

U. S. David Thompson Bicentennial Partnership, Inc.

Board of Directors Meeting

Tuesday, March 20, 2007, 9:30 a.m.

Idaho Panhandle National Forests Supervisor's Office, Coeur d'Alene, Idaho

PRESENT: Becky Timmons, Larry Merriam, Lynne Brougher, Steve Matz, Kris Major, Keith Petersen, Alana Mesenbrink, Joseph Rocheleau, Nancy Renk, Loretta Stevens, Steve Klatt, Denny DeMeyer, Delores DeMeyer, Ann Ferguson.

MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING. Kris Major corrected spelling of Marsha Rooney's name. Kris moved that minutes be approved with correction; Steve seconded; approved.

TRAVELING TRUNKS. Those who have trunks include Becky, Joseph, Kris, and Steve M. (his trunk is on Lewis & Clark but could be transformed to cover DT). Those planning or working on trunks include Alana and Lynne. Availability of these trunks is limited. Joseph's trunk goes with him and includes borrowed items. Steve also has to go with his trunk. Becky's trunk is large and needs to be picked up and returned to FS. Lynne wants to design one to be mailed out anywhere. Most are used locally. Alana has 2 L&C trunks that can be converted to DT; one stays at visitor's center and other can travel if picked up. Becky says 40+ items in Salish-Kootenai trunk will be complete this year.

Actions: Becky will send list of trunk items to all board members; list will include costs of items. Those with trunks will email lists to Becky.

Steve K. would like to see committee develop several trunks for teachers to use. He sees this as lasting legacy for bicentennial; could be used as teaching aid for years. Becky sees ideal of DT trunks with different themes – survey, trade, everyday materials, etc. Then teachers could decide what part of story they want to emphasize and take that trunk. Need good written materials to go with trunk to help teachers. Army Corps had national committee that developed trunk and materials. Kris thinks we need to make trunk broader and cover fur trade in NW since teachers don't know who DT was and won't bother with a DT trunk.

Most state historical societies have traveling trunk program so maybe we need to work with them. Keith noted that Idaho has pretty good trunk program already with curriculum, shipping staff, etc. He suggests listing available trunks on website; they had brochure of such trunks for L&C. Keith suggests that we should emphasize the promotion of the available trunks. Lynne's trunks are geared for elementary school and they come with curriculum. She has staff and money to ship.

Action: Becky will call Jane at L&C center in Great Falls to see if she wants to get involved.

Action: Becky, Alana, Lynne, and Larry will form subcommittee to look at options, prices, shipping options, working with Jane, adding trunks to website.

Reminder: One of sessions at June meeting in Helena will be on traveling trunks; please bring them so we can see and discuss this further then.

PLANNING FORUM FOR JUNE. Alana reported that Rich got \$2,500 grant to help with the 2-day conference, June 15-16. Loretta passed around draft agenda, also available on website. Becky requests news release about conference. Anyone can attend either day, but first day is geared to educators.

Action: Alana or Rich will send hotel information soon. Book as soon as possible due to limited availability.

Action: Alana will send conference information to Ross to forward to his list.

Next meeting. Thursday evening, June 14, before the conference in Helena. Larry suggests making it an international meeting.

Action: Alana will make arrangements and let us know.

VIDEO PROJECT. Lincoln Co. Commissioners funded Kootenai Falls portage segment. Becky said they did not get funding from FS but did get funding for ground penetrating radar project on fur post site on Kootenai National Forest; will partner with Canadian parks. Larry said George Sibley has started filming, with aerial shots in Canada, including Blaeberry crossing. He will then start back east and work his way west. He wants to pull out a 10-minute segment for educational purposes. Selkirk Loop has applied for 3 different segments. Parks Canada will have some. Need \$120,000 for 1-hour film; this amount does not include vignettes. Larry would like general letter of support for the film concept to show they have support. George will need filming permits and fees for work in National Parks. Ann reported that the Coeur d'Alene Tribe is still looking into doing its own video project. We will be happy to support that one, too.

Action: Keith will write letter of support for Sibley video project.

"200 Years Ago" Items For Papers And Radio. During L&C there were 2-such projects in Idaho; took a lot of money to do them. Joseph will do a monthly blurb for the website, picking one day for an excerpt from the journals. This idea met with approval and thanks from committee. These could be read on local radio if wanted.

Action: Joseph will start with April column, getting it to Ross for website.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT. Since committee had not met, they conducted a brief meeting within the general meeting. Those board members with one-year terms are Rich, Margaret, Carol, Alana, Mac, Keith, Nancy, and Becky. Those with two-year terms are Lynne, Dianna, Ann, Steve, Kris, Joseph, Cliff, and Loretta. We will keep all eight of the two-year members. New people will serve two-year terms. Kris nominated Denny and Delores. Nancy is going off board and the Denny-Delores team will replace her. The committee

discussed the issue of quorum – the more board members we have, the larger the number needed for quorum. Committee will present slate at June general membership meeting. Kris volunteered to be secretary; she will start at June meeting.

