

Northeastern Cave Conservancy News

Volume 19, Number 4

December 2017



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|--|--|--|
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| <p>The <i>Northeastern Cave Conservancy News</i> is published quarterly by the Northeastern Cave Conservancy, Inc. The Northeastern Cave Conservancy promotes the study and preservation of speleologically significant properties in the northeastern United States. Annual membership is \$20 (Regular), \$5 (Additional Family), \$50 (Benefactor), \$100 (Institutional), \$125 (Family Life Membership), and \$400 (Life Membership). All checks should be made payable and sent to:</p> <p>Northeastern Cave Conservancy Inc. · P.O. Box 254 · Schoharie, N.Y. 12157</p> <p style="text-align: center;">www.necaveconservancy.org</p> | | |

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Next Board Meeting
Sunday, December 3, 2017 at 10:00 am
Speleobooks - Schoharie, New York

Spring Board Meeting
March 18, 2018 at 10:00 am
(Location in Massachusetts TBD)

The Northeastern Cave Conservancy, Inc. (NCC) is a not-for-profit corporation committed to the conservation, study, management, and acquisition of caves and karst areas having significant geological, hydrological, biological, recreational, historical, or aesthetic features.

To these ends, the NCC combines the resources and expertise of affiliated cave explorers, educators, scientists, landowners, and conservation officials.

The NCC programs are focused mainly on the preservation of caves and karst. Outreach includes education in schools and local communities, establishment of park spaces on karstlands, and educational messages about the significance of groundwater pollution on this sensitive underground ecosystem.

NCC members assist in the exploration, survey, and protection of these natural resources, and manage them so you can explore them yourself.



NCC logo design by Christa Hay

NINTH ANNUAL NCC BARN DANCE

— Emily Davis —

The Ninth Annual NCC Barn Dance was held on September 30 at the Octagon Barn in Knox. We had a lively group of 68 attendees, who danced the night away to the fine music of Tamarack and their wonderful caller Paul Rosenberg. The food, planned and prepared by Christa Hay, was plentiful and tasty. Cider from trees on the property of the office committee quenched the dancers' thirst. The setting of the beautiful Octagon Barn, graciously made available to us by Russ and Amy Pokorny, made this the perfect country event.

Over \$500 in door prizes were given out during the breaks. Arranging for door prizes and their presentation were managed by Leslie Hatfield. Prizes were donated by all of the board members, as well as the community business listed below. The dance was financially supported by the Kappler family and NBT Bank. Our profit was \$561.40, though the main purpose of the dance is local outreach and community interaction. We all look forward to planning the Tenth Annual Barn Dance for fall of 2018.

Thanks to Those Who Donated to the Tenth Annual NCC Barn Dance

| | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------|
| Price Chopper (cups & napkins) | Christine Young |
| Stewart's Shops | Pokorny Family |
| Schoharie Valley Farms | Kappler Family |
| The Apple Barrel | Davis/Warner |
| Fox Creek Farm | Mike Chu |
| Your Way Cafe | Paul Rubin |
| Window Box Cafe | Bill Folsom |
| BMS | Wayne Russel |
| Alan Traino | Bob Simmons |

Thanks to Those Who Helped With Set Up, Tear Down, Food Service, and Money Handling

Christa Hay
 Bob and Terry Simmons
 Mitch Berger
 The Pokorny Family
 The Dumont Family and Friends
 Peter and Jane Youngbaer
 Devon Hedges



NCC BARN DANCE



Ninth Annual NCC Barn Dance. Octagon Barn. Knox, New York. Photos by Michael Warner.

NORTHEASTERN CAVE CONSERVANCY, INC.
September 24, 2017 Meeting Notes
 (Complete meeting minutes are posted on the NCC web page)
 Thacher Park Visitor Center
 Voorheesville, New York

Discussion Topics from the Committee of the Whole:

- 40th Anniversary - Board discussed possible venues for the event. The NCC will earmark funds in the 2018 budget to provide financial support.
- Barn Dance - Emily Davis thanked board for support; confirmed helpers for setup/teardown at event; food, raffle items/prizes all on track. Emily indicated she would like to step down as chair of this committee after next year's 10th anniversary event.
- LTA grant for Spider Preserve - Review of items still needing completion and a plan advanced to get them done.
- 2018 LTA grants - Multiple items identified in different categories eligible for grant funding. Young to follow up with members for more details (e.g., prices, number needed, timelines, etc.).
- Convention Conservancy Round Table Report - Mitch Berger (and Emily during a post-vendor-teardown visit) spent much of the session helping smaller younger conservancies understand what we've learned about liability and insurance. The few questions he came with mostly got non-committal answers. Overall, we found we're fairly up on the learning curve as far as cave conservancies go.
- Waivers - New insurance guidelines and liability recommendations allow us to change guidelines.

