

IOCTA Fall Meeting 2020
Saturday, October 10, 2020
Zoom Video Conference

Attending

John Briggs	Dan Dunne	Dave Price
Nancy Briggs	Jerry Eichhorst	Eric Wadsworth
Betty Celaya	Dawn Fazio	Larry (last name unknown)
Pedro Celaya	Jim Fazio	Lee Black – OCTA President
Virgel Clark	Lynn Houdyshell	Travis Boley – OCTA Manager
Sue Clarke	Marge Houdyshell	Katherine Kirk - Executive Director, Idaho Heritage Trust
Paul Dinwiddie	Gary Kaufman	

Opening

Jerry opened the meeting at 10:00 am. Due to COVID-19 the Fall meeting was held using Zoom Video Conference.

Minutes of May 9, 2019 Meeting

Minutes of the May 9th Zoom digital meeting were sent out to Executive Committee and approved via email. The minutes are posted on the IOCTA website.

Financial Report – Dan Dunne, Treasurer

Ending balance as of October 5th 2019	\$7,440.19
Income	
Membership Dues	\$450.00
Total Available	\$7,890.19
Expenses	
May 11 City of Rocks Go Fund Me donation	\$1,210.00
May 15 OCTA Zoom payment	\$150.00
July 28 Staples – paper, stickers, etc.	\$50.00
Total Expenses	\$1,410.00
Ending Balance – September 30, 2020	\$6,480.19
Business Share Savings	\$170.00

Virgel Clark moved that the financial report be approved. The motion was seconded by Paul Dinwiddie and passed by unanimous vote.

Special Announcement

Jerry announced that John Briggs has agreed to be the OCTA Vice-President and will become the organization President in one year. This will be the first time that an IOCTA member has held the national OCTA position. Congratulations to John!

OCTA Board Meeting

John Briggs gave an update on the OCTA board meeting. The Zoom meeting was held September 18, 2020. The meeting was well covered in the Fall *News From the Plains* OCTA newsletter.

John encouraged everyone to look up and subscribe to the Oregon California Trails Association channel on YouTube. And to also check out the OCTA presence on Facebook and on Instagram at OCTA_1836.

The Great American Outdoors Act was signed into law and ‘new’ (or delayed) projects, like the Elko bike path from City to the California Trail Interpretive Center, are being considered again. Plan to be in Elko for the 2021 OCTA convention. The Idaho Chapter needs to think anew about projects we would like to have happen here in the future.

The OCTA Strategic Plan was posted on the OCTA-Trails web site. It was much commented on, including comments from here in Idaho, and the plan was adjusted as a result.

The budget for 2021 was approved. By and large it meant keeping expenses down. Three areas of ‘investment’ were approved

1. Continuation of the Western Region Representative position with thanks to Sharon Brown for all her good work. The NPS contributes 75% funding for this position
2. Continued marketing efforts to try to reach more people
 - Advertising (print and online) in trails state newspapers, tied to special events on the trails (such as the annual Trails Days festivities in Gering/Scottsbluff). A lot of these events were cancelled this year, but we expect them to be back in 2021. We will be developing a media list of outlets along the trails, focusing on smaller communities’ where costs are lower and impact is bigger.
 - We will prepare news releases (localized) accompanied by photos when local chapters have an event, when new officers are elected, when someone receives an award, etc. This is definitely “old school” but it will get the name of OCTA in the paper.
 - We are proposing an annual list of the “Ten Most Threatened Places on the Trail” to create a sense of urgency for trail preservation. We can get good coverage by utilizing NPR News. We would like to introduce this early next year.
 - We will be laying the ground work for an OCTA “podcast” that could be funded through a grant. Podcasts are growing in popularity and are a great way to reach an audience we might not otherwise have access to.
3. Continued support for Educational Publications

OCTA Budget Summary	2020	2021
Net Revenue	\$295,000	\$287,000
Expenses	\$321,000	\$322,00
Net (Before Endowment Distributions)	-\$26,000	-\$35,000

