

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

Place: Snow Canyon State Park

Attending Board Members: Lori Capshaw, Alan Risenhoover, Barry Neff, Sandy Nelson, Don Drabant, Ellen Nathan, Phyllis Winkler, Jim Bily, Kristen Comella
Guest: Dick Coe

Excused absence: Linda Neff, George Otott

The meeting was called to order by Vice-President Risenhoover at 3:00.

Part I. Written / Oral Reports

1. Minutes: The minutes of the October 9, 2025 meeting were approved unanimously.
2. Treasurer's Report: The report was approved with no questions.
3. Membership Report: Written report, approved.
4. Trail Stewards' Report: Written report from Phyllis attached as addendum. Alan noted that the assistance given to the Crossing Open Ground event went off without a hitch and was much appreciated by both the sponsors and the participants.
5. Docents Report: Don reported that the docents have a goal of 325 hours for 2025. They have assisted with 45 school field trips for 2500 students so far as well as 1500 visitors at pop-up tables in the Park.
6. Facebook: Phyllis said all is well with our page.
7. Web Report: Written report from Sandy attached.
8. Park Update: Kristen said the annual Follow the Flag runs from 11/11 through the 21st. The Snow Canyon half marathon will be held on 11/15. Funding was approved to replace the bridge timbers on the Whiptail Trail, a 4-week project starting on 12/1. The DWR is discussing a possible desert bighorn sheep reintroduction in the Red Cliffs Desert Reserve that could include part of the Park. One issue to be resolved is probable hunting. The Park received its official Urban Night Sky designation. Alan wondered if we might sponsor some sort of formal event to recognize this. The idea was met with enthusiasm, possibly after the holidays. Kristen asked for \$550 to fund half of new interpretative panels for the Lava Flow trail and \$8000 to help with the new vault toilet on West Canyon. The Board approved both. Finally, Gemma will be leaving at the end of the month. She will be replaced.
9. Events: Two events coming up have no sign-ups right now but there appears to have been an issue with the website dropping them. It appears to have resolved. Lori asked for ideas for future events.
10. Website: Written report attached. Sandy will clean up the donor recognition tier names and benefits to reflect the approved changes.
11. Fund-raising: Don met with the Kish Foundation. Their grants for 2025 have all been awarded but we will probably be re-added in 2026. Don is still trying to get something going with Stephen Wade. We got some

good publicity from an article appearing in many of the neighborhood Stroll magazines.

Part II. FOSC Business Updates.

1. Business cards: Alan secured 500 cards.
2. Ivins Good Neighbors support request: Dick Coe discussed the request from Ivins Good Neighbors for FOSC to formally endorse their effort to influence aspects of the Black Desert expansion to the border of the Park. Pros and cons were debated with the Board taking the final position that we do not get involved in political matters. Alan will draft a formal policy to be voted on at the next meeting.
3. Email Cutover: Barry said that the move to the new email structure is going well. Part of the project is to move everything on Google Drive to the new workspace.
4. New Board Member: Lori has a new board member prospect. She is waiting for a bio from her and will hopefully be inviting her to attend the next meeting.
5. Park Bench: Kristen received a request to accept a memorial park bench. The protocol for those is for the donation to go to FOSC to pay for the bench and then the recognition plaque shows FOSC. The Park picks the location, not the donor.

The meeting adjourned at 4:40.

Next meeting on December 11 at 3:00 at Park Headquarters.

Written Reports

TRAIL STEWARD REPORT (Phyllis)

SPECIAL PROJECT: Nov 7, 10 am Padre Canyon Trail

General trail maintenance from the trailhead back to Tuacahn.

TRAIL OF THE MONTH: Red Sands

We are asked to spend at least one of our visits on the trail of the month. In addition to the usual "meet and greet", this month's focus is the trail east of west canyon towards Park headquarters. Rock work realigning the trail boundaries and sweeping away illegal trails are required. In addition to vegetation trimming encroaching the path.

HIKE WITH JESSE: Changing Seasons, November 18 at 10 am

Enjoy the fall colors of Johnson Canyon with Jesse and fellow trail stewards.

Special Request from Jesse this month:

Monitor abundance of photographers taking groups of people off trail, especially weekends during late afternoons. Favorite locations include Petrified Dunes, Galoot Hill, White Rocks, Red Sands/Hidden Pinion, Whiptail.

Follow the Flag is a very popular event and the Trail Stewards are encouraged to remind visitors to please stay on the trail to minimize habitat loss.

WEB REPORT (Sandy)

We now have access to Google Analytics with our nonprofit Workspace Account.

A few stats from the period 10/13-11/11 2025

806 new hits on the website

Most of those were direct - which means the user went straight to our web address or see this explanation from AI. "

A direct hit, or direct traffic, on a website occurs when a user lands on a page by typing the URL directly into their browser, clicking a bookmark, or using a link from a document like a PDF. It also includes any traffic that analytics programs cannot identify a source for, such as "dark social" shares via private messaging or email, making it a broad category that isn't always truly "direct".

The peak use was around 1/20, which I suspect coincides with either a FB or Mail Chimp release.

Events, donations, membership, all are used. During this time period usage with the longest time on a page was Critters.

As to Security of the site. Word Fence is working well to block what I assume are spammers or automated hits trying to get info from the site. Interesting that the primary source of those was Cambodia. We'll see what it is next month.

EVENTS (Lori)

Upcoming events:

- Yoga in the Park with John Yohman, Thursday, November 20th at Upper Galoot.
- Desert Homes Hike with Gemma, Snow Canyon's Naturalist Aide, Friday, November 21st in Johnson Canyon.

Previous Events:

- Stellar Star Party (Dark Sky Educational Program) with Alisson Stoddard, Friday, October 24th at Upper Galoot. Well attended. Clear skies and comet and meteor showers were observed. 22 people in attendance.
- Yoga in the Park with John Yohman, Tuesday, October 28th at Upper Galoot. Good weather. 12 members attended.
- Tortoise Talk with Ranger Cheyenne, Saturday, November 1st at Upper Galoot. 15 members attended.
- Annual FOSC Meeting & Picnic, Saturday, November 1st at Upper Galoot. 32 members attended. Nice turnout even though many did not register. Thank you to Ellen Nathan for procuring dessert and for all her help with setting up the picnic area.

Future Events:

- Geology Hike
- Music Event — Native American flutes