

General Membership Meeting Minutes

GOLD COUNTRY TRAILS COUNCIL, INC.

Tuesday, July 12, 2022

Golden Empire Grange

11363 Grange Lane, Grass Valley, CA

Officers:

President: Jamie Canon
Vice President: Helen Crawford McDermott, absent
Secretary: Mary Lundin
Treasurer: Cathy Scott
Past President: Bernie Molloy, absent

Board Members:

Miriam Lytle
Laura Simmons
Teri Personeni
Administrative Members:
Mary Johnson, Forest Svc. Liaison
Toni Owen, Membership Chair

A. Call to Order and Welcome

President Jamie Canon called the meeting to order at 7:05 P.M. The meeting was preceded by a club tack sale in the Grange Hall parking lot.

B. Changes or Additions to Agenda

Jamie added recognition of new members.

C. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting and Special Minutes

Motion was made to approve the minutes for May 10, 2022 by Miriam Lytle with a second by Ruth Mazur. Motion passed.

D. Approval of Treasurer's Report

Cathy Scott presented the financial condition. The fiscal year end is August 31th. Any receipts or requests for reimbursement should be turned in to Cathy as soon as possible. A full accounting is attached to the minutes. Motion to accept the treasurer's report was made by Teri Personeni, second by Andi Duncan. Motion passed.

E. Forest Service Report-Mary Johnson

Mary reported that even though it seems not much is going on with the Forest Service and GCTC, Mary is staying involved with trail conditions in the Lone Grave Trail System. A reminder was given that when trail users go off of the official designated trails, when the same route is used a few times, it becomes a "user created trail." These trails are not allowed and should be reported to Mary.

Mary encouraged riders to use the app "Trailforks." Having input from equestrians shows our interest in keeping trails available for equestrian use. A full Forest Service Report is attached.

Old Business

1. Poker Ride Fundraiser Update-Laura Duncan

Laura was very pleased with the success of the Poker Ride. Besides no reports of accidents, lost or runaway horses, the fundraiser brought in more money than in the past. There were 76 riders, 32 non-riders, and 4 junior riders, including one who sent a thank you note for letting her ride on "our" trails. The success of this event is all due to the participation of club members. Businesses and vendors who donate prizes are greatly appreciated. Be sure to recognize and support these businesses. A list of this year's donations and breakdown of revenue and expenses is in the recent newsletter.

New this year was the request for feedback. A few comments were confusion about having a "poker ride" where poker hands were not the method to determine winners, request for a better loud speaker system, marking the trail mileage, and others. A big "Thank You" went out to Toni Owen for providing data to determine the results of so many processes. Laura asked that anyone interested in being the chair for the 2023 fundraiser, please contact her. Remember, there are processes in place and many volunteers to make your job rewarding.¹

¹ A note from your secretary: Funds from this event, as well as other donations, are used for purchases of new trail maintenance equipment, gravel for the Gold Country Equestrian Trailhead, Skillman Horse Camp entrance road, the Equestrian Overlook road, as well as corrals and other maintenance for Skillman Horse Camp and Little Lasier Meadow Horse Camp. There are expenses for the manure bin at Skillman, the

2. Little Lasier Meadow Report-Mary Johnson

A report of the Little Lasier Meadow Work/Camp/Ride weekend was in the recent newsletter. A description of work accomplished as well as rides enjoyed was detailed. This event is held the last weekend in June each year, weather permitting. This campground was built and is maintained annually by GCTC in conjunction with the Tahoe National Forest. Both entities appreciate the work done by the other so that this campground remains available to equestrians.

3. Celebration of Trails

Cathy Scott and Helen Crawford McDermott and one horse represented GCTC at this annual event put on by Bear Yuba Land Trust to promote creation of multi-use trails. Helen's horse is always a hit with attendees. Flyers were handed out to promote public awareness of GCTC.

4. 4th of July Parade

Linda Lanzoni again did a great job of organizing GCTC participation in the local 4th of July Parade held this year in Nevada City. Twelve riders, two banner carriers, and two "motorized clean-up crew" were the hit of the parade. Linda provided neck wreaths for the horses to decorate them for the holiday festivities. Gold Country Trails Council is the only equestrian group that participated other than "Mini Hooves Providing Smiles" Mini Horses.

New Business

1. Loney Meadows Camp/work/ride & Port-A-Potty -Jamie Canon

The Loney Meadows workday and campout is coming up on July 22nd – 24th. The workday is on Saturday and workers will ride their horses to the worksites. Many members arrive with their horses before Saturday. Early arrivals help to mark off an area for setup as this is a dry camp with no designated sites. Bring water for yourself and your horse, although there is a creek near the camping area. Loney Meadows has some of the prettiest trails in this area, with much variety that includes meadows, lakes, lakeside campgrounds to stop at for lunch, and some easy, some rocky, some challenging trails. Only one short section of the uphill road into Loney Meadows requires 4-wheel drive. Someone is still needed to transport the port-a-potty there.

2. Royal Gorge Ride-Jamie Canon

The Royal Gorge ride is this Saturday. Three openings to attend are still available. This is a beautiful area with some steep and challenging trails, but well worth the effort for a horse and rider in good condition. Contact Jamie Canon if you would like to participate.

Sandrine Farrish advised us that she is looking for a new merchandise vendor.

Mary Johnson also let us know that she is looking into our club decals that she hopes will be available by the end of the year.

Andi Duncan, the club "Sunshine Person", was introduced to the members. Several members in attendance told of receiving cards and how much they appreciated being remembered at times that weren't going so well for them. Anyone you know who should be sent some "Sunshine", please let Andi know their name and the type of situation so she may send the appropriate card.

A new member, Elizabeth Hennin, and long-time member returning to the area, Jeanette Weber were welcomed.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:43. The annual July Ice Cream Social followed.

Submitted by Mary Lundin, Secretary

Port-A-Potty at the GCET (Lone Grave) parking area and the Loney Meadows workday. The meeting place at the clubhouse at the Grass Valley Grange Hall is covered with this money. This Poker Ride event is very important to the continued fulfillment of the mission of GCTC.