We are starting to develop strategies for implementing the **Four-Trails** feasibility study that was completed in February, 2020. Our first priority will be to secure legislation that will add 26 routes and 7,589 miles to the existing Oregon, California and Mormon Pioneer National Historical Trails. In addition, the legislation would seek to remedy the fact that several historic trails were not eligible for study because they fell outside the legislatively mandated “period of significance”, i.e. 1841-1848 for the Oregon Trail and 1846-1847 for the Mormon Pioneer Trail. Our legislation will expand those “periods of significance” and authorize a new study to include additional trails. During the last quarter of 2020 we will identify “champions” for legislation, which will be a priority for OCTA in the next Congress. For the Idaho Chapter this means the Jefferys/Goodale Cut-off and the North Alternate OT which both meet NPS criteria but miss out on the Date.

There is an exciting new opportunity for the Oregon-California Trails Association to contribute to the National Historic Trails mapping efforts. The National Trails office Resource Information Management (RIM) team has developed a mobile application for tracking assets along the trail such as interpretive waysides, trail markers, museum exhibits and Nation Historic Trail (NHT) road or pedestrian signs. The Survey123 app utilizes a user-friendly interface, similar to a fillable PDF, and only requires filling out prompted questions and taking site asset photos while the mobile device captures the global positioning system (GPS) location. The location records automatically when the user submits the information about the sign, maker, wayside, or exhibit. The app is not to be used for MET papping or recording cultural resources associated with the trails. The app eliminates the use of complex and sometimes costly GPS devices and in turn enables users the same capability on their smart

phone or tablet utilizing the built-in GPS. No cellular coverage or internet connectivity is required for field recording of locations because uploads can occur once the user is connected back to a network. Association members can use this app on their own smart phones or tablets. There is a complex application process obtain the Survey123 app. Contact John Briggs for more information.

Canyon Creek Stage Station

Canyon Creek Station restoration update letter was provided by Kirk Halford, BLM.

Hi Folks,

Just wanted to let you all know the good news that the Canyon Creek Station roof contract has been awarded. Allegre Builders out of Ogden, UT won the bid. They have done work on a number of historic buildings so I am pleased they received the contract. Due to work schedules they will not complete the work until April, but I am happy we will finally get the building roofed up, with windows and doors to follow.

Persistence has paid off (-;

Hope you are all doing and staying well!

Kirk Halford, BLM



City of Rocks

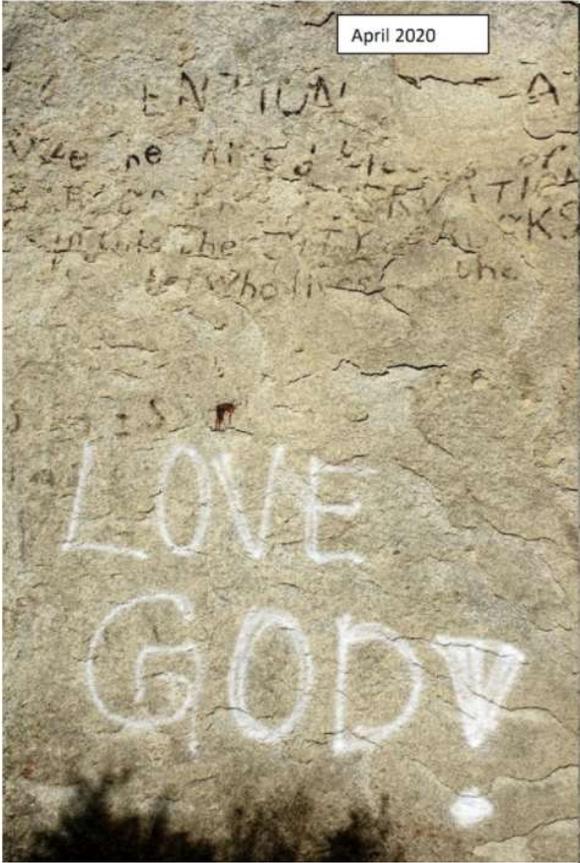
Graffiti Restoration Update

The Go Fund Me fundraising effort has raised a total of \$5,505 raised by 72 contributors. IOCTA contributed a net \$1,000(\$1,210 total – Go Fund Me and PayPal each charged high fees)

