

GOLD COUNTRY TRAILS COUNCIL, INC.
General Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, March 14, 2017 - 7 PM
Nevada County Horsemen's Clubhouse
10600 Bubbling Wells Road
Grass Valley, CA

Officers:

President	Laura Duncan, Absent
Vice President	Melissa Ribley, Presiding
Secretary	Susan Van Steenkiste
Treasurer	Teri Personeni
Past President	Karen Schwartz

Board Members:

Fran Cole, Absent
Helen Crawford, Absent
Charles Green

A. Call to Order and Welcome

Vice President Melissa Ribley welcomed visitors, new members and guests

B. Old Business (1)

1. Strategic Plan presentation - Helen Harvey

Helen presented the Strategic Plan, Mission Statement and Vision Statement to the membership. This plan was developed from the results of the monkey survey sent out to the members compiled by Jeff Foltz. Then Jeff led a panel of GCTC members who created the Strategic Plan. The document will be sent to the membership prior to the April board meeting. At that meeting board members will finalize the plan and determine a priority list of the plans objectives.

C. Approval of changes to Agenda

Melissa noted changes in the agenda. Changes were motioned and approved.

D. Approval of the previous meeting's minutes

Minutes were not printed in the newsletter so were not available for approval at this time. They will be presented to the board at a later date for approval.

E. Approval of the Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Teri Personeni reported the bank balance as of 3/14/17 to be \$30,383.11, with \$125.00 in income and \$514.00 in expenditures in the previous month. Acceptance of the report was motioned and approved.

F. Forest Service Report – Willie Brusin

Willie and Laura are continuing to work with the Tahoe National Forest on an MOU in regards to insurance coverage for GCTC volunteers working on TNF land. A written MOU is expected from TNF in the near future.

Trail maps have been completed by the local TNF Forest Service, from the input provided by Vicki Testa and Sue and Willie Brusin, for the Skillman and Lone Grave areas. The maps have been sent to the next level (Pacific Region Headquarters) for formatting. Some software incompatibility problems have slowed development of maps. No time line was given on expected production. Don Soto is making a steel frame presentation board for the Lone Grave map to replace the one that disappeared. Ginny Dix donated \$500 toward the Gold Country Equestrian Trail Head map in memory of her late husband, Don Dix, a founding member of GCTC. Funding for the large presentation map at the start of the Pioneer Trail at Harmony Market was provided by a grant written by Jet Lowe, YBONC. Jet is also writing a grant for a third map.

Paul Hart would like to have some grading done on a eroded section of the Pioneer Trail near the green gate between Harmony Market and the Lone Grave area. David Higbee was contacted by Willie and has agreed to grade the Gold Country Equestrian Trailhead and access road, the Overlook Trailhead and access road and the entrance road to Skillman Campground (when weather permits) for the board approved amount of \$1000. Some areas may need gravel. The Forest Service will be requested to cover that expense by Willie. If not, then a request for funding for gravel will go to the Board.

There are 3 trees down on trails in the Lone Grave area that will be cut. The Dascombe Trail reroute where it travels under power lines will be finished when the weather allows.

Trail signs are available from the Forest Service. Paul Hart may request a closure of one day in the spring to have his trail crew clear the trails of fallen trees in the Hwy. 20 area. They will use motorcycles to travel on the trails.

G. Old Business (2)

2. Calstar membership program update - Mary Johnson

The CalStar Emergency Transport Service has merged with AirMedCare. This service covers emergency air transport as requested by emergency responders, as well as travel to other care facilities. One membership covers all members in a household. GCTC members receive the discounted rate, which has increased from \$35 to \$55 as a result of the merger which increased the range of the service. It is suggested that GCTC members check with their own insurance providers to see if air transport is a covered benefit, and whether the AirMedCare would be a needed coverage.

3. Pioneer Trail work/ride/camp update - Karen Schwartz

The work/ride/campout, scheduled for May 17th-19th is open to members at Skillman Campground. The work portion of the event will be mostly brush clearing on the trails. A barbeque entre will be provided each night by GCTC. Potluck dishes are to be provided by members. For more information, email Karen at karen-schwartz@prodigy.net.

H. New Business

1. Recruitment for Historian position-Sharon Silver

Sharon Silver explained the Historian position and requested that anyone interested in the position contact her.

2. Trail work day news-Susan Donnelly

The Lone Grave workday is scheduled for Wednesday, April 19th. Two \$25 gift certificates will be raffled to members participating in the work day, along with a special prize for work day leaders. Lunch will be provided.

Melissa encouraged members to participate in at least one workday per year.

3. League of Women Voters study on Recreation in Nevada County.

Karen Schwartz reported that the Board of Supervisors has postponed the March presentation. GCTC members will be notified of the new date and are encouraged to attend.

I. Open for questions/input from membership

Suzanne Vaccaro asked when the Cable Trail will be open to Equestrians. She noted that she has seen bike tracks on the Cable Trail. Willie explained that per the Forest Service, the trail is not to be used until the Forest Service opens it later this Spring. Willie will advise the FS of this activity and reported that the TNF will announce the opening of the Cable Trail and there is a dedication event in the planning stages.

Jamie Canon (trail ride coordinator) requested the location of the club first aid kit. This needs to be located so it will be available for the planned Spenceville ride on March 18th.

Jaede Miloslavich reported on the Placer County Parks meeting regarding the expansion of Hidden Falls Regional Park. Many equestrians were in attendance. A webcam has been provided that allows riders to check the parking availability before they make the trip to the park. An email explaining how to access the webcam was sent to members by Jaede on March 10th.

Dr. Natalie Drost gave an update on the current Corona virus outbreak in our area.

J. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 7:50 PM for refreshments and turned over to the evening's speaker. Natalie Drost, DVM, gave a presentation on equine acupuncture.

Submitted by Susan Van Steenkiste, Mary Lundin and Mary Johnson