles or auctions of donated caving items to increase fund raising.

Next Meeting:

Tentatively in late June – probably in same location (Scheben Branch Library)

Meeting adjourned at 4:06 PM.

Meeting minutes prepared by W. Gary Bush, Secretary

RKC Annual Meeting Agenda for March 22, 2009

Location: Scheben Branch Boone County Library at 2:00 PM

- 1. Chair: Werner Jud**
- 2.V-Chair: Pat Hutson**
- 3. Secretary: Howard Kalnitz**
- 4. Treasurer: Mike Rzesutock**
- 5. Jim Perkins**

Call to order

18th meeting. This is our 2009 annual meeting

Announcement

Ellie Schiller passed away this past February 10th.

RKC Election committee report: Priority Agenda Item

Membership election results and New officers election by board

Minutes of the last meeting:

Vice-Chair report from Pat Hutson:

Secretary's report from Howard Kalnitz:

Treasurer's report from Mike Rzesutock:

Committee Reports:

Ad Hoc committee on RKC property access:

Vote on motion proposed by J. P. at last meeting to amend the bylaws:

GSP Report:

Membership committee report

Land Acquisition Committee

Fund Raising committee report

Old or Unfinished business

Financial Transparency Act

New business:

Gochland and Waterfall Cave recommendations re WNS. Recommendation to DBNF re whether the caves should be unlocked according to schedule.

Adjourn meeting

Establish Next meeting date and location

Treasurer's Report
March 20, 2009

For the first three months of 2009 total income was \$1,710; expenses were \$21,545. Total current assets (excluding land) are \$23,581. Total current liabilities are \$20,000. The RKC is land rich and cash poor.

Total expenses for the purchase of Misty Cave were \$21,115. Anticipated additional expenses associated with the purchase are expected to be on the order of \$100. The RKC obtained two loans for the purchase. A \$10,000 private loan from the Richard Blenz Nature Conservancy (RBNC), which was placed in a Certificate of Deposit (CD) in the name of the RKC, and a \$10,000 loan from Community Trust Bank which was collateralized by the CD. Consequently, total liabilities for the purchase are \$20,000; however, \$10,000 of the \$20,000 is fungible. The terms of the loan from the RBNC were much more favorable for the RKC than any other available loans.

The 2008 federal income tax forms are due May 15, 2009. It is anticipated that no tax liability will be incurred.

Michael P Rzesutock
RKC Treasurer

Rockcastle Karst Conservancy, Inc.
Balance Sheet
As of March 22, 2009

	<u>Mar 22, 09</u>
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
002 - CTB CD (RBNC \$)	10,000.00
1000 - Bank One Chase	10,302.99
1005 - Community Trust Bank	426.50
1006 - Community Trust CD	2,625.50
Total Checking/Savings	<u>23,354.99</u>
Other Current Assets	
1120 - Inventory Asset	226.40
Total Other Current Assets	<u>226.40</u>
Total Current Assets	23,581.39
Fixed Assets	
1140 - Real Estate Assets (GSP)	350,000.00
1141 - Real Estate Asset (misty)	18,000.00
Total Fixed Assets	<u>368,000.00</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>391,581.39</u>
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Accounts Payable	
2010 - Accounts payable	-45.00
Total Accounts Payable	<u>-45.00</u>
Other Current Liabilities	
003 - CTB CD Loan for Misty	10,000.00
Total Other Current Liabilities	<u>10,000.00</u>
Total Current Liabilities	9,955.00
Long Term Liabilities	
001 - R Blenz Nature Conservancy loan	10,000.00
Total Long Term Liabilities	<u>10,000.00</u>
Total Liabilities	19,955.00
Equity	
3001 - Opening Bal Equity	368,000.00
3010 - Unrestrict (retained earnings)	23,464.20
Net Income	-19,837.81
Total Equity	<u>371,626.39</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	<u>391,581.39</u>

Rockcastle Karst Conservancy, Inc.
Profit & Loss
January 1 through March 21, 2009