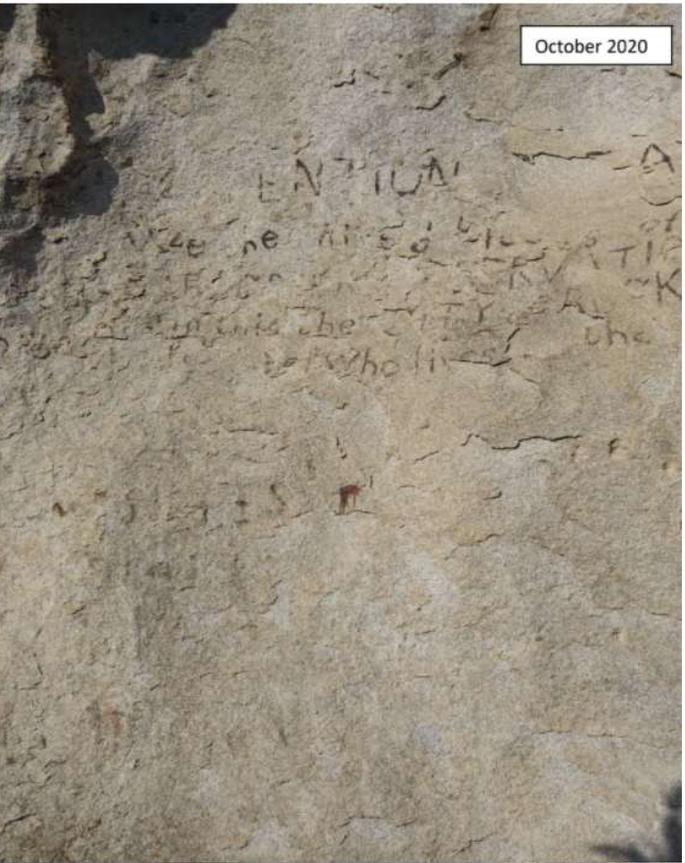
Several applications of graffiti remover have been applied to the spray paint on Camp Rock. The last application of remover was in July; temperatures started to rise too much for the chemicals to be effectively used after that. The “Love God” tag has been completely removed with no damage to historic writing surrounding it. “Flesh No Bone” and “Harbaby” have been improved about 80% and another application will be applied to the darkest areas this fall now that the temps are down again. “The Real LP” has had more applications than the other areas, but the pink spray paint has proved to be the most difficult to remove. There will be at least one more, if not several more, applications of the chemical on this area.

City of Rocks is investigating other measures of vandalism deterrents. We have been testing out camera monitoring at Camp Rock (currently underway) and also a interpretation program has been developed to help educate the public about resource destruction and protection. This program will start to be implemented next spring.





April 2020



October 2020



April 2020



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Management Plan and Signs

The National Park Service recently released the General Management Plan and Environmental Assessment for the City of Rocks National Reserve. This excellent 216-page document had the strong involvement of many groups including the Shoshone-Bannock Tribe. The General Management Plan will set the management philosophy for City of Rocks National Reserve for the next 15 to 20 years.

City of Rocks will be managed with a backcountry-type visitor experience that allows for self-discovery, self-reliance, self-determination, and the freedom to take risks. While some facilities will be improved, development will not be greatly expanded. The Research Natural Area will be enlarged to better manage the state's largest pinyon pine woodlands and to provide a sufficient baseline for comparing future impacts with high-use and more developed areas. IOCTA members are encouraged to read the GMP. It is available at the following URL:

https://www.nps.gov/ciro/getinvolved/upload/CIRO_GMPEA.pdf

New Interpretive signs have been installed throughout the park providing a consistent theme. There is a total of 12 new signs, half of them interpreting history from the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes perspective and the other half have to do with the California National Historic Trail and other information. The overall theme of the signs is "The trail connects us all."

