

GOLD COUNTRY TRAILS COUNCIL Board Meeting
Tuesday, June 9, 2015, 7 PM

NCHI Clubhouse, 10600 Bubbling Wells Rd. Grass Valley, CA

Attending:

President, Karen Schwartz Vice President, Melissa Ribley Secretary, Karen Wyeth
Treasurer, Teri Personeni

Others:

Forest Service Liaison, Willie Brusin Membership Chair, Mary Johnson Past President,
Helen Harvey

Board Members: Fran Cole

Vicki Testa

Call to Order: Karen Schwartz called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. The Board agreed that the usual time of meeting will be 7:00 PM. Melissa Ribley will run the July General meeting in Karen's absence. Members have complained about background noise at the May General meeting. We will request that anyone addressing the group should use the microphone.

Approval of the Minutes of the May meeting: Karen Wyeth has not been able to finish the minutes. She will send them out for review soon. Both May and June minutes can be approved at the July meeting.

Approval of the Treasurer's Report: Teri Personeni reported that the beginning balance (5/12/15) was \$26,964.85. The balance for 6/9/15 is \$27,966.39. The income from the Poker Ride was \$1,678.03. Expenses for the Poker Ride for this month were \$354.20. We also paid \$750 this month for our new web site. Income from new memberships totaled \$532.91. We need to hire an auditor to do the annual audit. Teri, Karen S., and Fran Cole will meet as a committee to arrange for this and to discuss other legal issues (see below under Old Business).

Forest Service Report:

Willie passed on historic maps to Teri.

Cable Trail - Tahoe National Forest personnel are meeting Wednesday, June 10. Heather Newell will email Willie the results of their meeting. He will forward it to Karen S. and she will send it to the Board.

Grouse Ridge - Willie received an email from Joe Chavez regarding the re-signing of the Grouse Ridge trail system. Paul Hart will be in charge of the re-signing project. Willie will let the Board know when he gets any information regarding the status of the signs.

Caltrans emergency phone - Willie has requested that an emergency phone box be installed where the cable crosses Rt. 20 to go to the town of Washington. Karen S. reported that Caltrans has a problem installing a phone that could be vandalized. The supervisor of that area will call her to discuss the possibility of installing a secure emergency phone.

Rice's Crossing - There is no new information about Rice's Crossing.

Skillman Campground - Linda Lanzoni will report on the review of the camp layout. Teri said that having only two faucets for horse water is a problem. Willie said there should be three and he doesn't think the Forest Service will agree to install more. Sue said that an additional faucet could be installed on the large horse trough.

July Workday - Willie and Sue requested that this work day, scheduled for July 25, should be for the trails near Skillman. The Omega work could be done on United Trails Day, since there are two project areas for non-motorized and motorized uses across Rt. 20 from each other. The Board agreed.

Old Business:

Legal Compliance Checklist - Fran is very concerned about legal compliance and liability issues. She pointed out that a conflict of interest policy is also not in our Policy and Procedures manual. Our expenditures must meet our public purpose as a non-profit and do not go for private benefit. Teri is concerned about lack of contracts for our expenditures and the reporting of income and expenses separately. An auditor will be hired in August. Fran, Karen S., and Teri will meet as a committee and address any obvious problems before then. Fran also pointed out that we need a binder with all of our minutes. Mary has binders and Karen Wyeth will put all minutes in them. The Board approved these legal concerns and supported the committee's work to resolve them.

Membership - Mary Johnson reported that there are 191 memberships, with 10 additional new members. She is concerned that non-renewing members be dropped from our email list, since this is a benefit of being a member. Mary will coordinate with Jaede regarding our email list. There was discussion of how often we should print our Members Phone Book. Updates can be sent out by email. We should also be sure that Policy and Procedure manuals be returned by outgoing Board members. Don Soto and Jeff Foltz may still have theirs. Fran needs one.

Leaders Update - Sandy Dent is our new Historian. Publicity Chair is Pamela Warmack. Camp Cook is Debbie Molloy. Sunshine Chair is Lana Dodd.

