

**Nez Perce Trail Foundation**  
**Spring Board Meeting**  
**WSU Visitor Center, Pullman Washington**  
**May 8, 2009**

**Roll Call:** Jim Evans, Charlie Moses, Lynn Fleming, Myrna Tovey, Dick Seymour, Carolynne Merrell, Ruth Wapato, Paul Wapato, Linda Fleming, Margaret Moses, Mike Seale, Bernadine Ellenwood.

**Invited Partner and guests:** Scott Eckberg, NPS, Harold Pfeiffer, Mary Collins, Director of the WSU Anthropological Museum.

**President Moses called the meeting to order at 10:15 AM.**

In his opening remarks, President Moses thanked Mary Collins for arranging for our meeting space. In the context of collecting artifacts, the President expressed the need to leave artifacts where they are found rather than to take them or disturb them for any purpose. Mary Collins, welcomed the group to WSU and expressed pleasure to see so many WSU alumni in attendance.

**Report of Secretary**

A motion was made (Dick Seymour) and seconded (Mike Seale) to approve the minutes of the last meeting as submitted. The motion was unanimously approved.

**Report of Treasurer**

This report is for the second quarter of FY 2009, Jan 1- Mar 31, 2009. The beginning balance in all accounts was \$22,072.70 and the ending balance was \$12,172.99 for a net outflow of \$9,899.71. The current balance on hand in the checking and savings accounts combined is \$9062.00. The new FY 2009 Challenge Cost Share Agreement has been finalized and signed and the Foundation has submitted the first reimbursement request for general operations from October 1, 2008 – April 30, 2009 in the amount of \$25,127.00. A motion was made (Paul Wapato) and seconded (Myrna Tovey) to accept the treasurer's report. The motion was unanimously approved.

**Task Force Reports or Standing Committees**

**Website** - Carolynne Merrell and Linda Fleming reorganized and edited the Link page which had become excessively long. The proposed "streamlining" and removal of links not related to the Nez Perce Trail, met with the approval and enthusiasm of the meeting attendees. The addition of the Virtual Google Tour is progressing and will soon be in place on the site. The organization of Photos for the Gallery Page continues to be a work in progress.

**Membership** – Ruth Wapato continues to get great results from her note reminders for those in arrears with their membership dues. Most welcome her notes with a positive response.

**Report of Executive Director**

Announced the approved budget by the Forest Service for the fiscal year 2009 Cost Share Projects by the Foundation. The Foundation received a \$2800 increase for projects over last year's award.

MOU with Appaloosa Horse Club

A Power Point presentation directed to the Club was presented by Carolynne Merrell. In response to discussions Merrell had with the CEO and the Trail Director for the Club, CEO Steve Taylor, sent a letter expressing support for the work of the Foundation and mutual interests without a formal MOU. Based on

receipt of this letter and subsequent discussion the consensus was that a formal MOU will not be pursued at this time.

#### Old fort Henry/gold Loop Scenic Byway

The Old Fort Henry /Gold Loop Scenic Byway was informed by the Idaho Department of Lands that they were going to charge the Byway a \$275 per year lease fee for the use of the Camas Meadows site which is on state land. The Byway group has ask for Foundation help in addressing this problem with the state. As a member of the Byway group advisory committee it is in the best interest of the Foundation to provide assistance. The Idaho State Historic preservation Office has been advised of the problem.

**Motion:** A motion was made (Paul Wapato) to direct the Executive Director to act as an advocate for the Foundation, to seek the withdrawal of any charge by the state levied on the Old Fort Henry/Gold Loop Scenic By Way Committee. This motion was seconded (Carolynne Merrell) and unanimously approved.

#### Project Updates

On June 6, 2009 the Appaloosa Museum with have an open house and dedicate three signs recently installed on Museum Grounds. Dick Seymour, Carolynne Merrell and Bernie Ellenwood will represent the Foundation at this event.

Other sign dedications are scheduled for Lewistown MT on May 27, 2009. Dates remain to set for Cody WY-Clark Canyon, and Camas Meadows east of Dubois. Jim requests attendance by Foundation members at these dedications.

Construction of the Birch Creek Kiosk is schedule for the first part of June.

Planning continues for recently approved 2009 Projects that include James Kip State Park, Riverside MT Park Laurel, MT, and Howard Springs-Targhee Pass, ID.

The project for the Yellowstone Park Teachers In-Service Program is scheduled for the last week of July. More information will be forthcoming.

#### **National Partners Meeting - July 11-15, 2009**

Jim Evans will continue to keep us informed via email with details for the meeting and how foundation members can help during the conference. From a show of hands of those intended to attend, it appears the foundation will be well represented at the meeting.

**Trading Post** – A motion was made (Lynn Fleming) and seconded (Dick Seymour) to spend \$500 to purchase merchandise to the trading post. It was unanimously approved.

**Dug Bar** – Dick Seymour expressed frustration over the lack of information and activity on the part of the NPS and the Forest Service to move ahead with interpretive signs for the site. The Foundation project to work on signs for Dug Bar was denied by the Forest Service.

#### **Evaluation of the Executive Director**

President Charlie Moses has tabled the evaluation pended the approval of a Performance Evaluation Form by the Executive Committee and the Director.

#### **Salary increase for the Executive Director**

A motion was made (Carolynne Merrell) and seconded (Dick Seymour) to make the Director's \$150 a month salary increase retroactive to Oct. 1, 2008.

#### **Strategies and Goals for 2009-2011**

A committee to prepare this document will include Paul Wapato (Chair), Myrna Tovey, Dick Seymour, and Linda Fleming.

**2009 Annual Meeting**

A motion was made (Carolynne Merrell) and seconded (Lynn Fleming) to hold the meeting in Pendleton, Oregon. It was unanimously approved. Ruth Wapato suggested arranging for Clifford Trafzer to be the keynote speaker.

**Remark by NPS Partner**

Scott Eckberg reported on the recent news from the NPNHP, highlighting the selection of Steve Black as the new Superintendent at Big Hole National Battlefield. Scott also mentioned the camas monitoring and education project which is continuing at Weippe Prairie, and the new interior exhibits at the Big Hole National Battlefield to be completed in 2010. Another major improvement for the archives at Spalding are the newly installed storage units for the collection storage areas which doubles the current available storage area. Scott's advice and comments on various topics made in the course of the business meeting were greatly appreciated.

**Adjournment**

A motion was made (Dick Seymour) and seconded (Mike Seale) to adjourn the meeting. It was unanimously approved.

**Respectfully Submitted,**

Carolynne Merrell