Daughters of Utah Pioneers wanted to put in their own sign about the Kelton Road stage station which was not developed in conjunction with Wallace Keck and the Park staff. This has been rejected and they have finally agreed to work with the Park staff to develop a new sign which will fit with the new theme.

Idaho Pioneer Trails Brochure

The J. Greg Smith company has created an Idaho Pioneer Trails brochure. The brochure includes the Main Oregon Trail Back Country Byway tour and a link to the idahoocta.org website. The brochures will be ready in about 6 months and will be available in state tourism centers. 500 - 1,000 brochures will be given to IOCTA.



Visitors can see portions of the Oregon Trail just as the explorers and pioneers experienced, thanks to the management, protection and interpretive services of the Idaho office of Bureau of Land Management (BLM).

BLM's 102-mile Main Oregon Trail Back Country Byway leads from the bluffs overlooking the Three Island Crossing of the Snake River at Glens Ferry to the Bonneville Point recreation area providing a scenic overlook of today's Boise.

The BLM also manages great places across Idaho to hike, bike, fish, rock climb, hunt, camp, horseback riding and discover more about nature, wildlife and the people who lived in these unique lands so long ago. The BLM has four district offices and 12 field offices in Idaho to administer nearly 12 million acres of public lands. These areas provide great getaway places to experience nature in its most natural settings.

For more information on BLM's recreational destinations across Idaho, go to: BLM.gov/Idaho.



Visit our Idaho program sponsors:

Bureau of Land Management
BLM.gov/Idaho

Idaho State Parks and Recreation
ParksAndRecreation.idaho.gov

Bear Lake Convention and Visitors Bureau
BearLake.org

Visit Southern Idaho
VisitSouthernIdaho.com

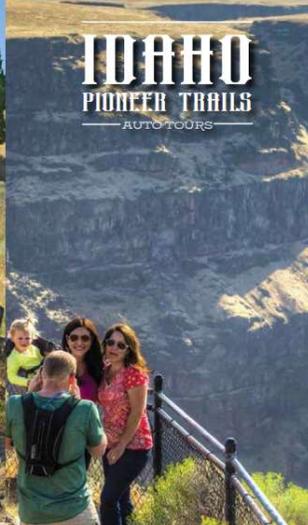
Castia County Tourism
CastiaCounty.org

City of Burley
BurleyIdaho.org/196attractions

Southwest Idaho Tourism Association
VisitSouthwestIdaho.org

Glens Ferry Economic Development
GlensFerryIdaho.org/visitors-guide-and-tour/

City of Mountain Home
Mountain-Home.us/visitor-guide



Thousands of Oregon and California Trail pioneers troiked across what is today Idaho from 1841-1868. After traversing the dusty trail for nearly two months they rested and were refreshed by the natural springs around today's Soda Springs. At Fort Hall, near today's Pocatello, they stocked supplies, got directions and sometimes a guide, before taking on the most difficult part of their journey.

The pioneers followed high plains overlooking deep Snake River canyons. Pioneers bound for Oregon continued along the Snake River to the high desert country of eastern Oregon. The California '49ers left the Oregon Trail at the Rat River Valley, west of today's American Falls. They went southwest and passed the natural rock formations at today's City of Rocks National Reserve near the southern border of today's Idaho.

Idaho's Pioneer Trails country has something for everyone... from historic sites that inspire, to mountain vistas that leave you breathless.

The rugged land bears testimony to the determination of the pioneers and today offers outstanding recreation and friendly hospitality from the cities and people along the pioneers' trail.

It's all here to see and enjoy in Idaho's Pioneer Trails country!

For more information on Idaho's Oregon and California Trails, go to: idahoocta.org.

Three Island Crossing State Park

Go to OCTA-Trails.org/Idaho-Trails

Go to OCTA-Trails.org/Idaho-Trails

Go to OCTA-Trails.org/Idaho-Trails



BEAR LAKE STATE PARK • US 89 at St. Charles. Often called "the Caribbean of the Rockies" because of its clear turquoise waters, the park's north and east ends include over five miles of beaches for swimming, boating, water sports, fishing, hiking and camping. Visitors might glimpse geese, ducks, owlets and even moose at the Bear Lake National Wildlife Refuge.

