

Friends of the Agua Fria National Monument
Cultural Resource Committee (CRC) Meeting
Tuesday, July 19, 2016
BLM Offices, 21605 N. 7th Avenue, Phoenix, AZ

MINUTES

Attendees: Connie Stone, Chairperson
Pete Reilly, Member
Trudy Mertens, Member
Mike Nushawg, Member
Peter Huegel, Member
Bryan Lausten, BLM Archaeologist
Lauren Harper, BLM Volunteer Coordinator
Mike Hoogendyk, Member
Barbara Gronemann, Member
Marie Davis, Member
Shelley Rasmussen, Member
Paul Sitzmann, BLM Biologist
Jim Gipson, BLM Monument Mgr.

Call to Order: Pete Reilly called the meeting to order at 12:05 pm. Connie Stone arrived shortly after and took over the Chair.

Minutes: The minutes of June 21, 2016 were approved.

BLM Update: Bryan Lausten, the Monument Archaeologist, gave the BLM Update.

1. **CRMP Status:** There is an Agency meeting coming up on August 4th. Sometime later, maybe in late August, there will be a Stakeholders meeting. The NEPA is still in process, separately for both BLM and the FS.
2. **Invasive Plants:** Paul Sitzmann, BLM's Monument Biologist, has found Malta Starthistle growing near Rattlesnake Ruin. This is an invasive plant and can easily be spread by hikers' shoes. It is the only yellow thistle you will see on the monument. Paul wants everyone to be very careful not to spread the seeds any further while BLM tries to figure out how to eradicate this plant. If you see the plant elsewhere on the monument, please let Paul know.
3. **Interpretive Signs:** Still being prepared for installation, which may require an outside contractor.
4. **BLM Volunteer Hats or Shirts or whatever:** Bryan will address this as he prepares his fiscal 2016/1017 budget proposal.
5. **July 30th Photographic Documentation Workshop:** Anyone who wants to attend this should email Bryan and let him know. blausten@blm.gov. It will run from 8:00am to approximately 3:00pm at the BLM Phoenix District Office on 7th Avenue.
6. **Volunteer Agreements:** Lauren Harper, BLM's Volunteer Coordinator, indicated that the BLM volunteer agreements are approved and being used. However, they expire on September 30, 2016 and will need to be replaced for the new fiscal year. Bryan will bring copies to the August and September meetings so everyone can renew them. The Site Stewards still have not gotten approval at the state level, but this should be resolved by the end of the fiscal year. Part of the hang up is that a large number of volunteers never submitted signed copies, probably because of some confusion regarding the new risk assessment forms.
7. **BLM Volunteer Insurance:** Jim Gipson, Acting Monument Manager, distributed a list of FAQs to those present. The FAQs cover all aspects of volunteer use of the Workers' Compensation benefits, including who will be covered, how and when. Bryan Lausten cautioned everyone that they need to email him a day or two in advance of any work on the monument just so that if anything does happen, there is an email record in his files of it being official work. Indicate when

you are going, where you are going and what the purpose is for the trip. If the trip is not for cultural resource purposes, but rather for Road Patrol, let Paul Sitzmann know.

8. **Monument Managers:** Jim Gipson will be returning to his regular BLM job on July 25th. The new manager after that point will be Jay Beal.

FAFNM Board Update: Pete Reilly gave the FAFNM Board Update. Major items are as follows:

1. **Board Nominations:** The Board will need to have a new secretary, treasurer and one director for the new fiscal year starting October 1st. If you want to nominate someone (with their approval of course), please let the Interim FAFNM President, Chris Caseldine, know. The Nominating Committee report must be out to the members 30 days in advance of the Annual Meeting.
2. **Las Vegas NCL Rendezvous:** The Board is sending several people including Pete Reilly, Jim Riggs and Tim Flood, to the rendezvous which will be held September 29th to October 2nd. If you are interested in attending, contact Chris Caseldine, the FAFNM Interim President.
3. **FAFNM Financials:** The FAFNM treasury currently has approximately \$18,000 in cash and has several thousand in outstanding Wet/Dry Event bills yet to be paid.
4. **Temporary Part Time Help:** The FAFNM Board has hired a part-time employee to help with the Wet/Dry event and the Annual Meeting to the tune of approximately \$2,000 total.
5. **Yellow Billed Cuckoos:** The Cuckoo surveys are underway. The next one is July 23rd. Meet to carpool at 4:15am. Contact Tim Flood for information.
6. **NAGPRA Activities:** Although the Board Minutes for the meeting indicated that there were several NAGPRA activities underway, Bryan Lausten, in today's meeting, indicated that if there are, none of them involve the AFNM.

