

MINUTES
Nez Perce Trail Foundation Annual Membership and Board of Directors Meeting
October 9-10, 2009
Tamastslıkt Cultural Institute
Pendleton, Oregon

Welcome: President Charlie Moses, Jr., thanked all for coming.

We have assembled a very important group to discuss and to give us direction as to what we do on or along the trail for the next few years.

Thanks to Bobbie Conner, executive director, for use of this beautiful facility.

At the National Trails Meeting in Missoula, we were challenged to respect the Native American cultures that are the hosts for so many of our trails, which prompted gathering the speakers we will have later today. The National Geographic special on the National Parks had a comment by one of Rangers that all these parks is or were once occupied by the Indian people.

From these presentations, we will develop our recommendations for inclusion in the Forest Service Comprehensive Management plan for the Nez Perce Trail.

We have had a good year and Jim Evans has been very busy traveling along the trail and to Washington promoting the Trail(s). Thanks to Jim and Ruth Wapato, our membership continues to grow but more important we are not losing members. We still would like to have more members from the Federal sector, State employees, and Indian Tribes. Last but perhaps most important is to get members from the communities along the trail for after all it is their community that we need if we are going to perpetuate the trail.

Several years ago at Wallowa, we formally approved two priorities for us to work on and that was to mark the trail on the ground and to extend the trail to include the exile down to Oklahoma and the return of the Nez Perce and Palouse to the Northwest. We continue to work on those two priorities and I would suggest that we add a third priority and that is to get more people on the trail by arranging trips on the trail.

Frank Halfmoon sang and spoke a blessing for this meeting.

Anton Minthorne, Chairman of the Board of Trustees for the Umatilla Reservation, welcomed the Foundation to Tamastslıkt.

Invited Partners and Guests: Sandi McFarland NPNHT; Patrick Baird, Nez Perce Tribal Archaeologist; Terry O'Halloran, Chief of Interpretation, Nez Perce National Historic Park; and Stan Hoggatt, trail enthusiast and author

Annual Meeting Attendees:

Vera J. Sonneck, Louie Dick, Marie Dick, Patrick Baird, Ruth Wapato, Paul Wapato, Dick Seymour, Frank Halfmoon, Harold Pfeiffer, Gladys McIntyre, Charlie Moses, Margaret Moses, Tessie Williams, Virginia Roberts, Jeff Fee, Terry O'Halloran, Myrna Tovey, Jim Evans, Lynda Evans, Patrick Baird, Vera Sonneck, Ken Sonneck, Florence Davis, James Moffit, Sandi McFarland, Lynn Fleming, Linda Fleming

Report of Secretary

A **motion** was made by Margaret Moses and seconded by Paul Wapato to approve the minutes of the Annual Meeting of September 2008 that have been published. Motion passed.

Report of Treasurer

Treasurer reported 4th quarter inflows of \$3,493.35 and outflows of \$17,788.04 for a net change of -\$14,294.66. There is \$10,094 currently in the accounts.

Fiscal Year Total Income for Oct. 1, 2008 to Sept. 30, 2009 was \$38,236. There was an outflow of \$62,980 for a difference of -\$24,744. The pie chart shows the percentage breakdown of major income and expenditure categories.

Treasurer Fleming explained that our income lags our expenses due to the federal fiscal year, which determines when grant money comes to us from the Forest Service. Because of this lag in funding, we are in the midst of changing our fiscal year to start May 1 to April 30. Fleming and Executive Director Jim Evans are working through this with Sandi and her staff. Aligning our fiscal year with the reality of the CCS grant funding will make our financial reporting better reflect the actual situation.

A motion to approve the Treasurer's Report was made by Dick Seymour and seconded by Myrna Tovey. Motion passed.

AGENCIES REPORTS

Sandi McFarland, NPNHT Director

Jim Evans expressed appreciation for Sandi McFarland's help and stated that the partnership has been strengthened by the partnership. Sandi McFarland expressed her thanks for the outstanding work done on the trail by NPTF.

