

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
GOLD COUNTRY TRAILS COUNCIL, INC.

Tuesday, December 13, 2022

2:15 P.M.

Molloy Residence

13725 Wheeler Acres Road, Grass Valley, CA 95949

Officers:

President: Jamie Canon

Vice President: Helen Crawford McDermott

Secretary: Mary Lundin

Treasurer: Cathy Scott

Past President: Bernie Molloy

Board Members:

Miriam Lytle, absent

Laura Simmons

Teri Personeni

Administrative Members:

Mary Johnson, FS Liaison

Members in Attendance: Laura Duncan, Helen Harvey, Cheryl Herr, Jeff Foltz, Toni Owen, Debbie Molloy

A. Call to Order and Welcome-President Jamie Canon

Meeting was called to order at 2:30 P.M.

B. Changes or Additions to Agenda

Items #12 and 13 added to New Business

C. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting and Special Minutes

Minutes from October 11, 2022 Board Meeting-Motion to approve made by Helen Crawford with second by Laura Simmons. Motion carried.

D. Treasurer's Report-Cathy Scott

Our fiscal year runs from September 1st to August 31st. We took in more revenue than we spent this past year. We are within our requirements financially as a non-profit. Cathy created the budget last year and requests a 2nd person to help put together this year's budget. Jeff Foltz volunteered to help her with the new budget. We do have a list of our upcoming projects and the money set aside to accomplish them.

E. Forest Service Report-Mary Johnson

Heather Newell has retired from the Forest Service. Her replacement is unknown at this time. The position is Paul Hart's boss. Paul's position has changed to be in charge of motorized trails, and a new person will be in charge of non-motorized trails. Mary Johnson will reach out to the new person. There is also a new District Ranger. Mary and President Jamie Canon will set up a meeting with this new person.

Laura Duncan informed us that the Pines 2 Mines EIR is projected for completion by the end of next year. GCTC should designate a committee to ensure equestrian interests including access are represented.

Old Business

1. 2022 Accomplishments

Mary Johnson made a list of the 2022 accomplishments which were shared with members at the November meeting. They have been posted on the club website. Teri Personeni suggested that the list should be read again at the January 2023 membership meeting.

2. Hidden Falls Expansion Trails-Cathy Scott

Cathy Scott encouraged everyone to read about Placer Land Trust Goals of Conservatorship. It is not just about providing recreation; the main goal is conservation. Cathy feels that being involved with the Placer Land Trust provides an opportunity for input and education for future recreation use at Hidden Falls. One third of GCTC members are also PLT members. Local bicyclists are providing trail building assistance. She asked if GCTC should consider a workday with PLT or do we need to keep our workdays within the Hwy. 20/TNF range? A recent horseback ride on the trails showed the gates and latches required dismounting to open and close the many gates in the new expansion section. She proposed that GCTC might consider funding of approximately \$1500 for equestrian friendly gates/latches. Although PLT does not have funding to change the gates/latches, they are not opposed to GCTC providing these changes. When this expansion is complete, it will become owned by Placer County. A committee is being formed to follow this project and report back in the beginning of 2023. Committee members are Cathy Scott, Jeff Foltz, and Laura Simmons.

3. Poker Ride-Jamie Canon

Helen Crawford McDermott will chair the 2023 Poker Ride Fundraiser. Helen Harvey should still have the timeline of the process to accomplish this. She will begin work toward this event in January. Jamie has encouraged her to reach out to past Poker Ride Chairpersons for input.

4. Equipment Trailer

Purchase of an equipment trailer will depend on what we can find that we can afford. Five thousand dollars was approved by the board in the past but may not be enough to cover the purchase. The size will be determined by availability. We need to determine what would be too small or too big. Teri Personeni's husband and Gail Plakos's son-in-law watch auctions and may be able to look for one there. Jamie will talk to Teri and Mary Johnson will talk to Gail about asking for their help. Mary will also check with Scott Rabaneau about what size trailer the NCWR has. Cathy Scott will check into insurance, although the specific trailer will determine the cost and coverage. The trailer will be kept at Mary Johnson's ranch.

F. New Business

1. 2023 Calendar-Mary Johnson

Mary presented the proposed 2023 club calendar. No changes were suggested so Mary will type the calendar for Jaede to post on the website.