Board Actions:

- The Investment Committee is established as a permanent committee assigned to the Treasurer's Department. The Committee is responsible for directing the investments of the Northeastern Cave Conservancy, Inc.. Those investments shall be collectively referred to as "the Portfolio." The Investment Committee has overall responsibility for the operation and administration of the Portfolio. The members of the Investment Committee are fiduciaries of the Portfolio with respect to all responsibilities allocated to them by the Board. The members will discharge their duties solely on behalf of the sponsoring organization's mission, in accordance with its specific terms.

The committee will consist of five members. Each member shall be appointed by the Board for three years. The terms of the members shall be staggered to the extent practicable. Each member shall acknowledge their membership in writing. Members shall serve at the pleasure of the Board.

The Committee shall report any substantive changes to the Portfolio to the Treasurer for inclusion in the Treasurer's quarterly reports, and include an annual summary of the Portfolio for the December annual meeting.

Passed

- Act 12-125 Life Membership Fund is amended to read:
The NCC shall establish a Life Membership Fund and deposit all funds collected for Life Memberships into this fund.

Passed

- Act 21-59 Cave and Karst Acquisition Policy is amended to include the following confidentiality statement:

All offers, negotiations and details of acquisition projects are to be kept in strict confidence within the board until after a contract has been signed. Under no circumstances shall the internal board discussions concerning offer details be made public. Once a contract has been signed, the board may elect to make it public by developing fundraising, media, and outreach plans to raise awareness and public support, and any additional funds.

Passed

- NCC will allocate up to \$2000.00 in support of the NCC's 40th anniversary celebration.

Passed

- The next Board meeting will be December 3, 2017 at 10 am at Speleobooks.
- The NCC Spring meeting will be March 18, 2018 at 10 am in Massachusetts (tentative).
- The NCC Board thanks Thacher Park and their staff for hosting this NCC meeting.

President's Report (by Vice President):

- NCC was represented at the Spring and Fall NRO events. Special thanks to our auctioneers, Jose Martinez and Alan Traino, and to all who helped out as runners and organizers. We tried something different at the Spring NRO: placing much of the lesser-value items on a table with a donation jar. This worked quite well.
- NCC/CCG work day at Torys Cave to clean out sinkhole in preparation for installation of a cave gate.
- NCC/CCG trip to a local cave to install light-detecting data loggers to monitor visitation over the winter months for the owners. This is a follow-up to the Acquisitions Committee visit earlier this year.

Cave Preserve Reports:

- **Bensons** (Luke Mazza)

Progress - Visited the property on August 11, and mowed the right-of-way, which was starting to resemble a field. The trail was walked, as well as some of the rest of the parcel. The preserve was noted to be in good shape.

Four permits were issued since the last report in June and two of those were not actually used that I'm aware of. I expect at least a couple more trips to Bensons before the close of the caving season.

Issues - Removing the bagged trash from the spring sinkhole cleanup is an outstanding task that I intend to take care of before the end of Fall 2017, once I coordinate the right vehicle and enlist the aid of one or two volunteers.

Plans: Currently targeting October 7 for the removal of the bags of trash. If anyone is interested in joining, let me know. This task should be made easier by the fact that MOSA (the dump) is right around the corner.

- **Bentleys** (Devon Hedges)

A good many trail work days, majority of trail is widened to match the lower sections; roughly 5 - 7 feet wide. Constructed a primitive wood raft from fallen branches to cover an upper, wet trail section seems promising.

Fall work will likely include improving the corduroy/raft, maybe constructing some rock cairns to make route finding easier in some sections without conspicuous trees to fix trail markers on. These cairns could be built up over time by future visitors/work parties to make for semi-permanent markers for when under growth gets high.

