

## **TATC Cabin Committee Meeting [Wednesday, 7 March, 1979]**

[With the deal done, the property bought, and some preliminary work on site already accomplished, this Cabin Committee Report, from March of 1979, highlights some of the details of the project being discussed, especially the most important item of all: what kind of cabin would it be?]

The TATC Cabin Committee met at the home of Ray Levesque on Wednesday, 7 March, 1979, at eight o'clock. Besides the chairman, Ray Levesque, those present were Otey Shelton, Mal Higgins, Bob and Marrian Hayhurst, Harold and Margaret Crate, Bill Newsom, Gene Krah, Gladys Blair, Chuck Jessie, Jacque Jenkins, and Herb Coleman.

Ray Levesque reported that a check was in the mail in the amount of \$8,000 from Mrs. Putman.

Bill Newsom reported concerning the transportation of building material to the cabin site. Bill had consulted with Dan Hernandez, the proprietor of the nearby campground [where the Royal Oak rental cabins are now, in the small community of Love, about 3 miles northeast of the cabin site]. Bill stated that Hernandez was enthusiastic about the site for the cabin. Hernandez suggested that for the construction we should peel logs, treat them with preservative, and then dig holes and put the logs and rocks in the holes. Hernandez was not of the opinion that material could be hauled all the way to the cabin site. He thought that there should be a staging area cleared at the point where the trail narrows. Clearing off a level area there would be necessary and at this place all the material would be unloaded. From there the materials would be carried by hand or wheelbarrow. He thought the heaviest item would be shingles. Bill thought that he might lend some of his tools. Hernandez was willing to have material unloaded at the campground and then he would haul it on his four-wheel dump truck to the staging area. He thought all the material could be hauled in  $\frac{1}{2}$  to  $\frac{3}{4}$  day's time. He would charge \$25 an hour for his truck. The cost for the hauling, Bill thought, would be less than \$200.

Gene Krah reported on the work needed to be done on the springs. He said there were three methods: 1. terra cotta; 2. brick; 3. concrete. Gene thought perhaps concrete with a cap would be best. He figured the large spring would require a 36" diameter conduit and the small one an 18" diameter conduit. He suggested the use of a star drill to make three apertures in sides of the concrete. As a temporary measure he thought a 55 gallon drum might be used.

Chuck Jessie reported concerning plans and estimates for a 20 x 30 A frame cabin. Plans included two doors (also two screen doors), four windows, a loft, and a fireplace. Doors would be steel, sheathed in wood. Chuck estimated the total cost between \$5,000 and \$6,000.

Otey Shelton reported concerning plans and estimates for a stone cabin 20 x 30 feet. He said the building should be fireproof. There would be no loft. He pointed out that there would be more "head room" for tall people than was the case in the A frame plan. There would be a half-pitch roof. The club could make use of the natural stone on the site and also the locust logs from trees on the place. It would be necessary to obtain a bulldozer to level the road and grade down the site, so it would be level. The cabin would be built on a concrete slab. Cost of the stone cabin was estimated to be \$6,870. Plans for the cabin included two doors, six windows and a fireplace.

After the committee heard the recommendations of Otey and Chuck, they discussed the advantages and disadvantages of both plans. The following are some they brainstormed:

### Stone Cabin

#### Disadvantages:

Picking up the rocks is hard work.  
Rocks will be heavy.  
The cost is \$1,000 more than A frame.  
It will take twice as long to build.  
Damp and cold structure, not easy to heat and it will be hard to stay warm in it.  
Not happy with slab, seepage of water coming down hill.  
No rock to hold up mountain if we take it all.  
It would take 20 tons of sand.

#### Advantages:

It would be picturesque, beautiful.  
Involvement of club members, there would be lots of work for members to do.  
Permanency, will be here for 100's of years.  
Would deter vandalism.  
Fireplace will heat it.

### A Frame

#### Disadvantages:

Easy to vandalize.  
Short term building.  
More maintenance.

#### Advantages:

Would go up quicker.  
Easier to build.  
It would be beautiful too, will blend in with surroundings.  
Does not require as much preparation of site

Ray Levesque also showed the committee plans for the PATC Hermitage cabin.

After a lengthy discussion of the merits of the stone and A frame cabin plans, the committee took a vote (secret) on what they would recommend to the executive board. The result was a tie vote, which means that the executive board will have to decide whether to build the stone or A frame cabin.

*Gladys A. Blair*