

January 13, 2014 – Minutes – Tap Rock Meeting – 8 am-11 am - Hugo Emigrant Trails Committee (HETC)

Attendance: Jim & Rene Ford, Joe & Leta Neiderheiser, Malcolm and Tommi Drake, Mike Walker, Kelly Rarey, and Bob Black.

Topic # 1 – Leta - National Parks Service - Cost Share Program proposal for interpretive signage of the Applegate Trail in Josephine and Jackson Counties Oregon.

See Leta's handouts for details on the process of application.

The dates we are looking at are: Apply in the Fall or 2014 for the physical year of 2015.

We would take one year to prepare for this project -2014. After we apply for the grant and it is approved as a Cost Share Project by the NPS, we will begin the actual work of the project where we will incur expenses.

Select leaders to work under Leta Neiderheiser who must delegate work to all members. (No overtime!)

Select locations for signs:

Manzanita Rest Area + trail to Harris cabin and Sportsman Park.

Tom Pearce Park

Emigrant Lake

Trail from Pleasant Valley Cemetery to Tomb Stone Quarry

Sunny Valley Applegate Trail Interpretive Center

Scout out locations.

Plan our budget.

Find Cost Share donations in the name of HETC – Leta and Joe will donate \$1,000 from her book fund.

Leta is our representative for this NPS project.

Get signatures of property owners.

Select diary quotations, maps and proposed text.

Fill out all forms.

Bob Black recommends simplicity in grant applications and to keep the control in our group (HETC). We can still accept assistance and support from other groups.

Topic # 2 – Malcolm Drake - Applegate Trail Oxbow, Section 22, T34 S, 6W Near Hugo Oregon

Please read Malcolm's " Three Choices Paper"

Choice # 1 "The oxbow was based entirely on a surveying or survey recording error, and did not ever exist."

Choice # 2 "The oxbow existed irrespective of the survey recording error, and was located as shown on the 1895 Official Map of Josephine County, Oregon."

Choice # 3 “The oxbow existed irrespective of the survey recording error, and was located almost ¼ mile south of the route shown on the 1895 Map of Josephine County, probably passing through the saddle just north of the South ¼ Corner of Section 22.”

Conclusion: “If the HETC concludes that the oxbow existed regardless of the accuracy of the GLO survey, did it exist as ‘proved’ by the 1895 map, or lower on the mountain, passing through the saddle, close, and north of the 22/27 section line, then continuing more or less on contour for about 1/4 miles towards the east?”

“My personal belief is that the strongest evidence supports the idea that the oxbow was drawn based on bad survey notes, and was later merely copied to future maps...”

Malcolm’s paper may be a good end of our search for the Oxbow unless we find new evidence (currently Roger Roberts information ) or if anyone has a more confining date for the oxbow. We could start writing an article for the history column in the Daily Courier. Any volunteers? This could be a small group effort. Or one person assembling all our information into an article understandable to the general public.

Thank you everyone for working on this big project.

Rene Ford, Co Project Leader/Authenticator with Jim Ford Hugo  
Emigrants Trail Marking & Mapping Project  
Hugo Neighborhood Association & Historical Society  
Northwest Chapter, Oregon/California Trails Association