Lots of visitors signed the visitor log at the kiosk.

- **Clarksville** (Thom Engel)

There were reports of garbage being dumped in the lower parking area. One of the special-use groups picked it all up. There are also reports of graffiti in the cave. RPI Outing Club has offered to clean it up.

- **Knox** (Mitch Berger)

Progress - Trail maintenance and a perimeter check have happened; no signs of trouble. Issued 19 permits since the last report. The early part of the season was atypically slow, but visitation surged in September.

Issues - Very few people seem to have taken brochures.

Plans - Post the annual closure signs. Periodic property inspection. Possible graffiti removal in Knox, and investigation of methods. Addition of trail markers and re-posting of property. Boundary marking. Investigation of troublesome plant species.

- **Merlins** (Morgan Ingalls and Jacob Morris-Siegel)

Progress - We had two trips to the cave this quarter, both of which were during NROs. Work also continued on the Dome 12 dig, and will likely continue this fall.

Plans - The parking area needs to be cleared, as it currently has a lot of vegetation. Similarly, the loop trail should be walked and the trail markers need to be checked. A Steward Leader Training should be planned for next summer. The cave will be closed for the season October 1.

- **Onesquethaw** (Thom Engel)
Number of permitted trips so far this year is 20, with a mean group size of 5.2.

Other Committees (President):

- **Risk Management** (Mitch Berger)
Switched our General Liability insurance coverage to the Conserve-A-Nation program. Obtained Director's & Officer's insurance coverage. Attended and participated in the Cave Conservancies Roundtable at the NSS annual Convention.
- **Torys Ad Hoc Committee** (Bob Simmons)
Assisted the WHLT with a sinkhole cleanup project on August 31. Chris Sanders came in two days later and constructed a bat gate over the main entrance to the cave to complete the gating of the cave as a possible recovery site, post WNS. Gating funds were obtained from USFWS through CT DEEP to WHLT. NCC/CCG labor and mileage used as part of matching grant funding.

Vice President's Report:

- **Special Use** (Thom Engel)
So far this year, I have received a total of 199 reservations. Of this, about 62% are for the months of July and August. Over 82% of those were for Clarksville.

The Boy Scouts have changed their caving rules. They have increased allowable group size from 12 to 14. They allow anyone old enough to be a Boy Scout "to enter easily accessible, non-technical/non-vertical, wild caves." However, they have made equipment rules more stringent. And they have made qualification for trip leaders clearer (and as I read them, more stringent). "For trips to non-vertical caves, there must be one Qualified Trip Leader, at least 21 years of age, and one additional Trip Leader, that is at least 16 years of age. Qualified Trip Leaders must have recent and ongoing caving experience and preferably be a member of the NSS or equivalent. They must be proficient in all necessary established safety practices including cave rescue, and must also understand conservation measures, courtesy to cave owners, and any current environmental concerns for that caving area. The Qualified Trip Leader must be very familiar with the cave to be visited." It is unclear how this will affect the amount of BSA caving, but if groups strictly adhere to the equipment requirements troops might be hard put to actually run a caving trip.

So far this year, I have dealt with over 250 emails regarding special use (I have decided to start tracking this number because it gives a better idea of the workload beyond just the number of reservations).
- **Surprise Cave Committee** (Al DeMaria and Bob Simmons)
Very little activity this quarter; did a call with Carl Herzog from NY DEC concerning the possibility of doing a joint investigation with NCC (under our Stewardship Permit) to assess the reported temperature increases in the cave. Recent data suggests that the cave has gotten warmer, to the point of being near the higher range of acceptable temperatures for hibernating bats in the region. Project would consist of documenting temperature conditions in the cave and then assessing the possibility of opening older/additional entrances into the cave to allow for more cold air to enter and settle in the cave over winters. Have communicated to owner about the rest of the cave and discussed recollections of older entrances, at least one of which would NOT be on state property.
- **Thacher Park** (Thom Engel)
We had three sessions scheduled this year. In addition, groups could do surveying in Hailes, if the required lead time was given to the park. Regarding the sessions, the first date had truly lousy weather and nothing was done. On the second date, the weather was better and some surface work was done. We found a deep grike. Only one group took advantage of surveying in Hailes on other dates. The resurvey of the cave from the entrance to "Farthest West" was started; 460 feet of passage was surveyed.
- **Treasurer's Report**
Negotiations with the National Speleological Foundation continue regarding the contract to manage long-term investments.