Go to: BearLake.org.



At St. Charles **MINNETONKA CAVE** visitors can take subterranean trails filled with natural wonders.

Go to: BearLake.org.



at **Gayser Park and Visitor Center**. Visitors can follow wagon trail ruts at Oregon Trail Park and at the Oregon Trail Golf Course.

Go to: SodaSpringsID.com.



POCATELLO/CHUBBUCK • I-15. Today's Fort Hall Replica and Frontier Town celebrate Idaho's colorful era of pioneer history.



FORT HALL RESERVATION • I-15 east 80. The Shoshone-Bannock Tribal Museum in Fort Hall displays Shoshone and Bannock tribal history, culture and art.



AMERICAN FALLS • I-86. The Oregon Trail Sportsman Access provides fishing and boat access to the Snake River.



MASSACRE ROCKS STATE PARK • Off I-86. This park on the Snake River is home to a variety of plant and bird species and features hiking trails, rock climbing and world-class disk golf. Visitors also don't want to miss Register Rock, where pioneers etched their names. A visitor center and pioneer wagon ruts are nearby.

Go to: ParksAndRecreation.idaho.gov.



BURLEY • South of I-86 on US 30. This is a great place to swim, fish, boat, waterski, paddleboard, wakeboard or windsurf along over 20 miles of Snake River shoreline. A variety of fun restaurants overlook the river and even play golf next to the river at River's Edge Golf Course. The Cassia County Historical Museum provides a fascinating glimpse of the area's history from Native Americans to the pioneers and early settlers. Storybook Park is a great family place designed by kids for kids of all ages. The King Fine Arts Center features performance arts year-round. The Snake River inspires many fun events including the Spudman Triathlon, the Idaho Regatta jet boat races, and the Wake in the Snake wake boat and competition.

Go to: BurleyIdaho.org/196attractions.



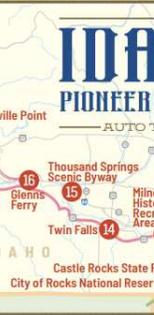
MILNER HISTORIC RECREATION AREA is located nine miles west of Burley on the south bank of the Snake River. This historic site is located where over 170 years ago Oregon Trail emigrants passed through and in some areas their deep wagon ruts are still visible. There are several developed and primitive recreation sites available on the shoreline of the Snake River in addition to a hiking trail leading to some of the historic trail ruts. Go to: blm.gov/visits/blm.gov/files/documents/fias/StateReserveTourGuide.pdf



CASTLE ROCKS STATE PARK • The park's crazy cliffs resemble castles of old that today offer great places for sightseeing, hiking, mountain biking and rock-climbing. The park also includes remnants of Native American pictographs, the California Trail and 20th century ranching. Camping choices include campgrounds, yurts or a century-old ranch house and bunk house. Go to: ParksAndRecreation.idaho.gov.



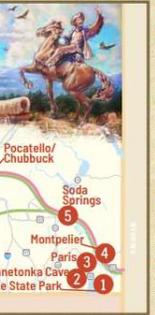
CITY OF ROCKS NATIONAL RESERVE • Named by a California Trail pioneer who described the area as a "City of Rocks", today the reserve encompasses 12,407 acres and still has pioneer wagon ruts and pioneer inscriptions on granite boulders. Go to: VisitSouthernIdaho.com.



TWIN FALLS • US 30. The central valley's largest city on the south rim of the 500-foot deep and a quarter-mile wide Snake River canyon. The visitor center on the southwest side of Perrine Bridge provides a great view of the canyon. The Twin Falls Historical Museum features pioneer exhibits. Pictureque Centennial Waterfront Park is located on the northside of Twin Falls, and three miles northeast of the city is Shoshone Falls Park for breathtaking waterfalls. At nearby Hanson southeast of Twin Falls visitors can see a preserved Oregon Trail settlement at Stricker Home-site and Rock Creek Station which was the first supply post for emigrants west of Fort Hall. Go to: VisitSouthernIdaho.com.