McFarland reported that the USFS budget for FY 10 is under continuing resolution until passed by Congress. In 2009, \$63,500 cost share dollars were granted to the Foundation. **FY 10 cost share applications must be postmarked by November 30th.**

The NPNHT website does not have the Cost Share applications under Grants and Agreements at this time. Watch for this item for which will explain what the cooperator needs to be doing to have a better understanding filling out cost share applications.

Sandi reported a number of positions that have been filled due to retirement or transfers. Among them is the new Public Affairs officer, Roger Peterson.

There are two new National trails: the Pacific NW Trail located in Region 6 and the Arizona Trail. These will not take away from our trail monies.

At the Interagency meeting a 10-year strategy for the trails for the 40th anniversary of the National Trails Partnership was adopted. Gary Werner will be working with all the trails to help get dollars to accomplish the three goals and objectives that have been assigned to the 10- year strategy.

Projects of the NPNHT office are: getting out quarterly progress reports on trail projects; a newly published poster entitled Nez Perce Homeland; auto brochures and flat map which have gone to reprint; draft of the East Yellowstone to Canyon Creek brochure circulated for comments; the next segment through Yellowstone National Park to be completed (**Foundation may be interested in partnering on this project**); a final brochure covering Canyon Creek to Cow Island and Bear Paw; the new desk planner is going to the printer, hopefully out before January. (Desk Planners will remain free until 2011. After that, Discover Your Northwest will be the sales outlet for the planners.); the final draft of administrative history will soon be in print; a new sales map which has been in the making for over 14 years has finally gone to the printer (also sold through Discover Your NW outlets). The map has an auto traveler's map on one side and a historical map of the trail on the flip side; developing Nez Perce Trails web-store with various sales items.

As part of the Comprehensive Management Plan in order to make revisions to the Community Involvement Plan (CIP), NPNHT will be hosting at least 12 public "Sensing" meetings to get a clear understanding from communities, tribes and others expectations for the use of the trail. Through this collaborative learning process, NPNHT hopes to empower the communities to be involved. **Charlie Moses suggested that Nspelem be added to the list of groups.**

Dan King, Lewis & Clark College, will be doing tribal interviews this winter for the video they are producing. Time is critical as elders are dying. In addition, there will be videotaping of various events on the trail in preparation of 20-30 min. videos for use in schools.

American Recovery Reinvestment Act (ARRA) appropriated 274 million dollars to the Forest Service to be spent through contracts or agreements, with the short-term goal of creating jobs and support in rural communities and training opportunities for youth. There are many opportunities for partnerships and contracting. Updates on projects will be posted on the website. At this time, the NPTF is unable to apply. An area of concern is the Holland acquisition, which is a parcel that might be subdivided into summer homes. It is 320 acres between Bloody Dick and Selway Creeks. NPNHT is collaborating with American Land Conservancy to try to stop this development. **The Foundation might want to look at this project.**

NPNHT Administration receives \$610,000 to administer the trail as a whole. Sandi has to create cost share program from these dollars (10% with \$30,000 max). The \$10,000 that goes to each region does not come to Sandi but goes directly to each of the regions directly from the federal government, so they do not have to account for this money to Sandi. Sandi has asked for this to be changed and suggested that if the Foundation is interested, to pursue it with Jonathan Stevens.

The new Public Affairs officer is located in Missoula and Sandi's position will probably move to Missoula in the spring.

Terry O'Halloran, Chief of Interpretation, Nez Perce National Historical Park, Spalding, ID

Gave an overview of park – 38 sites in 4 states. The NPNHP only owns nine of the sites; the rest are worked with cooperation of other partners and landowners including the tribes. The National Park Service has a new Director, John Jarvis, who has 36 years of park service experience.

A new exhibit at Spalding is a 47-foot mural by N. Williamson Cloud depicting the village at Spalding back around 1800 before European contact was dedicated recently. New compact storage units to provide more protection for the museum artifacts have been installed.

