

GOLD COUNTRY TRAILS COUNCIL
Board Meeting - Oct. 14, 2014, 6PM
Nevada County Horsemen's Inc. Clubhouse
10600 Bubbling Wells Rd.
Grass Valley, CA

Board Members Present:

President: Karen Schwartz

Vice President: Melissa Ribley

Secretary: Karen Wyeth

Board Members: Vicki Testa, Fran Cole

Others Present:

Membership Chair: Mary Johnson

Past President: Helen Harvey

Forest Service Liaison: Willie Brusin

Sue Brusin

Call to Order - Karen Schwartz called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

Approval of the Minutes of the previous meeting - minutes were approved.

Approval of the Treasurer's Report - Kathy submitted her written report but was unable to make the meeting. She will be resigning as Treasurer, but Teri Personeni has volunteered to be Treasurer. At the end of Sept. the bank balance was \$25,498.63, with net contributions of \$137.30. Income was \$775, from membership dues, the Sensitivity Clinic, and miscellaneous. Expenses were \$617.70, primarily from campground maintenance, Pioneer Trail Re-route, newsletter and refreshments. We should have the following costs not yet billed by the Forest Service: \$1,000-\$1,500 for the Pioneer Trail re-route; possible sharing of the \$2500 cost for the feasibility study for the Cable Trail re-route from Lone Grave to Rock Creek; \$1,000 for updating the web site.

Forest Service Report - reported by Willie Brusin

Keen Grant update: Jet Lowe of YBONC reports that the environmental assessment has not been completed. The main delay seems to be with the biology report.

United Trails Day update: There were 87 participants, 38 GCTC members. One mile of multi-use trail was completed. The work was reported on the front page of The Union newspaper. Breaking new trail was reported to be very difficult work.

Pioneer Trail relocation: The trail re-route is completed, signed, and people are using the trail. Photos were sent to Melissa for an article in a national endurance magazine.

Linda Lanzoni has volunteered to be the liaison with the new Forest Service staff

for Skillman Camp. Cecilia Reed, a new staff person for the Forest Service will be at our work day Oct. 22, which will be dedicated to spreading DG in the corrals.

Willie recommended that GCTC Board members initiate contact with the Forest Service over the forthcoming Recreation Survey. Karen Wyeth and Karen Schwartz volunteered to participate. Willie will contact Joe Chavez to set a meeting date.

There is some concern over the adequacy of our liability release form. Fran Cole offered to review it. The National Forest Service provides some liability protection for volunteers.

Old Business - Karen Schwartz reported

Archives review: Karen is trying to organize the history of GCTC. She still needs to find a copy of the initial Articles of Incorporation. A review of archived financial records is needed. Mary Johnson filled in the Presidents from 2002 to 2008.

Meeting schedule: Due to time limitations in our contract with the Empire Grange, we need to set a timeline for our General Meetings so that we finish by 9:00. Board members felt that there was actually more flexibility in time. No one from the Grange has complained about us extending the time when necessary. There is a possibility to have our meetings at the Nevada County Horsemen's facility. Karen Schwartz will look into making that change.

Membership: Mary Johnson, Membership Chair, did not report any changes.

Website update: Board members liked the new Facebook page done by Merrill Kagan-Weston. Karen Wyeth pointed out that it doesn't come up with a Google search. The web site hasn't been done yet and the old one still exists. The old Facebook page also still exists and people seem to post there instead of on the new page. Karen Wyeth and Helen Harvey volunteered to review what needs to be done.

Phone tree update: The Board members feel that having a phone tree increases participation and it should be better organized. Melissa Ribley offered to contact Lynne Sullivan to help her expand the phone tree.

2014 Calendar Update: Sensory Schooling event was excellent, but did not have much participation by the Nevada County Horsemen. It was a lot of work and the Board should review whether to have it next year.

Skillman Work Day was rescheduled to Oct. 22.

The October Day Ride and BBQ will happen Oct. 18.

The Thanksgiving Feast will happen Nov. 11. Sue Brusin and Ginny Dix will give a short presentation on GCTC history. We will elect new Board members. Volunteers are needed to organize the food and cook turkeys.

New Business -

Location of meetings: The Nevada County Horsemen, Inc. have offered their facility for our General Meetings, as well as the Board meetings.

2015 Pioneer Trail Ride: Karen Schwartz would like to add a ride on the Pioneer Trail in 2015 to celebrate GCTC accomplishments.

Overland Emigrant Trail update: The Board of Supervisors has extended the closure of the trail easement for two more years during their August hearing.

GCTC No Alcohol policy review: The Board discussed the GCTC policy of not allowing alcohol at club events . Board members decided that we need to be very clear about the “no alcohol” policy. Fran Cole recommended that we adopt a Code of Conduct, so that there will be no confusion over what is expected at GCTC events. She has had previous experience with this in other organizations and volunteered to draft one for GCTC.

Meeting was adjourned at 8 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Karen Wyeth, Secretary