Website Update - Karen W. asked to update the Lone Grave map on the web site to the version that shows the GCTC staging area off Conservation Camp Rd. She also asked to improve the About/ History tab and to make sure the Calendar posted is accurate. The Board approved these actions.

Calendar Update - Review:

Running I, May 2 - There was confusion about costs for this event. If we have this next year, we need to decide if GCTC reserves the entire facility or if individuals will make their own reservations and we are not guaranteed exclusive use. The cost differential is considerable. (I believe that the owners don't set up all the obstacles and have them animated for individuals).

Cronan Ride Cancellation - Teri suggested that we consider this an informal ride, since it isn't a large group event like our Poker Ride. The ride organizer should always check about conflicts with any other scheduled group events as early as possible.

Poker Ride, May 16 - There was rain and it was cold, but the fire helped. There were half the usual participants and only 3 campsites used. We made about \$1,400 and gained about 10 new members.

Celebration of Trails Day, May 30 - Karen and Harry Wyeth, and Jaede organized the booth. The event was well-attended and we added one new member. Supervisor Richard Anderson spoke. We passed out over 30 information sheets and the maps for Lone Grave and Skillman were in demand. People also were interested in the newsletters and the photo albums. We need to create more accurate maps and have our web site url on more of our information, especially our newsletter. We also need more T-shirts in sizes S and M. There were a couple of requests for XS for kids. Mary will order more and she is planning to order a V-neck style as well.

Pioneer Trail Ride and Campout Cancellation - GCTC had reserved the entire Skillman Camp, but had cancelled the reservation. However, the Forest Service wouldn't take individual reservations because of the group reservation. Teri has kept the emails regarding this conflict. Those who still went paid for their reservations as individuals. Mary Byer and Karen Schwartz led a day ride, which was appreciated.

Upcoming:

Little Lasier Meadow - Mary Johnson reported that camping for Friday, Saturday & Sunday nights, June 26, 27 & 28 are blocked out. Any additional days should be paid by individuals. There has been a lot of interest. Mary J. will make final camp assignments so she can fit in as many as possible and accommodate everyone's needs as well as possible. Mary proposed that GCTC plan to install more corrals.

Royal Gorge Day Ride - Jamie Canon and Mary Byer will pre-ride the trails. It's scheduled for July 19 and we need a leader. The leader should join Jamie and Mary for the pre-ride.

Upper Pioneer Work Day, July 25 - This has been changed to a Skillman Work Day, because there is greater need there as requested by Sue Brusin. Vicki Testa volunteered to be the leader.

Loney Meadow Camp/Work/Ride, Aug. 16, 17, 18 - Teri Personeni will contact Irv Mazur re. the phone tree and Jaede re. email notification. Two weeks ahead would be good advance notice.

Lone Grave Porta-potty Update - Melissa Ribley reported that the porta-potty was vandalized and destroyed. It was replaced by the rental company, but we have a bill for \$350 to replace it. GCTC needs to decide whether to continue paying for its rental. This is the first time in ten years that it has been totally destroyed. If it is damaged again, the Board decided to discontinue the rental.

East Bay Hills Ride, Sept. 2-6 - Karen Schwartz wants people to let her know if they would like to go.

New Business:

East/West County Trails Meetings proposed by Supervisor Richard Anderson - Karen S. talked to Sup. Anderson at the Celebration of Trails Day. She recommends that we appoint an official representative at those meetings. She thought that Jaede had volunteered and the Board approved her as the representative. Karen S. will also contact other equestrian groups that may be interested in participating, e.g. Back Country Horsemen, American Endurance Ride Conference local members, Action Coalition for Equestrians, Nevada County Horsemen. If anyone has additional suggestions, please contact her.

Horse/Bike Sensory Clinic proposed by Jet Lowe - Due to concerns over conflicts between bicycles and horses, the Board decided that it is important to participate in planning this clinic.

Other New Business - Melissa Ribley passed out an article she wrote for AERC to follow up on the grant money they provided for the Pioneer Trail Re-Route between Skillman and the Overlook Equestrian Staging Area. She will send it to Lynn Mangel to print in our newsletter.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:05.

Respectfully submitted by Karen Wyeth, Secretary