

Saturday Oct 24 2014  
11:00 am  
Stage Stop Event Center

IOCTA 2014 Fall Meeting

Attending

Jerry Eichhorst  
Bill Wilson  
Lyle Lambert  
Dan & Jeri Dunne  
Marge & Lynn Howdyshell  
Doug Jenson  
Donna & Dave Newberry  
Frank Norris, National Trails Systems Historian in NPS  
Wally Myers  
Katherine Kirk, IHT  
Michael Anselme  
Afton Patrick  
Peggy Cristobal  
Nancy & John Briggs

**Minutes of May 3 meeting** approved by E Mail

**Financial Report** by Bill Wilson. Motion to approve by Doug Jenson, seconded by Donna Newberry after a discussion on financial history. Approved.

**Old Business** by Jerry, Wally and ? Peggy

Remarked Kelton Road east of Canyon Creek  
Replaced John D Henderson grave interpretive sign near Vale  
Update on Gateway West transmission project by Wally. Current information available on BLM website. Open house was held on Oct 7<sup>th</sup> at BLM Boise office. Discussion emphasized the need to use existing corridors as much as possible.

Canyon Creek Stage Station preservation plan and cost estimates are being developed. Stabilization work has begun. Katherine Kirk explained the role Idaho Heritage Trust is playing with respect to this project (matching IOCTA contribution). Check of \$2000 presented to IHT. Frank asked if there had been a full estimate of what it would take to complete walls and roof, no windows.

**Action** Kathy will get the information from the mason working on the restoration.

More money will be needed and two suggestions were made regarding ways to encourage more donations. It was proposed that IOCTA would match

personal contributions and these could in turn be matched by Idaho Heritage Trust or Idaho Humanities Council with successful grant applications? Personal checks to be sent to Bill Wilson for IOCTA. Motion made by Donna, Seconded by Dan Dunne and approved.

Wally noted that houses were being built in the area and asked if there had been any archaeological work done round the Stage Station. **Action** Jerry to ask the family if they know of any archaeological work done.

**OCTA 2014 National Convention** updates by Doug Jenson and John Briggs

### **OCTA Board Meeting** (Doug)

Overland Journal is being digitized and is now 75% complete. It will be available to on OCTA website free to members and for a fee to others.

News from the Plains will be available on request as a PDF.

The 2014 National Historic Trails Workshop will be held in SLC, October 27<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup>.

OCTA finances look a little bleak. Expenses, though reduced, still exceeded income in large part as a result of below budget revenues from 2013 convention and because membership is declining. In August 2007 there were 1687 members. In July 2014 this had declined to 1386.

Candy Moulton is stepping down from News from the Plains.

There are NO books in the pipeline. Submissions needed.

Otis Halfmoon is retiring from his trails consultative position at NPS. Chief of Trail Operations, Sharon Brown will retire early next year.

Oregon auto tour route guide is in process. Public Draft should be available next summer.

National Preservation Office was elected. We need to ensure he knows who our Preservation Officers are. **Action** Nancy will ensure these are listed on our OCTA portal.

Mapping Emigrant Trails, MET, Manual printed and available on line.

### **Convention Observations** (John and Nancy)

a. The keynote speaker was unable to attend and we already recognize that this is a problem we may face. Kearney solved it by shuffling one speaker from afternoon to morning and replacing her spot with an interesting panel discussion. This actually worked quite well but, as we have already discussed, is not ideal.

b. We, and many others, arrived by car in the evening (in our case at 6:05 pm). The Registration Desk was closed. Again - something we have already discussed - on the first evening it should remain open until (say) 8:00 pm.

c. We might look to do a little better job on giveaways in the Registration 'bag'.

d. The hotel needs to be ready for a breakfast 'rush' on the first day.

A buffet, such as we are proposing, would have helped solve this problem. Dietary needs were taken into account in the packed lunches but not in the buffets.

e. The registration form should cover just one person at a time. Managing fee paying and ticket distribution was quite a task given that many registrations were for multiple people. Minor example - I received a gluten free boxed lunch because I had marked that Nancy needed such on our registration form. She was happy but the Nebraska Registration team really found their job complicated by the registration form with multiple names.

f. Timing on Day 1 and Day 2 was not well managed and, indeed, led to chaos on the day of the tours - made that much worse by the fact that communication of tour details was not well communicated. An announcement board in the 'tables' area might help.

g. Management of the audio visual facilities in the room was not well planned and contributed to some of the delays that took place. Requirements need to be established well in advance and practice runs made where possible. Lighting needs to be coordinated as well!

h. Initial welcome should include a statement about phones being switched off!

i. Microphone management of questions was arbitrary. We should aim for roving mics and have someone responsible for that task.

j. The registrations were all initially recorded by HQ. They copied that information to the Chapter but apparently that process resulted in some illegible registrations. Some ticketing went awry as a result.

k. Meal information was on tiny tickets. Better if it were on the name tag. This is another matter to take up with HQ.

## **New Business**

Election of Directors. Dave Taylor and Lyle Lambert terms were completed and both agreed to stand again. Both were re-elected by the meeting.

(You noted that Suzi may not be able to stand for VP next year given she no longer lives in Idaho)

Jerry proposed a slate of activities for 2015 which was agreed by all and included

March – Community Education Classes

April 18 - Byway tour

May 9 – IOCTA Spring Meeting (changed from May 2)

Sep 20 – 26 – OCTA Convention South Tahoe

Preview proposed convention tours

Install additional trail route markers as needed

Investigate new OT route North of Vale

Remark OT from Farewell Bend State Park over hill

Replace missing byway signs

**Meeting was adjourned at 12:00 noon.**

Afternoon visits were made to the Ditto Creek junction of the Main Oregon Trail and Goodale's Cutoff and to Canyon Creek Stage Station.