NORTHEASTERN CAVE CONSERVANCY, INC.
Profit and Loss Budget vs. Actual - January 1 through September 15, 2017

| | January 1 - September 15, 2017 | Budget |
|-------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------|
| Ordinary Income/Expense | | |
| Income | | |
| Donations | | |
| Auction Donations | 2,168.26 | 2,400.00 |
| Donations - Other | 5,425.95 | 5,805.00 |
| Total Donations | <u>7,594.21</u> | <u>8,205.00</u> |
| Grants | 4,700.00 | 0.00 |
| Interest Earned | 11.70 | 10.00 |
| Membership Income | <u>3,230.00</u> | <u>4,300.00</u> |
| Total Income | 15,535.91 | 12,515.00 |
| Expenses | | |
| Acquisitions | 0.00 | 2,000.00 |
| Bank Charges | 23.48 | 85.00 |
| Donations - Outgoing | 0.00 | 200.00 |
| Dues | 0.00 | 350.00 |
| Education | 0.00 | 50.00 |
| Executive | | |
| President | 0.00 | 100.00 |
| Secretary | 0.00 | 50.00 |
| Treasurer | 0.00 | 50.00 |
| Vice President | <u>0.00</u> | <u>50.00</u> |
| Total Executive | 0.00 | 250.00 |
| Insurance | 2,536.00 | 3,025.00 |
| Legal Fees | 0.00 | 1,000.00 |
| Licenses & Permits | 0.00 | 50.00 |
| Meeting Expenses | 0.00 | 100.00 |
| Meetings & Conferences | 170.00 | 170.00 |
| Membership Expenses | 0.00 | 100.00 |
| Miscellaneous | 0.00 | 100.00 |
| Office Expenses | 0.00 | 100.00 |
| Postage | 61.60 | 100.00 |
| Preserves - Maintenance | | |
| Bensons | 20.00 | 250.00 |
| Bentleys | 20.00 | 600.00 |
| Clarksville | 20.00 | 300.00 |

| | January 1 - September, 2017 | Budget |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------|
| Ella Armstrong | 20.00 | 100.00 |
| Knox | 20.00 | 100.00 |
| Merlins | 20.00 | 100.00 |
| Onesquethaw | 20.00 | 100.00 |
| Sellecks | 20.00 | 100.00 |
| Spider | <u>9.23</u> | <u>175.00</u> |
| Total Preserves - Maintenance | 169.23 | 1,825.00 |
| Printing | 984.31 | 1,000.00 |
| Promotion | 915.93 | 1,300.00 |
| Publishing | | |
| Mailings | 0.00 | 50.00 |
| Website | <u>1,400.00</u> | <u>60.00</u> |
| Total Publishing | 1,400.00 | 110.00 |
| Sponsorships | 0.00 | 300.00 |
| Taxes on Properties | <u>112.64</u> | <u>300.00</u> |
| Total Expenses | 6,373.19 | 12,515.00 |
| Net Ordinary Income | 9,162.72 | 0.00 |
| Other Income/Expense | | |
| Other Income | | |
| In Kind donations | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Net Gain or Loss from NSF Fund | 3,000.23 | 0.00 |
| Volunteer Value | <u>26,372.00</u> | <u>0.00</u> |
| Total Other Income | 29,372.23 | 0.00 |
| Other Expenses | | |
| In Kind Out | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Volunteer Value Expenses | <u>26,372.00</u> | <u>0.00</u> |
| Total Other Expenses | 26,372.00 | 0.00 |
| Net Other Income | 3,000.23 | 0.00 |
| Net Income | 12,162.95 | 0.00 |

• **Membership Committee** (Peter Youngbaer)

Progress: Membership has declined this year by about 25% in the Regular membership category. All renewal notices for memberships up through November 1 have been sent. Second notices for summer lapses and third notices for spring-lapsed memberships have also been sent. All new memberships and renewals have been acknowledged and entered into the database. It is current as of today, September 15. Our current membership stands as follows, compared to the baseline of April 22, 2012.

| September 15, 2017 | April 22, 2012 |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| Life: 62 | Life: 18 |
| Family Life: 9 | Family Life: 0 |
| Benefactor: 5 | Benefactor: 10 |
| Regular: 74 | Regular: 88 |
| Family: 19 | Family: 16 |
| Institutional: 5 | Institutional: 3 |
| TOTAL: 174 | TOTAL: 135 |

Problems: Regular memberships have notably declined. There are lots of active cavers who are not up to date. I can dun them by email (and with the snail mail brochure mailing), but it is most helpful when other NCC Board members and officers take note and nudge their caving friends to re-up.

