

Nez Perce Trail Foundation
 Winter Board Meeting
 January 14, 2009
 via Telephone Conference Call

Board Members on Call: Charlie Moses Jr., Lynn Fleming, Linda Fleming, Jeff Fee, Mike Seale, Paul Wapato, Ruth Wapato, Dick Seymour, Jim Evans

Invited Partner and Guest: Scott Eckberg NPS, Ron Hall

President Moses called the meeting to order at 12:10PM, Pacific Time.

A general greeting was given to all those on the call. In his opening remarks, President Moses reviewed two points from an email he previously sent to the Executive Board. He expressed the need for the Nez Perce Trail to be actively represented by the Foundation, at the upcoming National Scenic and Historic Trails meeting in Missoula this July. The second directive was to extend the job of the recording secretary to review and edit as necessary, all written material generated by the Executive Director.

Report of Secretary

A motion was made (Carolynne Merrell) and seconded (Dick Seymour) to approve the minutes of the Annual Meeting as submitted by acting recording secretary, Linda Fleming. The motion was unanimously approved.

Report of Treasurer

The detailed report of the treasurer is on file with the minutes. A brief statement from the treasurer is as follows:

This is a brief summary of three financial reports: two quarterly reports and the annual report for FY 2008.

<u>Quarterly reports</u>	<u>FY 08-4th Qtr</u>	<u>FY 09-1st Qtr</u>
Beginning Balance	\$16,927	\$36,121
Income	\$37,991	\$ 7,385
Expenses	<u>\$18,797</u>	<u>\$21,462</u>
Ending Balance	\$36,121	\$ 22,073

FY2008 Annual Report

For FY 08 income was \$70,999 and expenses were \$59,493 for a carry-forward balance of \$11,506. The bulk of expense categories as a percentage of total expenses were: salary- 45%, Ex. Dir. Travel-14%, Projects-15%, Office-8%, Meetings (including the Partners meeting)-6% and Printing-6%).

FY 2009

The income for FY 09 so far includes the final payment of \$6,118 from the Forest Service Challenge Cost Share (CCS) grant. The new CCS grant for FY 09 is still in process and will probably not be available until about April. Currently the Forest Service is operating on a continuation resolution, as Congress has not yet approved a new appropriation. The Foundation has requested continuation funding of \$3,000 per month during this interim period pending approval of the final grant.

A motion was made (Mike Seale) and seconded (Paul Wapato) to accept the treasurer's report. The motion was unanimously approved.

Task Force Reports or Standing Committees

Membership

Ruth Wapato was thanked for her efforts to remind delinquent members to pay their dues and for sending letters soliciting membership in the Foundation. Her postcard reminders have been very effective in increasing membership renewals.

Web Page

A report on the status of the Web Page was sent out by Chair, Carolynne Merrell. A request was made for ideas to improve the site. The Gallery page with photographs is under construction by members of the task force, Linda Fleming and Paul Wapato. Great care will be given not to place photos on the site that may be insensitive to any culture group. Merrell will contact Dennis King who has an archive of historic photographs that could possibly be used on the Gallery page.

Report of the Executive Director Jim Evans

Jim summarized the detailed reports sent to board members prior to this meeting.

Highlights of 2008 - Jim states that there will be several sign dedications coming up this spring based on Foundation signs now installed or in the process of installation. The first dedication will be at the Appaloosa Horse Museum in March.

Project Proposal Summary for 2009 - The various project proposals were discussed. The Dug Bar proposal was of special concern. Scott Ekberg provided informative comments for a better understanding of the possibilities for this site. Treasurer Lynn Fleming questioned a discrepancy in some of the budget figures. This will be resolved by Jim Evans and Lynn Fleming.

A motion was made (Carolynne Merrell) and seconded (Dick Seymour) to accept the 2009 Project Proposals.

Old Business

National Trails Meeting July 16-19, 2009 - Jim Evans is in charge of the field trips. He will lead one through the Bitterroot Valley following the Nez Perce route to the Big Hole where they will dedicate the site for the Foundation's West Entrance Project. Margaret Gorski with the FS will lead another trip in the Lolo Pass area. Carolynne Merrell has volunteered to lead a small group or two before or after the meeting along the Nez Perce Trail and Lewis and Clark Trail on the eastern sections of the Clearwater National Forest. Jim will provide details as they become available.

Hike the Hill dates are February 20-26. Jim Evans will represent the Foundation.

New Business

Raise for the Executive Director -Proposed in the 2009, operating budget submitted to the Forest Service is an item to increase the salary of the Executive Director by \$300 per month. President Moses approved the initial request, but the Executive Board should approve a salary increase. Executive Board Members were asked to send their thoughts regarding this proposal via email to President Charlie Moses who will ask for a vote following the opportunity for members to weigh in with their comments. This process will be conducted via email and phone-calls. He will then announce the outcome of the vote.

Visitor Ron Hall presented a potential program to make, available over the internet, an interactive travel log of segments of the Nez Perce Trail. This could potentially be incorporated into the Foundation web site as an added feature. He will discuss this option in detail with Carolynne Merrell who will report back to the Board at the next meeting.

The Foundation is pleased to have a MOU with the National Park Service
Report from Scott Eckberg NPS

Scott reported on a phone call with Sandi McFarland, NPNHT Administrator, that a committee has been set up to review the Trail Challenge Cost Share Proposals for 2009. She also says the desk planners have been shipped from the printers and will soon be sent out. The Foundation always receives a large number for Jim to distribute. In addition, the new Nez Perce Historic Trail sales map is expected to be ready by this summer. Sandi suggested that a Partners meeting could be held in conjunction with the 12th Conference on National Scenic and Historic Trails in July.

Park News -

The announcement has gone out for a new Big Hole Superintendent. Robert Applegate will replace Mark Blackburn as interim Superintendent in February.

The park staff has had input into new signs for Tolo Lake.

The Environmental Assessment statement for Bear Paw is completed.

The next meeting will be held May 7, 2009 in Moscow, Idaho.

A motion to adjourn was made at 1:15PM, Pacific Time by Mike Seale and seconded by Jeff Fee. The motion was unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,
Carolynne Merrell

