

Annual minutes of the 2003 meeting.

The first annual meeting of the CCH was called to order on January 24, 2003. Attending were the current directors Don Coons (president), Mike Werner (VP), Cindy Heazlit (treasurer), Rose Herrera (bod) and Secretary Ric Elhard. It was noted that a quorum was present and business was commenced. Chrissy Frotton (bod) was unable to attend. She was available at a meeting and discussion 2 weeks prior. A copy of the minutes will be forwarded to Chris.

First item of discussion was the adoption of the articles of incorporation and by-laws of the CCH. The interim board of directors during the year 2002 pursued much discussion and consideration regarding this and submitted necessary documents to apply and receive non-profit corporation status in the State of Hawaii. Documents have been submitted to the IRS requesting 501c3 nonprofit status.

Cindy Heazlit motioned that the current articles of Incorporation and Bylaws of the CCH be adopted. Motion seconded by Mike Werner. Unanimous vote by the BOD.

Second item of discussion was regarding non-profit incorporation status in Hawaii and California. The conservancy can apply for the exempt status after receiving the determination from the IRS. It was discussed that the California status would be helpful in the probable event that potential for donation dollars may be substantial. Cindy Heazlit motioned that the CCH apply for both Hawaii and California tax-exempt status. Rose Herrera seconded and the vote was unanimous by the BOD.

Discussion was made concerning a newsletter for the CCH. It was generally agreed that a newsletter would be appropriate to inform the members of progress in land acquisition and the conservation efforts of the CCH.

Mike Werner motioned that a newsletter and annual report be published least once a year.

Ric Elhard seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous by the BOD.

Emily Davis, being the head of the fundraising committee, discussed current potentials of possible money donations to the CCH.

She is planning to present a presentation to the NSS, North East Cave Conservancy and the National Speleological Foundation. The NSS and NECC grants are a potential of \$3-5000.00 The NSF \$1-3000.00 and a prospect of a personal of \$1000.00 from Dick Blends amounts to a potential of a possible \$6000.00 or more from these sources.

Cindy mentioned a grant recently received by the Western Cave Conservancy and the possibility of receiving as much as \$15,000.00 from this source.

This all depends on the presentation generated and receiving the 501c3 determination from the IRS. Mike moved to set up a display at the NSS convention. Emily asked that she be supported in the effort to prepare a nice presentation.

There is currently a possibility of \$4-5000.00 in personal pledges after a 501c3 determination.

Discussion was pursued regarding the objectives and priorities of the CCH. This included land purchase and protection priority.

Currently 8 lots are owned by parties sympathetic to the CCH efforts. There are approximately 30 more 3 acre lots in Kula Kai subdivision and 6- 21 acre lots in adjacent Keone's Rancho that overlie the cave. This makes prioritizing land purchase difficult. Five guidelines were discussed, not necessarily in order of priority.

1. Lots with entrances.
2. Lots that were corridors to adjacent 21 acre parcels.
3. Lots with no entrance but substantial cave passage underneath.
4. Affordability.
5. Sensitivity of features.

Each property that arises for sale or considered for purchase needs to be evaluated using these guidelines. Consideration needs to be made to any other significant circumstance regarding any particular property.

Current priority is a lot owned by Steven Chadwick. This lot has a large entrance to the cave. Chadwick has agreed to sell the lot for the current assessed value of \$15,000.00. Unless another potential buyer is found the discussion was to purchase this lot with initial donations to the CCH. Other priorities are the purchase of adjacent 21- acre lots with significant cave passage. This may be possible with Western Region donations if they are granted.

It was discussed to pursue communication with the owners of the 21- acre and a committee was appointed. (Don Coons and Ric Elhard)

Discussion of land easements was pursued.

This subject requires study and general education of the current BOD and directors of the CCH. Mike Werner provided several books regarding this subject and they are now part of the CCH library.

Generally it was discussed that several types of easements could be pursued.

1. Scenic surface easements.
2. Underground access and management easements.
3. Outright donation of cave or overlying land.
4. Others to be determined.

Current board members, being lot owners overlying the cave, may provide test case easements to facilitate the educational process.

Mike Werner motioned to pursue easements with lot owners overlying the cave. Rose Herrera seconds and the BOD votes unanimous.

It was discussed that we become a federally recognized non-profit organization and sign up with Guide Star. Guide Star is a compilation of non-profit organizations listed on the Internet. By posting reports on the Net we can fulfill the reporting requirement of the IRS.

Cindy Heazlit motioned to pursue, Rose Herrera seconded and the vote was unanimous.

A web site for the CCH was discussed. By becoming a Conservancy of the NSS web space would be available. It was unanimously agreed to have a web sit for the CCH and agreed de-facto via e-mail to become a Conservancy of the NSS.

It was discussed that the CCH become a member of the Land Trust Alliance This allows the CCH to become eligible for insurance and other benefits of this organization.

Motion to join was made by Cindy Heazlit, seconded by Mike Werner and voted unanimous by the BOD, pending funding.

A motion was made by Mike Werner to establish a Post Office box in Hawaii for the CCH. Seconded by Rose Herrera and voted unanimous by the BOD.

The current P.O.Box 6313 will be changed to;

Cave Conservancy of Hawaii

P.O. Box 7032

Ocean View, Hawaii 96737

A motion was made by Don Coons to allow Cindy Heazlit to write checks in the amount up to \$1000.00 with a single signature. Any check over \$1000.00 will require two signatures as established with the bank signature card. Rose Herrera seconded and voted unanimous by the BOD.

Mike Werner motioned to re-elect Don Coons and Chrissy Frotton to another 3 year term on the BOD of the CCH. Seconded by Rose Herrera. And voted unanimous by the BOD. The BOD is set up for a rotating election to accommodate new BOD members every 3 years.

It was motioned by Mike Werner to re-instate the interim officers for another year term. Seconded by Rose Herrera and voted unanimous by the BOD.

The Officers stand;

Don Coons..... President

Cindy Heazlit....Treasurer

Ric Elhard Secretary

Board of directors;

Rose Herrera

Mike Werner

Chrissy Frotton

Steve Lewis

It was discussed that the current management plan for the Kipuka Kanohina Caves Project was coming along well. Peer review within the caving community has been favorable and suggestions are being incorporated into the document. It was noted that the CCH is not a conservancy expressly for the Kanohina Project. It is being created to garner interest and be actively pursue conservation and protection of caves State wide in Hawaii.

Motion and unanimous to adjourn the meeting.

Ric Elhard ... Secretary of the CCH