	<u>Jan 1 - Mar 21, 09</u>
Ordinary Income/Expense	
Income	
4 - Contributed support	
4010 - Individual contribution	5.00
4210 - Organizations, Businesses	1,165.00
Total 4 - Contributed support	<u>1,170.00</u>
5 - Petitioned revenues	
5210 - Membership dues	240.00
5490 - Miscellaneous revenue	300.00
Total 5 - Petitioned revenues	<u>540.00</u>
Total Income	<u>1,710.00</u>
Gross Profit	1,710.00
Expense	
8100 - General Operating expenses	
8140 - Postage, shipping, delivery	126.00
Total 8100 - General Operating expenses	<u>126.00</u>
8500 - Misc expenses	300.00
8600 - Business expenses	
8680 - Transaction fees	4.25
Total 8600 - Business expenses	<u>4.25</u>
8700 - Misty Cave	21,115.00
Total Expense	<u>21,545.25</u>
Net Ordinary Income	-19,835.25
Other Income/Expense	
Other Income	
5300 - Shipping & Handling	-2.56
Total Other Income	<u>-2.56</u>
Net Other Income	-2.56
Net Income	<u><u>-19,837.81</u></u>

Preliminary Management Plan for the Misty Cave Property

Revision 1 - 2/10/09

Preliminary draft of the Management Plan of Misty Cave Property. The Stewardship committee will act as temporary management committee until a permanent management committee is seated, hopefully within 3-6 months of acquisition.

The Stewardship committee will nominate the Management committee chair and forward for voting to the RKC BOD, at which time the new manager takes over

The management plan is a living document and is subject (and expected) to change. Changes will be approved by the RKC BOD

1. Due to the unique and sensitive nature of the cave and property, at least one member of any group entering the cave must be a member of RKC, the National Speleological Society or a Grotto of the NSS. Visitors must notify the property manager before visiting the preserve. While membership is not required for each person visiting the preserve, the RKC strongly recommends that visitors be members of the RKC. Membership in the National Speleological Society is also encouraged, as well as a Grotto of the NSS.
2. Visitation is on a first-come, first-served basis. The Management Committee should be contacted as soon as is possible for access arrangements in order to avoid scheduling conflicts.
3. The cave is closed to all access from November 1 through April 1, while the Indiana Bats are in hibernation. There will be "NO" entry allowed during the closed period without written permission from the Misty Cave Property Management Committee.
4. Please keep noise to a minimum and be discreet while changing clothes. Fireworks, explosives, loud music, and other noisemaking activities are prohibited. All visitors to the preserve are expected to be considerate of our neighbors, and refrain from disturbing them, especially at night. The preserve is a natural area, and should be treated with peaceful and quiet appreciation.
5. To minimize the impact to the cave, the RKC requests that groups entering the cave be limited to twelve (12) people or fewer, with a minimum group size of 3 people. Arrangements for caving groups larger than 12 people must be made in advance by contacting the Misty Cave Property Management Committee at least two weeks before the desired date. The RKC and the Misty Cave Managers reserve the right to refuse access to Misty Cave Property to anyone.
6. All plants and animals on Misty Cave Property are to be respected and observed from a distance, and are never to be removed. Avoid disturbing wild life and plant life. Cave flora, fauna, and cultural resources are to be left undisturbed. In addition, do not touch, break, or remove formations from the cave. Do not cut trees or brush for firewood or any other purpose. *Anyone found defacing the cave*

- or formations, or causing harm to the plants and wildlife of the preserve will be subject to prosecution under both state and federal laws.* For any questions or concerns or to report vandalism or other abusive activities at the preserve, please contact the Misty Cave Property Management Committee (if not yet established, the Chair of the RKC stewardship committee).
7. Park only in the designated area, and drive only on existing roads. Do not block access to roads or gates.
 8. Camping is not permitted on the property.
 9. Please remove any trash that you bring to the preserve. Also, please help keep the cave and preserve clean by removing any trash left by others.
 10. Spray-painting, carbide marking, and all other types of graffiti are never permitted. Vandalism and abuse of the cave or the surface areas of the property will be prosecuted.
 11. Modifications of the cave or property, including placing bolts or artificial anchors, marking or constructing trails, cutting trees or brush, all digging, excavation, or blasting on the property or in the cave is prohibited without written permission from The Misty Cave Property Management Committee. Persons violating this policy may be subject to prosecution under state and federal laws.
 12. To avoid parking and over-use problems during caving conventions and special events, access to the property will be limited during those events to trips organized through The Misty Cave Property Management Committee.
 13. ATVs are not permitted on the property without written permission from The Misty Cave Property Management Committee. Any permissible ATV use is restricted to established roads and trails.
 14. Hunting is not allowed except by direct written permission from The Misty Cave Property Management Committee AND the RKC BOD. Discharging firearms of any type for purposes other than hunting is prohibited.
 15. Use of the cave or property for any type of commercial activity, including guided or commercial caving or other recreational activity, is not permitted.
 16. No collection of specimens, artifacts, or any type of natural or cultural resources from the preserve or the cave is permitted without written permission from the Misty Cave Property Management Committee Board.