NPNHP projects going on for the next three years are:

- At Big Hole halfway through process of replacing exhibits there to be completed by end of 2010.
- Environmental assessment for visitor facilities at Bear Paw. Many comments from public hearings have caused a delay. In addition developing an audio tour with interpretation to be broadened to include all of the people, specifically the women and children.
- Trails and Rails program partnership with Amtrak started this year at Bear Paw and throughout the country. This program will be expanded to a second trip next year.
- Whitebird this summer – archaeological survey. Patrick Baird has been involved in analyzing and collating the findings. Possibility of finding more of the empty soldier's graves.
- Establishing a spur trail connecting the Old Chief Joseph cemetery with the new park site, Iwetemlaykin next door.
- Two sites brought up that need to be revisited – Camas Meadows and Nespelem.

Executive Director's Projects Report

2008 Projects:

- Completed and dedicated site at west entrance to Big Hole Battlefield. Dedication coincided with the 12th National Trails Conference.
- Department of Transportation kiosk at Camas Meadows (NPTF proration of the project is completed) is on hold until October 29, meeting to discuss the concerns raised about the project.
- Rest stop at Nespelem – Charlie reported prefabricated building has been built; foundation is set groundwork done. Our two standard signs, the 1877 War Trail and the Return from Exile are on site.

2009 Projects:

- Completed the installation of signage (Cow Island) at James Kipp recreational area.
- Riverside Park at Laurel will not be completed until spring.
- Targhee Pass, Howard Springs project – metal silhouettes – three signs on rocks in a natural setting. Meeting with those people next week to pick out the rocks. Hope to have it completed before snow flies. Holdup is interpretative signage in middle. Jim is working with Shoshone/Bannock people to iron out info.
- 12th PNTS Conference – which we shared co-sponsorship. We provided a field trip to Big Hole National Battle Field in combined with the dedication of Project at the west entrance.
- Yellowstone teacher in-service program – 16 middle and high school Teachers enrolled in the program through the University of San Diego, Sacramento extension, learned how to use the Traveling Trunk program in their classroom. President Charlie and Margaret Moses presented each night the Nez Perce viewpoint of what happen as the Nez Perce fled through Yellowstone. Each night at campfire the events of the day were discussed. Charlie’s viewpoints were a great addition to the understanding of the events.
- The Birch Creek Kiosk Project is 90% complete, again getting information for the interpretive signs is the hold up. Dedication is expected in the Spring.
- Bannock Pass Kiosk is also on hold awaiting interpretive sign from the Continental Divide Alliance.
- Work has been underway for the FY 10 projects.

Other Business

Motion - Replacement of Secretary – Carolyn Merrell has resigned as Secretary. She has been Secretary since 2005. Dick Seymour moved and Myrna Tovey seconded the motion to accept her resignation. Motion Passed.

Linda Fleming was appointed to finish the current term.

Motion - Myrna Tovey moved to adjourn at 11:30 a.m. to the 2009 Fall Board of Directors Meeting, and Margaret Moses seconded. Motion passed.

Adjournment to Fall BOD Meeting

2009 FALL BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

President Charlie Moses called the Fall BOD meeting to order.

Roll Call: President, Charlie Moses; Vice President, Dick Seymour; 2nd Vice President, Myrna Tovey; Treasurer, Lynn Fleming; Board Members: Paul Wapato, Ruth Wapato, Jeff Fee, Linda Fleming; Executive Director, Jim Evans

Report of the Secretary

Motion – Dick Seymour moved to approve the minutes of the Spring Board Meeting, May 8, 2009, Pullman, WA. Paul Wapato seconded the motion. Minutes were approved.

Report of the Treasurer

Financial report was given at the Membership Meeting and approved.

New Business

Paul Wapato suggested that we make the Desk Planner a sale item, and possibly make it a new membership and renewal incentive item at some cost to us. There was discussion regarding the cost and logistics. There is a possibility that we could negotiate a sole source contract by working out an agreement where Sandi pays the Foundation and we pay Harold Pfeiffer for his photographic work.

