

Friends of the Agua Fria National Monument
Cultural Resource Committee (CRC) Meeting
Tuesday, September 20, 2016
BLM Phoenix District Office

MINUTES

Attendees: Connie Stone, Chairperson
Pete Reilly, Member
Trudy Mertens, Member
Peter Huegel, Member
Marie Davis, Member
Paul Sitzmann, BLM AFNM

Barbara Gronemann, Member
Shelley Rasmussen, Member
Mike Nushawg, Member
Larry Kraft, Member
Paul Vanderveen, Member

Call to Order: Connie Stone called the meeting to order at 12:05 pm.

Minutes: The minutes of August 17, 2016 were approved as corrected (correcting the name to the Black Canyon Heritage Park).

BLM Update: Paul Sitzmann provided an update and announced that Ron Tipton is the newly selected manager of the Agua Fria NM. Good news, it is a regular “permanent” position, not a temporary assignment.

The CRMP is in a holding pattern, since the BLM and the Tonto National Forest are now preparing separate environmental assessments for each agency. In the meantime, the BLM is preparing its annual work plans for Fiscal Year 2017 and will include the installation of barriers to better protect the Teskey site and others in the monument.

Paul reported that the BLM will get assistance from student interns to clean up graffiti near the Bloody Basin Road entrance and other locations. Hawk Thul will again be serving temporary duty as a ranger on the monument.

The BLM has been coordinating with the Black Canyon Heritage Park in developing interpretive panels for the park, which are currently in production.

In the Phoenix District, a National Public Lands Day event is scheduled for Saturday, October 29th in the Badger Springs area. It will include a trash cleanup and an installation of bat houses. Connie Stone is scheduled to lead a hike to the petroglyphs. There will also be an NPLD event at the Black Canyon Heritage Park on November 19th, which will focus on plantings.

There was some discussion of the urgent need to get our volunteer agreements in place by the start of the new fiscal year on October 1st. Paul reported that he is working with Lawrence Harper, the BLM volunteer coordinator, to finalize the paperwork, including the agreements, task descriptions, and safety assessments. He said that he would bring the agreements to the Friends annual meeting on Saturday, Sept. 24th, so that those attending the meeting could complete and sign their agreements. One highlighted aspect of the coverage is that BLM must have prior knowledge of the volunteer’s intent to be on the monument. Failure to provide that advanced notice to BLM will negate any insurance coverage should the volunteer have an accident.

FAFNM Board Update: Pete Reilly gave the FAFNM Board Update. There was not a quorum present. Major items are as follows:

1. **Board Nominations:** The Board will present nominations for vacant positions at the annual meeting on Sept. 24th. Nominees will likely include Jim Riggs for Treasurer, Mike Brouch for Secretary, and Larry Kraft and John Hathaway for Directors-at-Large.
2. **Las Vegas NCLS Rendezvous:** Tim Flood and Jim Riggs will attend the Conservation Lands Foundation rendezvous which will be held September 29 through October 2.
3. **Annual Meeting:** The meeting is scheduled for September 24th and will be at Horseshoe Ranch. Charles Pregler will be the featured speaker, giving a presentation on the historic Black Canyon sheep driveway and related features, including some that are known to exist (or may exist) in the Agua Fria NM. Mr. Pregler has assisted Margaret Hangan of the Kaibab National Forest in her efforts to prepare a thematic nomination for the National Register of Historic Places, which would cover archaeological features related to the sheep industry and sheep drives on both National Forest and BLM lands.
4. Connie Stone will present the committee report at the annual meeting. The committee members helped compile a list of accomplishments during the past year.

Perry Mesa Area Archaeological Happenings:

1. Nothing new presented.

Old Business:

1. **Public Outreach Event with High Desert Heritage Museum (HDHM):** Shelley Rasmussen and Mike Hoogendyk met again on September 7th with Cliff Hersted from Arcosanti and Sean von Ancken, Consanti Foundation Executive Assistant. The event will take place on Saturday, October 15th, starting with presentations at the Museum in Cordes Junction, with a “rain date” of October 22nd. Speakers, sponsors, tours and advertising are all underway and partially complete. Another planning meeting is scheduled for 9:00am on October 5th. The planning team has lined up committee volunteers to provide information and greet visitors at the Teskey Homestead, 1891 School House, Pueblo la Plata, and Badger Springs. The team will send out emails that detail the related schedules and procedures.
2. **Ceramics Class with Scott Wood:** This item is still pending. There was no new word on the status of it.
3. **Trip to Petrified Forest National Park on November 13, 2016:** After conducting a Doodle poll on potential dates for a tour of sites in the new portion of Petrified Forest National Park, while coordinating with park archaeologist Amy Schott, Sunday, November 13th was selected as the tour date that would be accessible for the most people. We would plan to drive to the area on Saturday, stay overnight at a hotel, and then do a six-hour tour of park sites on Sunday, returning to Phoenix afterward. Members discussed some specifics of the tour and considered several potential places to stay in Holbrook or Winslow. Additional planning will take place at the October meeting.

New Business: The committee will be on the lookout for messages from the State Historic Preservation Office regarding the planning and scheduling of activities during Arizona Archaeology Month in March 2017, to determine how best we can participate. The Archaeology Expo will be held on March 11, 2017 at the Himdag Ki/Tohono O’Odham Cultural Center and Museum, which is on the Tohono O’Odham Nation west of Tucson.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 1:55 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 BLM Office
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 at 12:00pm, Tuesday, October 18, 2016, at the BLM Offices on N 7th Avenue in Phoenix.

Respectfully submitted,
Connie Stone