

OMRT Monthly Mtg via Zoom fr 9-11:10

Present: Jim McNairy, Tim Dustrude, Dave Zeretzke (writer of minutes) , Mark Noyes, Robin Donnelly, Jeffrey Gillette, & Todd Kaden, Julie Fonseca de Borges (RTCA of NPS)

### Actions

**-Sunshine Alley display by Palace Theater and Town deadline for submission of 6 display panels:** long discussion re efforts of Robin, Shaun Hubbard, Andy (Hist. Museum photo curator) and Mike Vouri re issue of high resolution photos for display. Last panel (#6) will include some info about OMRT. Consensus of discussion questioned why for such small photos to be viewed so closely by public (2+ ft. fr panel) need to be so clear. Historic photos OK if not perfect. Subject and relevance more important. **Robin to discuss further with Sandy Stehlou fr Town.** Wording to accompany photos still in progress. **Robin to monitor and report next mtg.**

Q. Is the new Sunshine Alley display already up re a different subject?

**website update re future changes by Val Curtis,** website contractor hired by Is Rec to help OMRT Comm: Tim shared test date of later this week for Val Curtis to post her changes for review by Tim and OMRT commo group. Fast work by Val. **Tim will monitor website revision efforts** while on the road again and share issues remaining with OMRT members for comments/assistance.

**Segment and cross-island maps:** Jim and Mark reported new maps on Google Dr dtd Jan 24 for use. Correct with most having GPS accuracy. **Todd and Tim to check about correct maps on website video or slide show.**

**Discussion about photos on Google Dr:** Tim informed everyone he has organized and tagged/labelled all existing Google Dr photos using photo mngmt software. Easy to change or add captions according to Tim. **Tim will send to group an email again about how to caption FUTURE photos and where to upload onto Google Dr with tags on each photo. All members encouraged to think Spring as the opportunity to take high quality photos of all aspects of trail,** people of all ages, mtn riders + horseriders esp. on Mitchell Hill, hikers, wildlife, closeups of flowers and animals, forests and meadows, etc. **Tim has posted instructions on how to label on Google Dr. — his video ‘tutorial’.** Let’s get the photos only Spring weather allows. Post GOOD photos to Google Dr taken after Feb 19, 2022 per Tim’s instructions.

**Re Concept Proposal and website videos or slide show** - Todd and Tim to work on getting new maps into website presentations. Jim and Robin both want any logos from SJ Distillery (**Robin will contact**), Legion and non-profit “On Sacred Ground” (Sarah Hanson’s group). **Dave will check out logos for latter two groups.**

**League of Women Voters presentation:** Jim reported went well and his revised slide show worked well so it can be used by anyone on comm. when speaking to a local group. Well received with last slide an invitation to become a ‘key supporter’ of the effort. **Next presentation group to be SJ Council in June if possible** and many more if Covid in-person restrictions relax. Also OMRT Comm. should update Colin Huntermer at PWRks re OMRT status - Also contact Rep. Larson’s staff to update re OMRT effort since Rep. Larson reached out to OMRT Comm in Fall of 2019 re all trails on SJ Is.

**Cowichan Tribe connection:** Jeff updated re new Cowichan liaisons to OMRT Comm. yet to be formally named by tribe and then introduced to Jeff. **Jeff will followup.** Tribal history published by the Tribe distributed to 5 OMRT members who bought a copy - **“Those Who Fell from the Sky”**

**Signage at English Camp incl Mitchell Hill:** No word yet on walkabout on existing trails on NPS land north with Elexis Freedy, Super of Park, and Jim and Shaun and Jeff to discuss signage and potential locations for OMRT designated trail with directional and info signs as appropriate. **Jeff will followup to find a date and time.**

**SJ County Parks, Trails and Natural Areas Plan:** Brandon Cadwell, new Prks Super for SJ County, will lead the revision effort for Parks Dept, Public Works Dept and Land Bank. Mtg with Brandon hopefully in near future to discuss process to revise - Brandon to be invited to next OMRT mtg to discuss. (March 19th on Zoom or hybrid of Zoom and in-person at Is Rec Conf Rm). **Dave to send to OMRT members and Julie a copy of the current plan (PDF file) and a summary of pages relevant to trails.**

**SJ Is Boy Scouts:** Dave reported Eric Stone, Scoutmaster and head of Camp Bogardus adjacent to Mitchell Hill has shared with Doug McCutcheon more details of when and who and how many Scouts will need work sites along an historic trail to qualify for merit badges re the same. Eric will coordinate with NPS staff for sites on federal land. (Eric not want to work on Airport Trail or other sections of American Camp Trail since it is not historic.) Todd suggested the former ‘Anderson Property’ that is on the west side of Cattle Pt Rd and south side of False Bay Rd would be a great place to have help from scouts as part of the OMRT segment on Fraser Homestead. **Dave and Todd to discuss further for followup with Land Bank and/or with Eric.**

**Film status and Michael Noonan:** No word fr Michael as he is traveling and will likely return by next month’s mtg on 19th. All present agreed some footage of horse riders, hikers or mtn bikers on Mitchell Hill (staged would be fine) could add to the film for a segment not now well shown. Lots of photogenic places.

**Rivers Trails and Copnservation Area news** fr Julie Fonseca de Borges at Nat Park Svcs. Technical Assistance 2nd yr of grant ending this Spring - last months May and/or June. Final report due from OMRT Comm before then. **Julie will send info to Jim and Dave to prepare draft for Committee.** Discussion about trail groups on Lopez or Orcas and Mar 31 deadline this yr for application for tech assistance.

**Future funding or Support:** Next Complete Streets grant cycle in 23/24 when SJ County can seek funding for non-motorized projects on all islands. ROW expansion for bicyclist and walkers. Also potential for SJ Valley link to Town fr Zylstra Lk Preserve. WA St Recreation & Conservation Office grants competitive and difficult to apply for. Julie suggested Committee contact Elizabeth Sjostrom at [sjostre@wsdot.wa.gov](mailto:sjostre@wsdot.wa.gov) or 360-757-5984 (NW DOT Region?) at Office of Active Transportation” of WA St DOT re help.

SJ Is Trails Committee: Mark suggested committee needs focus and energy probably best from a tangible project for 2022 and beyond. **Dave and Mark to followup with Trails Comm.**

**Next OMRT Mtg: Mar 19th, 9-11 at Island Rec Conf Rm? and via Zoom**