XIV Banishment from Great Saltpetre Preserve

- A. Cavers or visitors may be banned from visiting GSP for any of the following reasons:
 - a. Willful misuse of GSP property or facilities.
 - b. Willful disregard of the safety of themselves and/or others while visiting GSP property.
 - c. Conduct detrimental to the GCG, BGG, DUG, NSS, caves, and/or landowner relations and public relations.

- B. Disciplinary action shall be initiated only upon presentation to the GSP Committee of a written petition for disciplinary action by a member of GCG, BGG, or DUG. Upon receiving such a petition, the GSP Committee shall take such actions as are deemed necessary to notify the accused person, in writing, of the petition, and of the place, date, and time at which the petition will be considered by the GSP Committee. The accused person shall have the right to speak on their behalf. Such consideration shall take place no sooner than twenty-one days or no later than seventy days after the petition is received by the GSP Committee.

- C. Disciplinary action under this provision shall be taken only upon three-fourths vote of the GSP committee by a secret ballot in Executive session.

- D. For serious violations observed on site, the offending visitor or caver may be asked to leave immediately by the GSP caretaker or any board member of GCG, BGG, DUG, or any GSP committee member. Refusal to comply may result in local authorities being called and trespassing charges being filed. For these serious on site violations, the disciplinary process can skip step (B) and go directly to step (C).

- E. Banishment from GSP will be for a period of five years or as determined by the GSP Committee. The banished party will be eligible for early reinstatement upon request after a period of one year. A written request for reinstatement must be submitted to the committee for consideration of early reinstatement. If the request is denied then the banished party must wait a period of one year to request reinstatement again. Only one request will be considered annually. If no request for early reinstatement is approved, the banished party shall be banned for the full term of the banishment. The committee must approve early reinstatement by a three-fourths majority by secret ballot. A caver banned from GSP is not necessarily banned from their grotto, but their grotto will be notified of the nature of the violation and the action taken by the GSP Committee.

GREAT SALTPETRE CAVE PRESERVE

REPORT to RKC March, 2009

The Great Saltpetre Preserve is in the final stages of developing a strategic plan to better define our mission and plans for future use. Roger Brucker is assisting us with this plan. Our next meeting is Sat, April 11 at the Scheben branch Library in KY. RKC board members are encouraged to attend. As stated in earlier reports, the Strategic Plan and Mission Statements are necessary groundwork need to acquire grants for our large projects.

We have received four requests from schools for field trips and tours this spring and will accommodate them whenever possible. We also expect our normal requests from Mt. Vernon and Brodhead Elementary this fall. These field trips always occur in the spring or fall. Sometimes the weather is good, but other times it has been rainy and windy. Last fall we custom made some tarps to hang around the sides of the shelter to block the wind and rain. The tarps also block the light so the kids can see the screen better during the program. This brings me to another long term plan for the future—the need for a permanent enclosed building to be used for educational purposes to be funded by grants as mentioned above. I continue to receive requests and questions from local groups and individuals about access to the cave. Each request is handled and tours are given on a mutually agreed upon time.

Last year, with the help of many volunteers, we completed several projects and logged numerous maintenance hours. This year we have another aggressive list of projects, but some large emergency and necessary projects may use up most of our budget and restrict how much we can do this year. The emergency project is the repair of a water leak which may require heavy equipment. The other project has to do with roadwork. The pavement at the top of the driveway needs to be repaired and much of the road through the campground needs more gravel.

The beaver are back with a vengeance. They have taken down and removed about 20 small trees on the point and are still working heavily down at the far end of the campground below the cemetery. The trapper caught four before the season ended in Feb, but apparently, he just made them angry and their relatives are getting even. In Feb we wrapped 26 trees with chicken wire. None of those trees have been bothered. When walking on the point please watch out for short pointed stumps.

