

Friends of the Agua Fria National Monument
Cultural Resource Committee (CRC) Meeting
Tuesday, December 15, 2015
Deer Valley Petroglyph Preserve. 3711 W. Deer Valley Road, Glendale, AZ

MINUTES

Attendees: Connie Stone, Member/Chair
Chris Reed, Visitor
Shelley Rasmussen, Member
Larry Kraft, Member
Mike Nushawg, Member
Angela Huster, BLM Temp Archaeologist
Bryan Lausten, BLM Monument Archaeologist
Trudy Mertens, Member
Pete Reilly, Member
Larry Ross, Member
Peter Huegel, Visitor (DVPP)

Call to Order: Connie Stone called the meeting to order at 12:03 pm.

Minutes: The minutes of November 17, 2015 were approved.

BLM Update: Angela Huster gave the BLM update. Her temporary detail with BLM was extended for 30 days, into January. Her primary focus is supporting the CRMP process for the grazing allotment that encompasses much of the Monument. Angela has been conducting surveys of proposed locations of range facilities. The related environmental assessment may be out for public review in mid-January.

Bryan Lausten arrived late during the meeting. He plans to develop a schedule for resuming fieldwork in January. No update was available regarding the possibility of replacing the gate at the entrance to Black Mesa at Sunset Point.

FAFNM Board Update: Pete Reilly and Angela Huster provided updates from the Board. The Board is requesting write-ups and photos of volunteer activities and accomplishments. Shelley Rasmussen supplied information on the recent installation of the new interpretive sign about rock art at the Horseshoe Ranch.

The organization established an arrangement with Xerox for the use of a copying/scanning machine. The agreement involved a purchase of ink for the equipment, which is currently housed at Sarah Striker's residence. The machine will be available for use by the committees.

Striker and others are working to finish an application for a grant from the National Environmental Education Foundation to support public educational events. FAFNM would be obligated to stage three events, including at least one on the monument lands. The Board envisions holding an "Agua Fria Days" celebration, likely in April 2016. The Cultural Resources Committee would help support the effort through its activities during Arizona Archaeology Awareness Month (see item 2. below, under Old Business).

FAFNM is hosting a training session on January 9, 2016 for three new crews that will assist the BLM in patrolling roads and other areas in the monument (separate from the monitoring activities of the Cultural Resource committee and Site Stewards). Cultural committee members are welcome to volunteer and attend the training. Other events may include a trash cleanup near Sunset Point on January 23.

Volunteer hours may now be registered on the FAFNM web site. Once entered, the member will receive an email confirmation of the hours having been recorded.

Volunteers are urgently needed to work on the newsletter, web design and event planning. Contact the FAFNM President or Vice President to volunteer.

Perry Mesa Area Archaeological Happenings: Mike Nushawg has been working with Lila Elam for a smooth transition in taking over her role as the Site Stewards' Regional Coordinator for the Agua Fria Region.

Old Business:

1. **Project Archaeology:** Trudy Mertens provided an overview of this educational program for teachers developed by the BLM and its partners. She has reviewed several of the lessons on the web site at projectarchaeology.org., and believes that we could adapt them for public outreach, especially the lessons dealing with petroglyphs. Connie Stone has been in touch by email with Jeanne Moe, the national program coordinator, who had a meeting in November with the Maricopa Community College System, which may be interested in helping to revive the program in Arizona. Connie will contact Jeanne regarding the results of a follow-up meeting in December between Project Archaeology and community college staff.
2. **2016 Arizona Archaeological Awareness Month:** Shelley coordinated with the SHPO staff on our behalf to ensure that the event calendar will include a hike to the Badger Springs Petroglyphs on March 12, 2016. She also checked about having a Cultural Committee table at Casa Grande National Monument for the Archaeology Expo which will take place on March 5, 2016. The form for that event is due to SHPO by February 1st.
3. **Equipment Purchases Per New Budget:** Pete Reilly has begun to purchase the equipment for fieldwork, as approved by the Board.
4. **Geocaching Links:** No new report. Although there was a reported geocache at the School House Site, none were found there during the recent cleanup.
5. **1891 School House Cleanup:** Volunteers completed the cleanup of vegetation at the School House site on Monday, December 7th. Shelley Rasmussen, Larry Kraft, Marie Davis, Mike Hoogendyk and Angela Huster succeeded in cutting the plant growth back from the site. The volunteers suggested a need to make this an annual event.
6. **FAFNM Membership Forms:** no new report.
7. **Coordination with Friends of the TNF CRC:** Trudy Mertens reported that Scott Wood conducted a training session for volunteers at Seven Springs, prior to starting surveys in the area of the Rosalie sites on the Tonto National Forest portion of Perry Mesa. Wood is coordinating with Dr. David Abbott of ASU, who has conducted research for several ASU projects on the AFNM. FAFNM Cultural Resource folks should contact Scott at JScottWood@aol.com if they want to participate.
8. **Timeline for history of CRC major events:** Hoogendyk, Stone, and other committee members provided information on major committee events through its history, which will help the Board update the FAFNM website.
9. **BCC Heritage Center Rock Art Interpretive Information:** Stone provided some draft write-ups about AFNM rock art (and petroglyphs in general) to a committee that is developing exhibits for the interpretive center at the Heritage Park. The draft was shared with committee members through email. Not much feedback yet from the Heritage Park, except that they may request some higher resolution photos than Stone can provide, such as a photo of the William H. Perry and Masonic symbol petroglyphs.
10. **Other:** Rasmussen brought four metal signs, developed in association with the Site Steward Program, and gave them to Pete Reilly for installation at any sites as approved by Bryan Lausten.

New Business: None, except a reminder to continue reporting volunteer hours.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 1:15 p.m.

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
3/5/2016	9am – 4pm	AZ Archaeological Expo, Casa Grande Ruins Natl. Mon.
3/12/2016		Badger Springs Archaeology Month Activity
5/27-30/2016		ARARA Annual Conference, Las Cruces, NM

Bryan's Planned Field Dates for Archaeological Surveys

(Will be updated at the January, 2016 meeting)

The next meeting will be Tuesday, January 19, 2016, Noon to 2:00 pm, at the Deer Valley Petroglyph Preserve, 3711 W. Deer Valley Road, Glendale.

Respectfully submitted,
Connie Stone