SODA SPRINGS • I-86. Trail visitors can take time and visit local wineries, play golf, dine, stay overnight and get supplies before touring historic Three Island Crossing State Park, one of the few places Oregon Trail pioneers could cross the Snake River. Park visitors can take a self-guided tour and view original wagon ruts and Conestoga wagon replicas. The park's Oregon Trail History and Education Center features displays of the area's Native American, pioneer and early settlement history. The park also includes picnic shelters, a full-service campground and eight cabins. Go to: GlensFerryIdaho.org/visitors-guide-and-tour/.



MOUNTAIN HOME • Just off I-84. The Desert Mountain Visitor Center has information and directions to all the great Snake River attractions nearby. The Mountain Home Museum offers a fascinating look into early settlement in the area. Railroad Park is the scenic setting for a fresh Farmers Market throughout the summer. Go to: Mountain-Home.us/visitor-guide/.



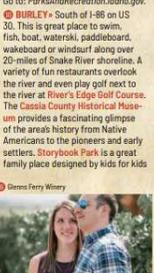
BONNEVILLE POINT RECREATION AREA • I-84 exit 84. Black Oaks Road. This is where Captain Benjamin Bonneville and his expedition first saw the valley he named "Les Bois" that today is Boise. Today the area includes interpretive signs, excellent Oregon Trail ruts, hiking and picnic areas.



BOISE • I-84. Area cultural attractions include the Idaho State Museum, the Boise Art Museum, the Idaho Black History Museum and the Esqueo Museum and Cultural Center. The Boise River is lined with bike and hike trails and riverfront parks. Nearby Lucky Peak State Park is great for boating. Go to: VisitSouthernIdaho.org.



OLD FORT BOISE REPLICA • In Parma on US 26. The trappers fort and Oregon Trail supply post has been recreated and includes a museum.







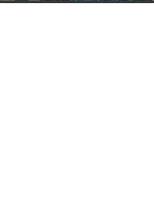


















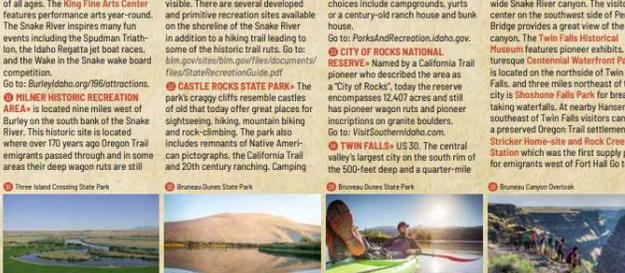








Go to OCTA-Trails.org/Idaho-Trails



Go to OCTA-Trails.org/Idaho-Trails

Chapter Elections

There have been several recent changes in positions in the Idaho Chapter:

The following are Stepping Down *(Thanks for their many years of service to the chapter)*

- John Briggs VP West (now OCTA Vice President)
- Dave and Donna Newberry Director
- Virgel Clark Preservation Officer – West / Historian

Stepping Up *(Thanks for their willingness to step up and help guide the chapter)*

- Paul Dinwiddie VP West
- Dave Price Secretary, Preservation Officer - West
- Betty and Pedro Celaya Director (Mountain Home- Central Idaho)

Historian Position

The Historian kept copies of the Trail Dust newsletter and any chapter correspondence. The chapter leadership team has determined that in today's digital world there is no need to continue the chapter historian position. Historical copies of the Trail Dust newsletter are available on the idahocta.org website.

The following candidates were presented for approval.

Candidates for Elective Office:

- President Jerry Eichhorst
- VP East Don Wind
- VP West Paul Dinwiddie
- Treasurer Dan Dunne
- Secretary Dave Price
- Director Betty and Pedro Celaya

Appointed Positions:

- Trail Dust editor Nancy Briggs
- Preservation Officer – East Don Wind
- Preservation Officer – West Dave Price
- Webmaster Jerry Eichhorst

John Briggs moved to approve election of all officers. The motion was seconded by Virgel Clark and passed by unanimous voice vote.