• **Publications** (Christa Hay)

Working with Eva Hunter on possible artwork for new tee shirts, etc. Our logo will remain the same and the NCC with bats will remain the same but looking for special design for events, etc.

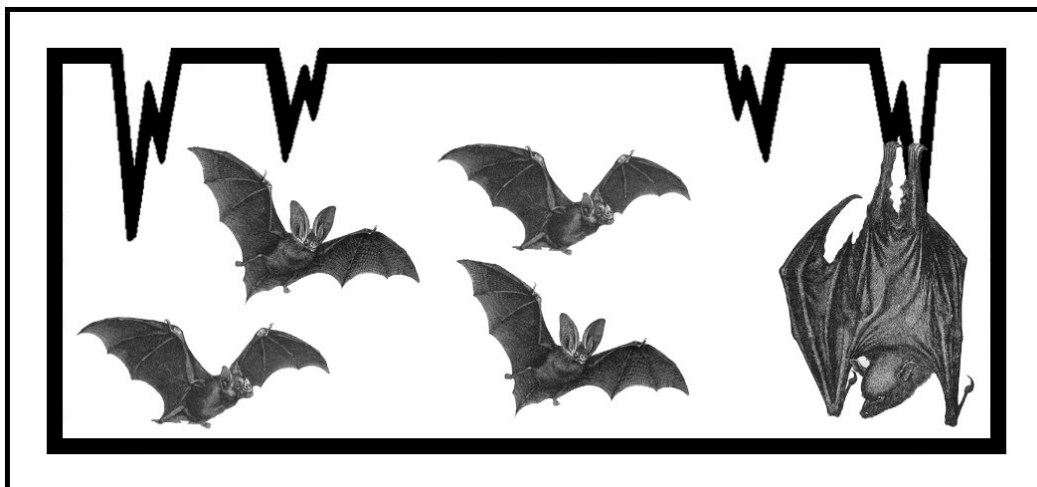
Problems: I am hoping the board can help with supplying articles for the newsletter. Danny has been having a difficult time filling the newsletter. In the past, we had discussed changing publication frequency to two times a year, to hopefully fill it with more articles and make it more professional.

• **Technology Committee** (Mike Chu)

The new site is up and running. Kept mostly up to date. Still have growing/startup problems that need to be worked out, mostly with semantics on the preserves page. I would really like to hand the whole site over to a new webmaster, someone with more time who would love to give to it.

• **Volunteer Value Committee** (Vince Kappler)

Year to date totals: 1395 hours of volunteer work for NCC projects for a total value of \$40,318.00. Members also reported traveling 4696 miles to work on NCC projects.



NOMINATING COMMITTEE SEEKING CANDIDATES FOR OFFICER POSITIONS

Each year at the Annual Meeting in December, the Trustees elect the four Organization Officers (President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer). The Nominating Committee presents a slate of candidates for these four positions for consideration by the Trustees. The terms for President and Secretary will be two-year appointments. The Vice President and Treasurer will be one-year appointments. In 2018, only the Vice President and Treasurer will be elected, and receive two-year appointments. Thus, beginning in 2018, we will be advertising for only two officer positions each year.

Nominations for Officers are also solicited from the Trustees. If you would like to be considered for a position, would like to nominate someone for a position, or would just like more information on the process and requirements, please contact the nominating committee at nominating@necaveconservancy.org. For reference, the general duties and responsibilities of the four Officer positions are described below.

President: The President is the Chief Executive Officer of the NCC, and supervises the activities of the NCC within the scope provided by the bylaws. The President presides at meetings of the Board of Directors. The following committees report to the President: Acquisitions, Preserves, Nominating, and Risk Management, as well as any ad hoc committees established for specific purposes.