2. Purchase of iPad for GCTC-Jaede Miloslavich

Toni Owen and Helen Harvey strongly encouraged the Board to purchase an iPad for use at the meetings. This would not be for information storage. The main goal is to have an easily accessible way to join or renew membership at meetings, thereby reducing the time it takes to hand enter membership information into the data base. Prices between \$250 and \$500 were suggested. Laura Simmons has a used one she will donate so a purchase is not required at this time.

3. Developing GCTC handouts-Jamie Canon

Our tri-fold handout brochures need to be updated. They will include information about the history of GCTC, our mission, the horse camps and trails built and maintained by GCTC, with the emphasis on involvement with non-motorized trails. The purpose of these handouts is

to make the public aware of what we do to help provide public access to local trails and horse campgrounds. These would be provided at such places and events as Celebration of Trails Day, Horse Expo, local Chambers of Commerce, and the Tahoe National Forest Service Office in Nevada City. Mary Johnson is working on updating the business cards to be handed out. A work committee was not established at this time.

4. Porta Potty at Lone Grave this coming summer

The Board has agreed that GCTC will again provide a Port-A-Potty at the Gold Country Equestrian Trailhead this summer. A once-a-week cleaning is being requested. Mary Johnson will contact Ben's about the cost and GCTC's damage responsibility. A vote on the cost will be made after the information is received.

5. Possibility of purchasing 6 camp chairs as extras-Jamie Canon

Tabled at this time.

6. Plastic Water Bottle issue-Jamie Canon

Individual plastic water bottle use had been resumed due to Covid protections. The Board is ready now to stop this practice and encourage members to use reusable containers. GCTC also can provide water in club owned Igloo containers and paper cups.

7. Job assignment for each Board member (Poker Ride)

Discussion tabled at this time.

8. Barbara Hobbs Lifeline

Member Cheryl Herr suggested that members be encouraged to reach out to other members to create a "safety net connection." The purpose would be to periodically speak with a member who lives alone, so if they were found to not be seen or heard from, someone would be aware and seek contact. Cheryl will provide Jamie with a draft email that would be sent to Jaede for member distribution explaining her idea. This is not a sanctioned GCTC project as it is not part of our mission. It is to recognize the connection we have with others when there is a need.

9. Procedure Manual Review

As previously discussed, the Policy and Procedure Manual is outdated. A committee consisting of Mary Johnson, Mary Lundin, Cathy Scott, Helen Crawford McDermott, Jeff Foltz and Laura Duncan will meet after the holidays. A chairperson has not been designated yet.

10. Incident Report-Jamie Canon

Jamie reminded us to use these reports.

11. Nevada County's New Recreation and Trails Plan-Laura Duncan

Nevada County is preparing a recreation plan incorporating resilience and sustainability. It is important for GCTC to participate and represent interests of our group. It's time for GCTC to meet with recreation planners and other groups sharing common interests. Laura Duncan, Helen Harvey and Jamie Canon have been following this new plan via zoom meetings.

12. Membership-Toni Owen

Toni wasn't sure if her questions regarding how to make the membership roster work better had been answered previously, so she was hesitant to make the changes she deemed were needed. She wanted to know if she could encourage the use of online renewals rather than by paper. The answer to this is that members with questions or suggestions should email them to the president, and cc the vice president. They will either respond to that member, or create a line item for the next agenda. Items needing immediate answers will be discussed and/or voted on by the Board via email. Jamie will be sending an email in the new year with the protocol to be followed.

13. Newsletter Editor

Pamela Warmack has agreed to continue as newsletter editor until a replacement is found. We do need to actively look for a replacement. An announcement will be put together to be distributed by Jaede.

14. Strategic Plan-Jeff Foltz

The strategic plan was written in 2017 and included the Vision, Mission, and six goals going forward five years. It is time to review those goals and put forward goals/projects for the next five years. Jeff has agreed to head the committee to update the plan. Jamie and Bernie Molloy will be on committee. The committee will discuss using a survey as done before, seeking input about what members would like to see accomplished in the next five years. A review of the previous goals, met and unmet, should be presented to the Board. The question of how close to the grass roots work of the local trail system should we stay was asked. What issues do we want to take a stand for or against to maintain our vision and mission? How do we determine if we are meeting our goals and staying in line with our mission if we only look at the plan every five years? A date for the committee to meet was not set at this time.

Meeting was adjourned at 4:00 P.M.

Submitted by Mary Lundin, Secretary