Perry Mesa Area Archaeological Happenings:

1. **Pueblo Pato Archaeology Signs:** Pete Reilly is of the opinion that the unknown Cultural Resource signs seen at Pato were probably ones that were posted by him and others about a year or so ago. He still has several Site Steward signs that can be put out once he and Bryan agree where. There is no need to wait on those for approval of the Site Steward volunteer agreements. Put them out as a BLM Volunteer.

Old Business:

1. **Possible Fall Outreach with High Desert Heritage Museum (HDHM):** Shelley, Trudy, Bryan and Mike met on July 13th with Bill Slankard, Director at HDHM, and Cliff Hersted from Arcosanti. They began planning for a Saturday, October 15th event from 9:00am until 1:00pm at the HDHM with self-guided tours on the monument. Another planning meeting is scheduled for August 10th.
2. **ASU's Casa Grande Survey:** Final arrangements have still not been completed. Once they are, everyone who has volunteered will be notified. If you want to participate, email Chris Caseldine.
3. **New Graffiti near Bloody Basin Entrance:** Bryan still needs to figure out when and how removal using Elephant Snot can be accomplished. He'll let us know.
4. **Ceramics Class with Scott Wood:** Bryan emailed Scott Wood and is waiting for an answer from him. Once he has information about if and when this can be put on, he will let us know.

New Business:

1. **Great Outdoors Expo:** Trudy Mertens, Shelley Rasmussen, Marie Davis and Pete Reilly all volunteered this last week in Scottsdale at the expo. Marie passed around some cards they had found which advertised "Share the Experience, an official Federal Recreation Lands 2016 photo contest. The prize is \$10,000. Go to www.sharetheexperience.org to learn more.

2. **Black Canyon City Heritage Center Storage:** In preparation for the Great Outdoors Expo, Shelley and Trudy met with Bob Cochran at the heritage center to obtain outreach supplies. In light of the confusing mess in the storage area, they recommended the Committee hold its next meeting in BCC and try to sort everything out and put it into some kind of order. Mike Hoogendyk agreed to contact Bob to see if we could do that between 9:00am and Noon on August 16th. If not, then we will meet at the regular time at the regular meeting place (BLM for August). Mike will notify Committee members once he has an answer.
3. **Enigmatic White Rock Symbols Near Southern End of BLM9168:** Mike Hoogendyk reported that after the Big Bug Fire burned through the area, a sign made of white quartz rocks was much more visible. It appears as two Cs, one above the other, each about three meters across. The lower one has some type of smaller symbol in the middle (either a horse or a “K”.) The smaller symbol has been added in the past two years, but the Cs have been there for ten years or more. No one knows who placed them there, what they mean or anything else. The Committee will keep on investigating, but if anyone knows, email Mike Hoogendyk with the information.
4. **Clean Up in the BLM9168 Area:** This is the emergency road from Cordes Junction. There are several areas that need to be cleaned up just north of where it hits Bloody Basin Road. Bryan suggested that he use his BLM truck to cart out what we collect. He’ll let us know a good time after he checks into some aspects of what needs to be removed and what it might entail. Trudy suggested we might want to consider coordinating with “Tread Lightly”, a group that works with non-profits volunteering to do such clean ups. They can provide dumpsters for the material. Bryan was going to check with Chris Gammage, a BLM OHV Ranger, to see if BLM had an agreement with them on file.
5. **Cultural Resources Equipment:** Mike Nushawg asked what the status was of the survey equipment the Committee purchased earlier this year. Pete Reilly indicated that it was still sitting in his garage. He agreed to provide an inventory of what was included. Whenever the Committee is able to do more rock art recording or survey work, that equipment may be used. It was suggested that it might be stored at the BCC storage room, but reservations were expressed that too many people had access to that area and things could disappear. It was agreed to talk about it again after Pete submits the inventory.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 2:02 pm.

Future Activities

2 nd Thursdays	6:30pm – 8:30pm	FAFNM Board Meetings at BLM Office
3 rd Tuesdays	12:00pm – 2:00pm	Cultural Resources Committee at Deer Valley Petroglyph Preserve
7/16-17/2016	10:00am – 6:00pm	AZG&F Expo at West World in Scottsdale
7/30/2016	8:00am – 3:00pm	Bryan Lausten’s Photo Documentation of Arch Sites Workshop at BLM Offices
8/4-7/2016		Pecos Conference in Alpine, AZ
9/24/2016		FAFNM 2016 Annual Meeting (Location TBD)
9/29-10/2/2016		NCL Rendezvous in Las Vegas, NV
9/30-10/3/2016		URARA Conference in Delta, Utah

Bryan’s Planned Field Dates for Archaeological Surveys

(None scheduled at the moment.)

The next meeting will be Tuesday, July 19, 2016, time and location TBD.

Respectfully submitted,
Michael J. Hoogendyk