Vice President: The Vice President assumes the duties of the President in the event of absence, incapacity, or resignation of the President, and presides when the Board meets as a Committee of the Whole. The following committees report to the Vice President: Bylaws, Education, Science, Special Use, Surprise Cave, and Thacher Park.

Secretary: The Secretary keeps the minutes of the meetings of the Board of Directors and of the Executive Committee, and maintains the membership roll. The Secretary also carries on all organizational correspondence as delegated by the President and sends out notices of meetings. The Secretary is responsible for editing and publishing the Board Manual. The secretary may appoint assistants, as required.

Treasurer: The Treasurer is responsible for the safekeeping of organizational funds; maintaining and reporting financial records and statements to the Board of Directors; and filing all financial documents required by local, state, or federal regulations. The following committees report to the Treasurer: Technology, Fundraising, Membership, Office, Publications, and Volunteer Value.



CURRENTLY OPEN OFFICER POSITION**PRESIDENT OF THE NORTHEASTERN CAVE CONSERVANCY, INC.****Application Deadline**

Open until filled.

Summary Description

This position can be based anywhere in the Northeast.

As leader of the organization, the President and oversees the following committees: Executive, Acquisitions, Cave Preserves, Nominating, Risk Management, and several Ad Hoc Committees.

The President is responsible for providing dynamic leadership for the planning, development, implementation, assessment, and improvement of mission-related programs, revenue-generation and financial-management strategies, partnerships, community relations, legislative relations, marketing/public relations, strategic and annual planning, and other key areas.

The President serves as the primary spokesperson for the organization with funders and stakeholders. As part of the President's responsibilities, s/he will formally and informally present reports, updates, and results to the Board of Trustees on a periodic basis, which will include regular Board meetings and specific committee meetings of the Board.

The President will be responsible for supporting the development of and advancement of a vision for the NCC's impact in the region, for its continuing growth, for ensuring financial viability, and for building collaborative relationships in the Northeast.

Specific Responsibilities

As chief executive officer of the land trust, the President is responsible for the efficient operation of the land trust.

This shall include performance of, or timely delegation to the Vice-President or other officer the following duties:

Chairs quarterly Board and Executive Committee meetings.

Facilitates the orderly transaction of land trust business and the attainment of land trust purposes, including the proper functioning of standing committees.

Signs policy and fiscal documents with prior authorization from the Board of Trustees.

Signs routine administrative documents, such as reports on behalf of the land trust Board, and letters relating to fundraising and similar activities.

Is the principal representative of the land trust at public functions.

Seeks, obtains, and transmits regular reports from land trust committees.

Sets overall land trust priorities, including short-term and long-term goals, with other members of the Board.

Actively works together with the Acquisitions Committee on acquiring new cave preserves.

Actively works together with the Cave Preserve Committee on stewardship matters.

Performs other duties at the request of the Board of Trustees.

Proactively cultivates and solicits donors and prospects, and works toward annual fundraising goals.

Qualifications

Bachelor's degree or higher desired.

Demonstrated ability to provide forward-looking leadership to the organization to enhance its impact, while growing and maintaining effective partnerships.

Significant experience working with volunteer boards and/or other groups.

Superb verbal and written communication skills.

Leadership, diplomacy, and negotiation skills required.

Ability to work effectively as part of a team and without daily supervision.

Ability to work quickly, meet deadlines, and multitask.

Organized and attentive to details.

Willingness to travel extensively.

Willingness to work a flexible schedule, including occasional weekends.

Computer proficiency, especially with Microsoft Office and email.

CURRENTLY OPEN OFFICER POSITION, cont'd

PRESIDENT OF THE NORTHEASTERN CAVE CONSERVANCY, INC.

Passion for saving land, caves, and karst features is a must. Knowledge of private land-conservation techniques and/or land trusts highly desirable.

An understanding of the landscape and culture of New York and New England is strongly preferred.

Development experience in individual major gift fundraising, including significant experience with face-to-face solicitations.

Compensation

This is a volunteer position and does not provide any compensation. However, reasonable expenses incurred while attending external meetings, conferences, and seminars relating to official land-trust business, and expenses related to land-trust projects may be reimbursed if approved by the Board.