Action: Keith will contact 1-year people to see if they want to continue to serve. Committee will prepare slate of nominees.

TREASURER'S REPORT. Becky has all of Vicky's records now, so records are complete. She passed around spread sheet with recent activity. Balance is \$1,745. Ann brought two more checks (total of \$70), making current total of \$1,815. Denny and Delores also raised another \$250.00 from Professional Land Surveyors of Oregon for the conference in June. Steve moved that we accept treasurer's report, Kris seconded. Denny corrected one donor's name to the Museum of Surveying instead of Michigan Surveyors Society. Report was approved as amended. Becky also reported that she has letters showing that we are now in compliance with State of Montana and IRS.

STATE/CANADA REPORTS: CANADA. Larry brought a wide variety of materials to show committee, including items to sell; brochures; half-size panels for traveling exhibit on DT; draft of driving tour. He showed photo purported to be DT, from 1927 paper, but not authenticated yet. He reported that the inventory for Kootenay House is completed; work confirmed location of site. The report includes names of both traders and Indians who visited Kootenay House. Rocky Mt. House is being reconstructed and will have part reopened. Lots of little things are happening.

IDAHO. Ann reported that the museum will unveil new Kullyspel House exhibit at Samowen campground on May 26 at 1:30. Jack Nisbet will talk at 2:00 on "Canoes and Culture." Mark Weadick and Steve Matz will bring items to show. Museum got grant from FS to make multiple copies of exhibit. Museum is also updating the driving tour booklet with Jack doing DT materials. Sylvie White, a local cartographer, is working with museum and may produce DT map for N. Idaho area.

Keith reported that ISHS had asked for \$500,000 in federal funding. The bill will need to be reintroduced this session and there is a good chance it will pass. State had \$50,000 as matching funds; some of this went to BCHS for driving tour. Keith is hopeful that we will get some funding for DT. Money would be available in 2008.

Steve talked with Katie Junget. She would be happy to help with website.

WASHINGTON. Lynne reported that a group out of Chelan, with backing of Chelan Port District, is proposing water trail from border to Hanford Reach. Lake Roosevelt will be involved to certain extent. Brochure will promote non-motorized boating and DT. NPS is keeping Mark Weadick busy; he will do encampment at Kettle Falls around July 28. They are building up to 2011 bicentennial. Kettle Falls Historical Society also wants to be involved.

Kris reported that Marsha Rooney is still working hard on the traveling exhibit "The Mapmakers Eye, David Thompson on the Columbia Plateau" sponsored by various state, provincial, regional and national surveying organizations and societies. It will be ca. 450 square feet. Fee will be ca. \$500 for 12 weeks; can go anywhere in US. Marsha informed Denny & Delores that it will be done and ready to travel by July 1. In addition, Kris said that Mac got \$50,000 from State Parks to redo interpretive portion at Spokane House. He will redo exhibits as well as walking tour outside. DT will be big part of this.

Denny and Delores have been attending surveyors' meetings in 4 states. They have put together a collection of surveying instruments and material on David Thompson and have made exhibit to take with them. It uses Andy Korsos' map which shows breadth of DT's travels. They got commitments from MT and OR surveyors for \$250 per year for annual DT meeting. Surveyors will come up with own brochure to accompany traveling exhibit to emphasize surveying. Denny would like to see trunks used in connection with traveling exhibit.

MONTANA. Alana has money to upgrade exhibits and trunk.

Joseph continues to get positive response from county wanting to work with us. They want more DT brochures. He continues to do PowerPoint presentations and presentations to schools, especially smaller ones now. He's working with 4-H and brought prototypes of sewing project (NW Co. flag) or woodworking project (colonial-style lantern made with pegs). Joseph has directions for flag and lantern.

Loretta has been researching DT to do article for newsletter. She wants to write about Kootenai women and how fur trade affected them, but there is not much information. She began focusing on language and the barrier posed by the Kootenai language isolate.

Becky plans to use Joseph Cross print of portage around Kootenai Falls in new exhibit. FS has chosen interpretive specialist to write interpretive plan for Clark Fork corridor; to be done by end of 2008.

WEBSITE. Steve Matz mentioned that he googled DT and did not get link to DT200 website; only 2 hits. Larry will talk with Ross about this. We may need to get related sites to link to DT200.org in order to move it up in priority.

BRAINSTORMING SESSION. Brochure: We have reprinted twice. This gives brief introduction to DT, directs to website, and invites to join, but it may not be brochure we want to give out. Becky suggests reprinting and says we have gotten memberships from far away places, probably through brochure. Keith has some money and will reprint 2,000 copies, with change of address to Libby; available for June meeting. Becky and Joseph would like to see us develop information for travel organizations, kiosks, etc.

Steve moved we adjourn, Kris seconded, approved. Meeting adjourned at 1:55.

Respectfully submitted,
Nancy F. Renk, Secretary