

National Speleological Society, Inc.
Board of Governors Meeting
Minutes of the September 30, 2020 Special Meeting
September 30, 2020
FINAL

The September 30 special meeting of the Board of Governors was held virtually.

Call to Order and Roll Call at 8:00 PM CST

Officers

Geary Schindel, President (PRES)
Scott Engel, Executive Vice-President (EVP)
Adam Weaver, Administrative Vice-President (AVP)
Maureen Handler, Operations Vice-President (OVP)
Kristine Ebrey, Secretary-Treasurer (S-T)

Directors

Nick Anderson
Riley Drake
Nathan Farrar
Stephen Gladieux
Peter Johnson
Sonia Meyer
Julie Schenck-Brown
Carol Tideman
Ben Tobin
Will Urbanski
Meredith Weberg
Cindy Wu

1) Officer & Committee Reports:

There were no reports presented by the officers or committees.

2) Comments from the Audience (3-minute limit per person)

No comments.

NEW BUSINESS

3) Recognition of NSS Cave Preservation Network Act 50-960

Weaver Moves: The NSS Board of Governors recognize the NSS Cave Preservation Network (CPN). The CPN is a collaboration of the NSS, the National Caves Association (NCA), and numerous of private cave owners. This program is meant to preserve caves and cave access. It strives to improve

and expand the relationship between private cave owners and the NSS. In addition, the CPN works to educate the public about cave exploration, preserves, conservation, and research, as well as the merits of organized caving. Partner organizations of the CPN work to advance these goals through fundraising for the Cave Preservation Fund.

Seconded by Tiderman.

Unanimous For

PASSED

4) Creation of Cave Preservation Fund

Act 18-961

Weaver Moves: The NSS Board of Governors approve the creation of the Cave Preservation Fund. The purpose of this fund is to support the creation of new NSS Nature Preserves as well as the maintenance of existing NSS preserves; support of cave conservancies and conservation efforts; production and distribution of educational materials; fund additional cave related research objectives; and to cover the operational costs of the NSS Cave Preservation Network (CPN) program. This fund allocates money raised from the CPN to support the missions above and will be an NSS account. All money raised by the CPN Program or donated specifically to this fund will be stored in this fund. Expenditure of these funds will be considered upon recommendation by the Environmental Education Committee,

Seconded by Weberg.

Unanimous For

PASSED

5) Preservation Network Member

Act 28-962

Weaver Moves: The membership class "Preservation Network Member" be added under Section 28 of the Board Manual. Defined as: An organization, show cave business, or other entity that has agreed to participate in the Cave Preservation Network (CPN). This membership category is not intended for individuals. Members under this category have all the privileges of regular members, except the rights to vote in society elections or hold elected office. Annually, one member of each CPN participating organization may use the NSS Convention discount as outlined in board act 28-607. The strong fundraising aspect of the CPN negates the need for annual membership dues. Membership in this category will be available through nomination by the AVP and approval by the NSS Executive Committee, and participation will be reaffirmed annually by the office of the AVP no later than January 15th of each year.

Seconded by Anderson.

Unanimous For

PASSED

6) NSS Insurance Committee Chair approval

Ebrey Moves: Michael Cicherski (NSS 36668FE) is approved as the NSS Insurance Committee Chair.

Motion withdrawn by Ebrey

7) SBA Loan disbursement for Special Publications Committee

Engel Moves: Scott Engel moves that the Board of Governors approve a disbursement from the SBA Loan Investment account in the amount of \$30,000 as per the National Speleological Society (NSS) - SBA Loan Use and Repayment Plan. The amount is to be used as per the NSS - SBA Loan Project Proposal Summary Sheet submitted by Scott Engel on 7/09/20 on behalf of the Special Publications Committee.

Seconded by Ebrey.

For: Anderson, Urbanski, Drake, Ebrey, Farrar, Handler, Johnson, Meyer, Tobin, Tiderman, Weaver, Wu.

Against: Gladieux

Abstain: Engel, Weberg, Schenck-Brown

For: Rest

PASSED

8) SBA Loan Disbursement for Caves.org Web

Handler Moves: The Board of Governors approve a disbursement from the SBA Loan Investment account in the amount of \$37,000 as per the National Speleological Society (NSS) - SBA Loan Use and Repayment Plan. The amount is to be used as per the NSS - SBA Loan Project Proposal Summary Sheet submitted by Maureen Handler on 7/16/20 on behalf of the Caves.org Website Steering Committee.

Seconded by Ebrey.

Unanimous For

PASSED

9) SBA Loan Disbursement for Building and Grounds Division

Handler Moves: The Board of Governors approve a disbursement from the SBA Loan Investment account in the amount of \$45,000 as per the National Speleological Society (NSS) - SBA Loan Use and Repayment Plan. The amount is to be used as per the NSS - SBA Loan Project Proposal Summary Sheet submitted by Maureen Handler on 7/17/20 on behalf of the Building and Grounds Division.

Seconded by Weaver.

Vote:

For: Anderson, Ebrey, Engel, Farrar, Handler, Meyer, Schenck-Brown, Weaver

Abstain: Drake,

Against: Urbanski, Gladieux, Weberg, Johnson, Tobin, Tiderman, Wu.

Motion must pass with two thirds

FAILED

10) Appreciation

Schindel Moves: The Board of Governors expresses its appreciation to Ted Kayes for his long-term service to the NSS.

Seconded by entire board.

Unanimous For

PASSED

11) Bylaw Change for Committee Appointments

Ebrey moves: That officers can appointment committee chairs without the vote of the Board of Governors.

Seconded by Weberg

Motion to postpone indefinitely was made by Gladieux

For: Anderson, Urbanski, Drake, Engel, Farrar, Gladieux, Weberg, Handler, Johnson, Meyer, Schenck-Brown, Tobin, Tideman, Weaver, Wu.

Abstain: Ebrey

Motion to postpone

PASSED

12) Adjournment

Ebrey moved: The meeting is adjourned. Weaver seconded.

President Schindel declared the meeting adjourned at 9:30 pm CDT.