New Projects

Jim stated that we needed to prioritize our interpretive projects. There are opportunities for work on old signage that is inaccurate, insensitive and needs to be replaced.

Sandi McFarland gave a list of signs that need refurbishing or replacement and a list of sites that needed interpretation for our consideration for future projects.

Charlie mentioned that at Nespelem they are looking for funding for a life-size bronze statue of Chief Joseph. Sandi suggested talking to Christopher Douwes, DOT, and working with Gary Werner to get funding.

Appointment

Since Linda Fleming will be filling the secretarial position, the board recommended that Carolyn Merrell take Linda's position on the Board of Directors. **President Moses appointed Carolyn Merrell on the board to fill out Linda's board position.**

Jim reiterated the need for additional volunteer help from board members and handed out a self-evaluation sheet for each member to consider.

Motion to Adjourn:

Myrna Tovey moved and Paul Wapato seconded the motion to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 12:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Linda Fleming

The TAMASTSLIKT Cultural Institute served lunch

Afternoon Panel Presentations

Cultural Preservation Panel Presentation moderated by Charlie Moses

Tess Williams, Vera Sonneck, Ruth Wapato, Frank Halfmoon and Louie Dick told both moving and humorous personal stories expressing the influence of Nez Perce culture in their lives.

Trail Panel Presentation moderated by Paul Wapato

Stan Hoggatt: We all want to protect and preserve pristine areas, for example, some parts of the trail route up into Hoodoo Basin. There is no controlled access into this environment so artifacts are at risk. Native American groups need to take more ownership of trail interpretation in these areas. Yellowstone is most significant in getting a sense of the trials and tribulations of the Indians in the 80 miles in the park where they traveled.

Dick Seymour: We need to preserve the trail by marking it on the ground especially on public land. Very few miles of public land are actually marked. We must get down and walk the trail.

Terry O'Halloran: There have to be different levels of protection of the trail – cooperation has to be the underlying basis of what is done with all the groups involved. We need to find out ways to work with landowners to protect these critical parts of the trail. Patience is required.

As an interpreter of the trail, a critical part is the why along with the who. The public needs to have a good understanding of what led to the flight of 1877, the 1855 and 1863 treaty. Throughout the trail there has to be reminders of why this trail exists. The greater the understanding the easier will be the protection of the trail.

Patrick Baird: The public is one of the most important things we need to involve to protect the trail. When the trail is marked, it must be done in a way that protects the resources. Be careful on archaeological areas that can be damaged

James Monteith: The land trust works on the private lands that are problematic. They have worked with all three tribes and the ranchers completing easement on the Wolf Ranch, land that was used as a summer camp where Old Chief Joseph died. It is considered the “center of the universe” in Wallowa County. They are working on a 150-acre easement through the Wolf Ranch to let the rivers be rivers again. The landowners will be contributing to the restoration.

The Iwetemlaykin Dedication tomorrow by Wallowa Lake is where the beginning of the trail is. It is documented where the Nez Perce decided to leave their land. Indian Ridge is where the meetings were held. The trail connects with the beginning of the story of the exodus. It starts at Indian Ridge and the top 2-½ miles of the river that connects to Wallowa Lake. This is the section of the river that the sockeye will go through if they are brought back to the lake.

Jeff Fee: Preservation means passing on the tradition to the young people. The PNTS apprentice program is an example. We need to get our youth to carry out the preservation. He has some ideas of how we can do that.

YELLOWSTONE PARK RESEARCH

Stan Hoggatt discussed his research on the Nez Perce in Yellowstone Park and shared maps of Yellowstone Plateau across the Bazooka Divide and Clarks Fork Canyon. He outlined the research done at the National archives to understand where the Nez Perce went in Yellowstone Park. He also presented a PowerPoint demonstration of his research, which will be available on DVD.

NPTF Annual Mtg10/9.09