

CACHE PEAK CIVIC ASSOCIATION MINUTES
May 7, 2009 – 7:00 p.m.
Almo, Idaho
Cache Peak Emergency Services Building

The attendance sheet is attached.

DJ Stanger called the meeting to order.

Minutes from Last Meeting. The April minutes were read and approved.

Treasurer’s Report. Sadie Udy gave the treasurer’s report. CPCA moneys are:

Account	Amount	Comments
501C3	3750.00	
501C4	957.65	
Playground Fund	2935.24	
Total	7642.89	

Playground Equipment Fundraising. Sadie also reported on Brenda Davis’s “Flower Power” playground equipment fundraiser. It went well, raising \$711.00 for the playground. Half of the income went to the playground effort. Brenda is planning another summer fundraiser. Ideas include an auction, a play, or a dinner.

The safety of the playground equipment was discussed. Sadie and others reported that the slide is unsafe. There are missing rivets and a piece of metal, which leaves a big gap. The slide is also too steep.

George Darrington will talk with Larry and Tom Harper will review playground safety code. We need to talk with the responsible parties and create a plan to address the safety issues.

Park Activities Update. Wallace Keck provided a detailed update regarding park activities, plans, and effects of the budget reduction. One item of interest that Wallace mentioned several times is the increased use of the park website to provide park updates. If you are wondering about a park activity, it is a good idea to check the website for current news. The website is updated weekly.

The park is anticipating a good year based on increased reservations. Phase 3 of the highway project could dampen the initial enthusiasm, but only time will tell. The park has an excellent, professional staff and the facilities are open and ready. The park has a new position filled this year – a Cultural Resources officer. They were able to choose from some excellent candidates.

Castle Rocks State Park and the Cassia County Commissioners won an Excellence in Transportation award for the Almo Creek Wetlands mitigation project. This was for a wetlands trade which saved the county \$75,000.

Lynn Porter took the new forensic dog (in training) to the purported grave site out by the transfer station. The dog liked the site. More work to be done, but it still looks very much like the site is a gravesite.

The budget cuts did not affect the park much for this year. Next fiscal year could be more challenging. One example is a hiring freeze that requires a waiver for even 3 month seasonal positions. Salary cuts are expected across the board. Capital projects and equipment have been cancelled. The federal side of the budget looks good.

A new head gate and a culvert gate have been installed near the Castle Rocks ranch house. Buddy Ward requested this work several years ago. These additions will be more effective getting water to the east.

The Castle Rocks lease was given to Waters from Jerome. The price was \$32.10 AUM.

This coming season's projects in Castle Rocks include gravelling the Castle Rocks trailhead parking area. The ranch house will be remodeled to incorporate more interpretive displays. The long range vision is to provide more meeting space for groups. This does not include a Bed and Breakfast.

The Smoky Mountain equestrian camping loop will get 6 separate 12x12 corrals (1 per campground) and the group corral will remain. This should make it easier to keep horses separated.

City of Rocks inner campgrounds will get some dust guarding this summer. The park is paying the county \$8000 for this effort. George Darrington asked about the Oakley side of the road. Wallace replied that Cassia County Road and Bridge is responsible, but there will be some work done this summer by the park. Gravel procurement is still a problem that needs to be solved. Wallace explained that the park is still willing to sign for primary jurisdiction and gave his assurance that there is no plan to erect a toll booth if the park gets jurisdiction. It is not cost effective to add toll booths, nor can they collect fees on a county road. If the park gets jurisdiction, they can get Federal money for maintenance. The Feds can give money to the state, but not individual counties.

Other projects include trails, one more entrance sign, trail signs, fence work. A new trail will be built from Bath Rock to Parking Lot Rock.

There is a new grazing plan revision. A draft is available for review on the website. The Climbing Management plan is done.

Leslie Morris will be here May 17-22nd. A packrat midden research project will study paleo climates and vegetation. They hope to identify the time of appearance for the pinion pine in the area as well.

The park is getting a Dartmouth Business School graduate to help write a business plan for the park. This will identify long term goals and mission statement for the park.

Upcoming public events:

May 16 – wildflower walk

June 16-17 Sawtooth Science school. For teachers' continuing education credit.

July 4,5 Cache Peak Expedition. Climb Cache Peak and camp at the north end of Castle Rock.

(End of Wallace's report)

Wallace answered questions regarding the effects of the park taking primary road jurisdiction. George Darrington asked Wallace what changes would be made to the road. Wallace replied that they would target a better graveled, all weather road. Possibly some paving, but not in the visual corridor of the park. Wallace is committed to efforts that maximize the look and feel of the area when the immigrants passed through.

New Area Guide Service. Stan Lloyd reported that Joetta Abel completed her tour guide licensing and will be providing tour guide services for City of Rocks, then the Hagerman area, and finally the Gooding City of Rocks. She will start in 6-7 months.

Fire House Concrete Floor Bid. Stan Lloyd reported post meeting that Gary Erickson quoted \$11000 for a 5 inch floor with drain. Ace is beginning to look for money.

Meeting Adjournment. George Darrington motioned for adjournment at 8:15 pm. Tom Harper seconded it.