

Minutes

Gold Country Trails Council, Inc.

General Membership Meeting

July 11, 2023 7:00 P.M.

Golden Empire Grange 11363 Grange Lane, Grass Valley, CA 95945

President:	Jamie Canon	Board Members:
Vice President:	Helen Crawford McDermott	Bernie Molloy, absent
Secretary:	Mary Lundin	Laura Simmons, absent
Treasurer:	Cathy Scott	Mary McMillan
Past President:	Bernie Molloy	

A. Call to Order and Welcome-President Jamie Canon

B. Changes or Additions to Agenda

Add Pines to Mines Trail-Jamie Canon

C. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting

Minutes from the May 9, 2023 General Meeting were approved with a motion by Mary McMillan and 2nd from Barbara Simmons. Motion passed.

D. Treasurers Report-Cathy Scott

Cathy reported the bank balance to be \$52,987 with \$13,571 of that reserved for designated projects. Also noted was the Hidden Falls Expansion project was approved today in Placer County.

E. Forest Service Report-Mary Johnson-not present

It was noted that Loney Meadows trails are a mess. Chain saws will be needed at the July 22nd Loney Meadows Camp/Ride/Work weekend to clear the downed trees. There is still a short section of the entry road that needs a 4WD vehicle to pass but the paved road is all fixed and is good condition.

Noted that Jeff Harter, Mary Johnson, Brett McDermott, and Jamie Canon met with John Kinney from the Tahoe National Forest. The Hoot Trail will be restored to a "non-flow" status. No time frame was given. If you ride the trail, please give update on its condition. Cal Trans has allocated \$31,000 to the Forest Service for restoration of the portion of the Pioneer Trail that has been decimated by the Highway 20 road realignment project. Cal Trans is currently working on that road 24 hours a day with long wait times for vehicle passage.

F. Old Business

1. Loomis Basin Health Fair-Jaede Miloslavich

Jaede was not present tonight. The Health Fair was well attended. The club booth had the new brochures available, and games with prizes. The new SPIRIT horse cutout made our booth stand out visibly. The fair had demos, merchandise, used tack, food and live demonstrations with horses by Dr. Langdon Fielding of Loomis Basin Equine Hospital. Thank you to all the volunteers who manned this booth throughout the day.

2. Poker Ride Fundraiser Update-Helen Crawford

The ride was at full capacity with 90 horses. The net profit from this annual fundraiser was \$7,166.74. Riders reported that they liked having the option to ride additional marked trails and knowing how long the additional distance would take. Helen noted that the club needs to update its walkie-talkie system. Cal McKittrick handled the emergency system and there were no problems reported. Helen gave a big Thank You to all those who participated in so many various ways to make this another successful Poker Ride Fundraiser.

3. Pines to Mines-Jamie Canon

The Forest Service has proposed allowing motorized e-bikes on non-motorized trails, which includes the Pines to Mines trail system. Since the Pioneer Trail, a historically non-motorized trail, is a part of this system, it will cause the non-motorized designation to be useless. Members are asked to write to the Forest Service, either composing your own or using a sample letter provided by GCTC, to state your opinion of this new possible ruling. The closing date for comments is July 22nd. Each letter submitted is counted as one comment, so a letter from GCTC as an organization only counts as one comment. We each need to do our part to protect the safety of our non-motorized trails.

4. Celebration of Trails-Jamie Canon

The annual Celebration of Trails was again held in Nevada City. GCTC had a booth with informational pamphlets about our group and its mission. Judy Hayamizu brought her pony which was a big hit.

5. 4th of July Parade-Cathy Scott

The crowd again showed its delight for GCTC bringing their horses to the parade. Judy Hayamizu brought her pony to the parade. Mary Law brought her pony "Snowflake." There were also 2 large draft horses and carts there.

G. New Business

1. New tabs on website for easier access when reporting volunteer hours-Jaede Miloslavich

Jaede was not in attendance but the tabs are being worked on now. The volunteer hours put in by GCTC members are used by the forest service to help determine the projects they allocate money to so it is important that we submit an accurate total.

2. Bicyclists of Nevada County-Helen Crawford

BONC has a new president who is the owner of the You Bet Bike Shop. This group puts on a "Grouse Fest" every year at Grouse Ridge to work on the trails there. It is being held the weekend after Labor Day. It would be nice for any GCTC members available to join in to help. This not only helps with trails maintenance, but creates a community of trail users that includes bicyclists and equestrians. Helen suggested that we add this event to our annual club calendar so members can plan to attend.

H. Announcements

Acknowledge Donna McMillen for taking over the newsletter after many years of being provided by Pamela Warmack. Thank you, Donna and Pamela.

Acknowledge Ice Cream Social Volunteers who stepped up to provide tonight's ice cream social goodies while our regular refreshments person is temporarily off duty. New members Debbie and Jess, as well as Shawna Scott and Patrick Buchanan and others unnamed but not unseen made our ice cream social an enjoyable activity.

Incident reports reminder-Incident reports are available on the club website and should be used to report incidents that create safety issues. Protecting the safety of the equestrian trail users is important to all of us.

New brochures-Mary Johnson has been working to update and create new tri-fold brochures that inform the public about our group, the trail work we do, and the horse campgrounds that we have built and maintain.

Large and small orange GCTC stickers are now available to purchase. The large ones look great on our horse trailers and the small ones are just right for our cars and water bottles.

A publicity chairperson is still needed. If a volunteer isn't found, we may have to hire a professional to get our name and mission out to the public.

The question was asked who will make the purchase of the needed utility trailer for the club's trail tools and other supplies. Mary Johnson and Jamie Canon have been tasked with finding the trailer that will suit our needs.

PIGEON FEVER was diagnosed in a horse that was camping recently at Skillman Horse Camp in site #15 per member Karyn Purmort. This was one of the boarders at her ranch.

Adjournment and Refreshments Business meeting was adjourned at 7:55 P.M. just in time for the ice cream social to begin. **Submitted by Mary Lundin, Secretary**