

Minutes of the Fall 2019 MVOR Business Meeting
Sat., Oct. 12, 2019
East Perry County Fairgrounds, Altenburg MO

MVOR President Chuck Breite called the meeting to order at about 7:05 PM. There were around 100-125 members in attendance, sitting comfortably in their camp chairs or on benches around the campfire in front of the bandstand.

Announcements:

Silent Raffle winners were announced, with proceeds of \$90 split between MCKC and the Berome Moore management fund.

Independent journalist Denise Vonn asked for volunteers to photo-sherpa for a trip to Berome the next day. She is working on a 20-min documentary video titled 'Karst in Perry County', an unfinished version of which was recently shown at the National Cave and Karst Management Symposium in Virginia.

Committee Reports:

Chuck introduced himself, Treasurer Mark Elbert and Vice-President Jessica Tygett-Self.

Minutes of the 2019 were approved by acclamation (with one 'nay').

Treasurer's report - Mark reported a savings account beginning balance of \$4,050.56, plus \$5.07 interest earned, yielding a new balance of \$4,055.63. The checking account started with \$823.90, had debits of \$825 and credits of \$1,338, yielding a new balance of \$1,336.90. Current total for both accounts is \$5,392.53. Report was accepted by acclamation (with one 'nay').

Old business:

As part of a three-person exploratory committee to research having a static or backup MVOR location (in the case of no grotto bidding to host the event), Andy Free reported that committee members were still considering the various factors and that they had some email discussions on the matter over the past four months. Crowd discussion on the topic included suggestions like grottos rotating the hosting duties, making sure it's a 'high and dry' site, the host grotto having the right to choose the site, and an opinion that the same site again and again might get boring. There was general agreement that the current Fairgrounds site, and Perry County, were excellent. Chuck advocated trying a static site for a few years to see if we like it, but the issue ultimately was tabled pending more information from the exploratory committee at the Spring Business Meeting.

Chuck announced that there was no host for the upcoming next MVOR, Spring 2020. The crowd grew quiet when he then asked for someone to bid. "Crickets?" Chuck said. When all hope seemed lost, it was Jessica who finally raised her hand and said "All right, Spring 2020 now has a bid." Cheers from the crowd. Chuck added: "Thank you for taking the bullet, Jessica." A date and location for Spring 2020 MVOR will be announced in the coming months.

KCAG and MO-BAT will host Fall 2020 MVOR on Sep. 16-20 in Noel, Missouri, at the Eagle's Nest campground (a site of previous MVORs, with lots of camping sites, RV sites and cabins). Float trips and 35 privately-owned caves (in four different states) will be available.

New business:

\$2 fee ☉ A proposal was made to increase the fee for staying on the (snail) mailing list for two MVORs (in case someone was unable to attend the event but still wanted to receive the next flyer) from the current \$2 to \$2.50. Discussion

included trying to decrease costs by sending the registration form by email, but most of those present preferred keeping the current system of snail-mailing a paper flyer. Opting-out of the snail mail in favor of being sent the registration by email is encouraged, in order to save money, paper and the Planet (--if you'd like to opt out, send a message to garygibula@aol.com). The motion to increase the fee passed by majority acclamation, with three 'nays'.

MVOR web site - Chuck (who also is the website webmaster) announced that, compared to the MVOR Facebook page, our web site gets very little traffic. Still, it is a repository for meeting Minutes and also has the ability to send an e-newsletter. Chuck proposed that he will do this twice a year and also attach the next registration flyer to that message. Those who wish to opt out of receiving the paper flyer are encouraged to indicate as much on your MVOR web site personal account (which assures we'll get your e-address right). The proposal passed by voice acclamation (with four, albeit joking, 'nays').

Registration forms - It was proposed and passed that the host grotto of an MVOR event must provide all registration forms to the MVOR Secretary (for accounting purposes) no more than two weeks after the event ends.

Honoring deceased MVOR members - Discussion included making mention of those individuals who recently passed away in the Guidebook, or at the Business Meeting. No action taken.

Elections - Chuck, Jessica and Mark were reelected to new 1-year terms, and Gary Gibula was elected Secretary.

Announcements:

As Twitter webmaster, Brian McAllister should be sent the registration flyer for posting on Twitter.

Chuck also said that host grottos for an upcoming MVOR can be given temporary administrative authority for our Facebook page in order to respond to questions, add promotions for the event, etc.

Chuck announced there were 133 pre-registrations, with a total number of 191 (which was later updated to 201).

Lastly, there was a crowd comment advocating MVOR sites that can accomodate large campers, due to more folks preferring a little more luxury instead of mostly tenting. No action taken.

Meeting adjourned at 7:41 PM.

(--Gratefully submitted, MVOR Secretary Gary Gibula)