NEW BUSINESS

OCTA Recognize Kathy Conway

The Oregon-California Trails Association is recognizing Kathy Conway for 30 years of dedicated service as the OCTA Headquarters Manager.

October 7, 2020

Dear OCTA Friends,

I am writing to share an opportunity to recognize the 30 years of dedicated service to the members of the Oregon-California Trails Association by our Headquarters Manager, Mrs. Kathy Conway. As a Past President, Chapter Officer or member, you realize the unwavering service she has provided. November 15, 2020 marks her 30th Anniversary. I am taking up a collection to help provide a much-needed vacation. A week stay at location of her choosing is being provided by members. The funds collected will help provide travel expenses. As I have shared with some we have, so far, collected funds to get her and her husband to a vacation location, now we need enough to get her home.

A couple of individuals and a Chapter have sent funds to me. At this point, Jan Krakow has agreed to assist us in collecting the funds. We ask that you make a check payable to Lee Black and send the check to Jan Krakow at 9411 Lona Lane NE, Albuquerque, NM 87111. Please note on the Memo line "KC OCTA gift." Jan will record each gift and I will send you an acknowledgement. October 31st will be the deadline for receiving gifts. A presentation will be made to Kathy on or about November 15th. Thank you for helping to recognize our outstanding Headquarters Manager. Respectfully,

*Lee Black, President
Oregon-California Trails Association*

Jerry Eichhorst moved to have the Idaho Chapter gift \$300 towards Kathy's recognition vacation. The motion was seconded by Paul Dinwiddie and passed by unanimous voice vote.

Calendar of Events 2021

(assuming life returns to normal)

April 17	Annual Spring Byway Tour
May 6	City of Rocks exploration
May 7	Granite Pass tour
May 8	Spring chapter meeting, Perkins, Burley
September 13-16	OCTA Convention, Elko, Nevada
October 9	Fall chapter meeting, Idaho State Historical Museum?

Jerry will need to train Don and Paul so they can lead the Elko convention California Trail pre-tour. Please let Jerry know if there are other places you would like to visit.

With no further business the business portion of the chapter meeting was adjourned at 10:50 am.

After the meeting the following speakers made presentations.

Lee Black – OCTA President

Highlights from Lee:

- Lee complemented John on his new position as OCTA vice president. He also thanked John and Don Wind for their inputs on the strategic plan.
- COVID shut down a lot of OCTA activities. This has allowed more focus on social media activities and development.
- The OCTA Convention is a major revenue source and canceling it this year had a severe impact on the OCTA budget. Lee thanked the many OCTA members and friends that have donated over \$60K to cover the lack of convention income.
- OCTA has 29 standing committees; there are plenty of opportunities to be involved.

Travis Boley – OCTA Manager

Travis gave an update from National OCTA. Highlights include:

- The Great American Outdoors Act was recently signed into law. It permanently re-authorizes the Land & Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) at the level of \$900 million per year. Travis recommended that chapters start thinking about projects they'd like to fund in the coming years so we can get requests into the queue.
- Social media focus on Facebook, Instagram and You Tube has resulted in 80 new OCTA members. Travis encouraged everyone to subscribe to the Oregon-California Trails Association You Tube Channel. Once we reach

1,000 followers, we can start monetizing our channel. What that means is that every time anyone visits our channel OCTA will receive a piece of the advertising revenue. It also means that, as a non-profit, we can use YouTube studios anywhere in the world for free to create and edit content.

- OCTA has a Digital Media Communications intern, Sam Sullivan, who is developing much of the OCTA digital media. The Idaho Chapter should think about a short film on the Oregon Trail in Idaho. It would be great if we could get Sam out to Idaho next spring for a few days.
- There will be a trail mapping and marking workshop May 25-27, 2021 in Salt Lake City, UT

Katherine Kirk - Executive Director, Idaho Heritage Trust

Katherine presented an interesting virtual tour of many historical sites around the state of Idaho.

Submitted by Paul Dinwiddie