

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
GOLD COUNTRY TRAILS COUNCIL, INC.
Tuesday, August 11, 2020, 7:00 p.m.
Teleconference

Officers:

President Bernie Molloy
Vice President Susan Donnelly
Secretary: Andi Duncan
Treasurer Cathy Scott
Past President Helen Harvey

Board Members:

Jamie Canon
Helen Crawford McDermott
Karen Hayden

General Members:

Cathy Chase, Membership

A. Call to Order and Welcome

Meeting was called to order by President Bernie Molloy at 7:05 p.m.

B. Changes or additions to agenda

Karen asked to add discussion of manure remarks by bicyclists to New Business.

Helen C. McD has update on a section of Pines to Mines trail – add to Old Business.

C. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting

June 9, 2020 Board of Directors minutes – Cathy Scott motioned to approve and Karen Hayden seconded. Motion passed.

D. Approval of Treasurer’s Report - Cathy Scott

As of 8/11/20 the checkbook balance is \$39,970.90 which includes \$3,571.17 earmarked for Pines to Mines. Revenue is down by about \$6,000 but expenses are also down. Dumpster service at Skillman began 7/8/2020.

Because no one has offered assistance with setup and monitoring of the trail camera system, Cathy Scott will purchase from GCTC at cost (\$109.94) for her own use.

As August is the final month of GCTC fiscal year, Cathy needs all revenue and expenses by the end of the month; please submit any requests for reimbursement expenses a.s.a.p.

CS provided full financial report, copy of checking and credit card account statements, reconciliation and activity reports, and membership PayPal report (total 15 pages). Also, summary page of balances, anticipated spending, and membership and donation income.

Andi Duncan motioned and Karen Hayden seconded to approve treasurer’s report. Motion passed.

E. Forest Service - Mary Johnson

Mary will be providing a Forest Service Report to Board Members in an email to come.

F. Old Business

1. **Port-a-Potty at Lone Grave:** Lack of toilet facilities has resulted in garbage, toilet paper in woods, etc. Manure left behind also continues to be a problem. Extensive discussion followed. It was still agreed that it is not feasible to arrange daily cleaning to meet USFS COVID-19 cleaning requirements so GCTC cannot provide port-a-potty. ***“Leave no trace (including T.P).”*** reminder flyers and notices will be posted on trees to help with education efforts. Jamie offered to make signs and Susan will assist with posting.
2. **Effect of COVID-19:** Bernie noted that the COVID-19 case numbers continue to increase. Helen Harvey said we must follow State of California guidelines which means no groups allowed of more than 10 persons unless they are family members. GCTC will continue with small work party model. There will be no general meeting in September.
3. **Pines to Mines:** Helen C. McD reported that she rode along the Pioneer Trail from Zeibright Road and Hwy 20 to the Spaulding Trail intersection. The trail is totally rideable but needs work along Bowman Road from under the power lines across from the Discovery Trail and farther down (eastward) along Bowman Road. Helen provided a detailed description (following the meeting) wherein she noted that she spent time clearing and moving obstacles and there is more work to be done. Since this section is part of the Pines to Mines trail, attention is warranted sometime in the future.

G. New Business

1. **Cathy Chase – Membership Chair:** Bernie thanked Cathy for resuming membership and for past service as Secretary.
2. **Andi Duncan – Secretary:** Bernie and Board welcomed and thanked Andi for taking over the secretary position in addition to Sunshine
3. **Corral Installation:** Helen Harvey and Cathy Scott reported all the work was completed and anti-theft (chains and locks) are in place. HH said Forest Service has noted increased use of Skillman as well as other parks. Helen C. McD. reported that she was riding through Skillman yesterday and three separate equestrian campsites were in use. She also met some campers/ equestrians from SoCal who gave very positive feedback about the Skillman facilities.
4. **Grange Rental:** Bernie said the Grange reached out to find out whether GCTC intends to use the Grange facilities in future. Rental fee is normally \$50/month and GCTC did contribute \$50 in April although no event was held then. Have not made any payments since. Discussion followed. Jamie made motion and Karen seconded -- GCTC will pay \$50/month for September through December 2020 for total of \$200 as donation to Grange and to save our place on the Grange's calendar. Motion carried.
5. **Thanksgiving Dinner:** Will make no announcement at this time. We will monitor the situation but it is unlikely that the event will take place in 2020.
6. **Manure Comments from Non-Equestrians:** Regarding email exchanges among GCTC members about a GCTC member's report that bicyclists were complaining about manure on the trails, extensive discussion followed. Finally agreed that GCTC needs to have talking points and a nice, easy, and positive response ready for use when confronted about manure. Cathy Scott suggested coming up with a line that can de-escalate angry comments, something that points out that horse manure is basically grass, does not carry any pathogens or disease, and it dries up within 24 hours. Once developed, this suggested blurb can be included in the newsletter.

Meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Submitted by Andi Duncan