Regarding access to GSP by all RKC members...the committee unanimously agrees that access as stated in the current GSP management is working. Access is controlled, not restricted. We don't deny anyone access. Access can be arranged through one of the grottos or through the GSPC. The GSP committee adopted an Article to be added to the Management Plan pertaining to banning or removing a person from GSP for bad behavior or conduct. See attached.

Ken Tankersley, an archaeologist from U C, along with 2 professional photographers visited the cave on Sat, March 21 to verify and photograph the Indian drawings and writings. Also on Friday, March 20, Greg Stotelmyer from WTVQ, channel 36, visited the cave to do a short segment for the Kentucky Back Roads series.

Financial summary 2008:

Total Income: \$21,434.00. Of this \$6,911.00 -donations, Camping-\$14,322, KOR-\$5,560. Rest Misc.

Total Expenses: \$13,275.24. Of this \$1800 Ins,\$1800 Elec,\$1000 Garbage, \$1400 port-o-lets, maintenance \$3300, phone & water-\$900. Ask for detailed report.

Bob Dobbs GSPC

Report of the Access Committee

March 2009

(M Gratsch, M. Keller, T. Otten, J. Perkins, M. Rzesutock)

Members Opinions:

A large majority the members of the three grottos (on the order of 90%) are against the idea of allowing RKC members, who are not members of the three grottos, access to the GSP. It is their opinion that the current policy should not be changed. The reasons for not changing the current policy include: loss of control of the GSP to non cavers, crowding/over use and degradation of the GSP, and the character of people that will be using the GSP.

A minority of members think the current policy should be changed.

Legal Ramifications of Current Access Policy

Lisa Pruitt-Brandenburg, (attorney) stated: "...the RKC owns the land. A policy of RKC member = 0 access BUT member of a club who is not RKC member = access, is tantamount to problems. In my opinion, you can protect lands of RKC, including GSP, by limiting access to grotto members (whether they be GCG, BGG, or DUG or other grottos also) AND by keeping the 501(c)(3) alive and healthy by also requiring RKC membership for access."

Consequently it is possible that the current access policy, if legally challenged, could endanger the non profit status of the RKC.

Access Policy Options

Maintain current access policy

Allow all RKC members access

Require RKC membership plus GCG, DUG, or BGG membership

Allow access to RKC members, who are not members of the three grottos, on specified dates (e.g.. Open House, Caver Appreciation Weekend or other)

Allow access via written permission of the GSPC

This is the version that was voted upon via email vote - Feb 2009

Financial Transparency Act of the Land Acquisition Committee, Legal and Financial Subcommittee:

Part 1 - Purchase Contracts

For any Land purchase a financial plan will be prepared. This plan will show:

- i) The final negotiated purchase price
- ii) All costs (or estimates) associated with the purchase of said property, including, but not limited to lawyer fees, survey and title search, closing costs and any other associated fees
- iii) All costs (or estimates) associated with owning and maintaining said property including, but not limited to, taxes (or a plan to ameliorate taxes), insurance, and any maintenance issues known at time of purchase (such as fences or roadwork)
- iv) Payment plan – detailing all sources of funding and associated costs and risks (repayment schedules, interest rates, and security)

The Board of directors can enter into an agreement to buy based on a simple majority vote without all the above information detailed. All contracts thus voted upon should include a contingency that financing can be secured at a favorable rate, and agreeable to the Board

Before any money will be disbursed from RKC and/or paid in completion of a purchase contract, the board will have the opportunity to examine the financial plan. The board will vote 2/3 to approve this plan before any monies are paid out, or properties change hands

This plan will be the responsibility of the Treasurer, the Chair of the legal and financial subcommittee, and the case manager of the property in question

Any Purchase contract will be signed by the Chairman of the BOD, and the Treasurer of RKC

Part 2 - Loan Agreements

If a loan is part of the Financial plan detailed above, and subsequently agreed upon, it is the responsibility of the Chair of the Legal and Financial committee (the Treasurer of RKC) to negotiate a loan for the RKC.

The Chair of the Legal and Financial committee will forward the details of the loan agreement to the board to be voted upon as a simple majority vote

Once agreed upon, any loan will be signed for RKC by the sitting Chairman of the Board of Directors and the Treasurer of RKC