

Friends of Snow Canyon State Park Directors' Meeting February 13, 2025

Place: Park Headquarters

Attending Board Members: Lori Capshaw, Linda Neff, Barry Neff, Sandy Nelson, George Otott, Alan Risenhoover, Ellen Nathan, Jim Bily, Kristen Comella
Excused absence: Phyllis Winkler

The meeting was called to order by President Otott at 3:10.

Part I. Written / Oral Reports

1. Minutes: The minutes of the January 9, 2025 meeting were approved unanimously.
2. Treasurer's Report: Written report approved with no question. Linda reported that the IRS has imposed a \$3900 fine on us for incorrect filing of our last return. The tax preparer is aiding us in contesting the fine. (To recap, our growth in revenue pushed us into a more complex return that had to be filed electronically, not by mail. Linda was unaware of that and filed by mail, resulting in what the IRS considered a late filing once the accounting firm did the electronic filing for us.) Because of this assistance, the Board approved having the same firm do our taxes this year.
3. Membership Report: Written report, approved.
4. Trail Stewards' Report: Written report from Phyllis attached as addendum.
5. Web Report: Written report attached
6. Facebook: Written report attached.
7. Fund-raising: Written report from Phyllis attached.

Part II. FOSC Business Updates.

1. Park update: Kristen said the construction projects are all in process. The new south entrance hit a snag and will probably be done in April. Training for new docents will begin at the end of February; gearing up for spring. Kristen presented her "asks" for 2025 totaling \$42,000. All were approved with no objection.
2. Events: Lori said Ivins City wants \$75 to use their facility after 5:00 for our bat talk. The Board approved the expenditure. They have an agreement that needs to be signed. Jim will review for any issues with our insurance. (Subsequently, Jim recommended the agreement be signed as our insurance covers the City's requirements.) Written report attached for other events.
3. Website: Sandy added the corporate sponsor logos to our site. There was considerable discussion about the difference between memberships and straight donations. The consensus is that our donation page needs to clearly offer the donor the opportunity to decide. Sandy will work on it and offer suggestions at the next meeting. It was agreed that giving Park passes for upper level memberships will continue. On the annual report, we will continue to lump members and donors together for recognition.

4. Board and officers succession: Alan has agreed to serve as Vice President for the year. The Board unanimously agreed on George as President, Alan as Vice President, Linda as Treasurer and Jim as Secretary. George and Lori have potential new Board members lined up. Both will attend the March meeting and mutual decisions on their addition will follow.
5. Membership list sharing: The Dinosaur Museum asked us to forward to our members an opportunity to volunteer for a project for the Museum. The Board declined as we hold firm the privacy of our members. George will explore the possibility of an event at the Museum that might serve to alert our interested members.
6. Fund-raising: Sandy will check with Dean Cavaletto on where he left things with Black Desert on ongoing contributions.

The meeting adjourned at 5:10.

Next meeting on March 13 at 3:00 at Ivins City Hall, the site of an event that evening for our members.

Written Reports

TRAIL STEWARD REPORT (Phyllis)

HIKE WITH JESSE

February 24

TRAIL OF THE MONTH

White Rocks

In addition to the usual trails of choice, we spend one visit on the White Rocks Trail this month avoiding construction. Trail alignment with rocks, trimming encroaching plants and blocking

And erasing illegal trails is required.

SPECIAL PROJECT

Monday, February 3rd at 10:00 AM

At the new Cinder Cone trailhead parking area.

We will be cutting a section of new trail to connect the existing trailhead to the new paved parking area located just after you turn to go into Diamond Valley, just off Highway 18. So there should be plenty of parking available

Web Report (Sandy)

The top pages were - Events, Home, Renew

There were hits on other pages such as Critters which I was happy to see.

I updated the top of the Events page and added logos for Black Desert and WildlandTreking to the Event page - link below. We have talked about putting them on the donation page as well, but we are working on how to reword that page to make it more clear. I will wait until we resolve how we are going to deal with donations and memberships.

Last 30 days

Overview Report

Sessions

336

5%

vs. Previous 30 Days

Pageviews

1,095

33%

vs. Previous 30 Days

Avg. Session Duration

1m 12s

33%

vs. Previous 30 Days

Total Users

256

16%

vs. Previous 30 Days

Bounce Rate

23.8%

43%

vs. Previous 30 Days

New Users

228

16%

FACEBOOK: (Phyllis)

Working to do more postings!

GRANTS: (Phyllis)

Unfortunately we were not awarded a Washington County RAP Tax Grant

Currently working on the DNR infrastructure grant to replace the compost vault on West Canyon Trail!

EVENTS: (Lori)

With a huge thank you to Kristen and a shout out to Jim Bily, here is our roster of Winter/Spring 2025 Events.

Friends of Snow Canyon Winter / Spring 2025 Events and Volunteer Activities

Illegal Trail Removal Round 1

Saturday, February 8, 2025; 9a.m. – 11a.m. @ East Berm Trail lot, 100 East in Ivins

Description: Volunteers are needed to move rocks and dig holes in an effort to remove a persistent illegal trail adjacent to the Berm trail. Volunteers should be prepared to dig holes OR lift and haul rocks ranging from 2 to 15 pounds in weight.

Ecosystems of Snow Canyon

Saturday, March 1, 2025, 10am - Noon @ Upper Galoot Picnic Area

Join Naturalist Cheyenne for a 2.5-mile roundtrip hike along the Butterfly Trail and explore why Snow Canyon's ecosystems are unique! Learn about why we have different ecosystems, what an ecotone is, and how we can protect all areas of the park.

Illegal Trail Removal Round 2, Thursday, March 6, 2025, 9a.m. – 11a.m. @ East Berm Trail lot, 100 East in Ivins

Description: Volunteers are needed to move rocks and dig holes in an effort to remove a persistent illegal trail adjacent to the Berm trail. Volunteers should be prepared to dig holes OR lift and haul rocks ranging from 2 to 15 pounds in weight.

Our Bat Friends, Proposed: Thursday, March 13, 5:00pm @ Ivins City Hall.

Description: Bats in Southern Utah include species such as the spotted bat, Allen's big-eared bat, big brown bat, big free-tailed bat, and e-pallid bat. They can be found roosting in lava tubes at Snow Canyon and Mammoth Cave near Cedar Breaks. Zac is the Cliff Ecology Field Lead for Bat Conservation International. Join Zac Warren, Bat Biologist at Zion National Park, and learn more about the bats that fly around Snow Canyon, what they eat and the very important role they play in our ecosystem.

The Secret Lives of Wildflowers

Wednesday, April 9, 2025, 9a.m. – 11a.m. @ Scout Cave/Johnson Canyon parking lot

Description: Join Park Manager, Kristen Comella, for a 2-mile roundtrip hike along the Johnson Canyon trail as we search for wildflowers and discuss some of the survival strategies they employ.

Earth Day Celebration Hike, Tuesday, April 22, 2025, 9a.m. – 11a.m. @ Scout Cave/Johnson Canyon parking lot

Description: Join retired Wildlife Biologist, Rick Fridell, for a 2-mile roundtrip hike along the Johnson Canyon trail. During this desert ecology hike, we will search out reptiles, birds, and other Snow Canyon critters while discussing our desert ecosystem.

Yoga in the Park, TBD