Category

Officer

How to apply

Send resume, cover letter, and three references to nominating@necaveconservancy.org

CURRENTLY OPEN OFFICER POSITION

SECRETARY OF THE BOARD, NORTHEASTERN CAVE CONSERVANCY, INC.

Application Deadline

Open until filled.

Summary Description

This position can be based anywhere in the Northeast.

The Secretary is an officer of the NCC who actively participates in the Executive Committee, Board meetings, and other meetings as needed. S/he is an integral part of the leadership of the organization, responsible for managing and recording internal and external communications and assisting with coordination between various committees.

Specific Responsibilities

The Secretary is responsible for the following:

Attend Board meetings, Executive Committee meetings, and other meetings as needed.

Prepare the Secretary's Report and Board-meeting agenda, collect committee reports and minutes, and circulate them to all Trustees at least one week prior to the quarterly Board meetings.

Maintain the schedule for preserve management-plan reviews and advise the appropriate managers accordingly.

Announce committee vacancies and bylaw votes to the general membership.

Attend Board meetings, take minutes, circulate draft minutes to Trustees for edits and corrections, make edits and corrections to minutes, and post final minutes on the website.

Take minutes at Executive Committee meetings and participate in decisions on the day-to-day operations of the organization.

Edit, update, and publish the Board Manual on the website after each Board meeting.

Prepare and disseminate all official organization correspondence.

Initiate an email discussion with Board members and others, should there be any urgent business between regularly scheduled meetings requiring immediate attention. Manage and record any votes taken by the Board on such issues.

CURRENTLY OPEN OFFICER POSITION, cont'd

SECRETARY OF THE BOARD, NORTHEASTERN CAVE CONSERVANCY, INC.

Send out notices of meetings.
Work proactively to achieve fundraising goals.
Perform other duties at the request of the Board of Directors.

Qualifications

Bachelor's degree or higher desired.
Demonstrated ability to provide forward-looking leadership to the organization to enhance its impact while growing and maintaining effective partnerships.
Significant experience working with volunteer boards and/or other groups.
Superb verbal and written communication skills.
Leadership, diplomacy, and negotiation skills required.
Ability to work effectively as part of a team and without daily supervision.
Ability to work quickly, meet deadlines, and multitask.
Organized and attentive to details.
Willingness to work a flexible schedule, including occasional weekends.
Computer proficiency, especially with Microsoft Office and email.
Passion for saving land, caves, and karst features a must.

Compensation

This is a volunteer position and does not provide any compensation. However, reasonable expenses incurred while attending external meetings, conferences, and seminars relating to official land trust business, and expenses related to land trust projects may be reimbursed if approved by the Board.

Category
Officer

How to Apply
Send resume, cover letter, and three references to nominating@necaveconservancy.org



CURRENTLY OPEN COMMITTEE CHAIR POSITIONS

FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE CHAIR

The Fundraising Committee Chair coordinates all fundraising activities for the Northeastern Cave Conservancy. The fundraising committee may be authorized by the Board to research and apply for grants to generate funds for specific projects, including cave acquisitions. If interested in this position, please contact the nominating committee at nominating@necaveconservancy.org

INVESTMENT COMMITTEE CHAIR AND MEMBERS

As part of the NCC's continuing evolution, the Board of Trustees recently approved the formation of an Investment Committee, so as to bring added financial expertise to the management of the Conservancy's long-term investments. The Committee—which will consist of five members, each appointed to a three-year term—will have overall responsibility for the operation and administration of the Conservancy's investment portfolio. The Investment Committee Chair will coordinate long-term management of the NCC portfolio. Individuals with significant knowledge of financial investments who are interested in serving on this committee should contact the NCC treasurer at treasurer@necaveconservancy.org, and provide relevant information about qualifications and experience for further consideration. Note: Although the Committee Chair must be an NCC member, other committee members are not required to be members of the NCC.

NCC VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE

Cavers can get involved with many volunteer opportunities offered by the Northeastern Cave Conservancy. These include work on various committees or assisting with one of the cave-preserve management teams. Volunteers contribute to the maintenance and preservation of unique underground environments and help to support various NCC educational and outreach activities. If interested in learning more about volunteer opportunities with the NCC, please contact Vince Kappler at volunteervalue@necaveconservancy.org. You can also speak to any NCC Board member or officer. Don't pass up the chance to give something back to the caves that are so important to us all.

