

**GENERAL MEETING MINUTES
GOLD COUNTRY TRAILS COUNCIL
Tuesday, March 8, 2016 7 PM
Nevada County Horsemen's Clubhouse
10600 Bubbling Wells Road
Grass Valley, CA**

Officers Present:

President Laura Duncan
Secretary Mary Lundin
Treasurer Teri Personeni

Board Members:

**Merv Kril
Charles Green**

Call to Order and Welcome

Meeting was called to order at 7 PM by President Laura Duncan.

1. **Approval of the Minutes of the previous meeting**
Motions to approve Minutes made by Willie Brusin, seconded by Linda Lanzoni.

2. **Approval of the Treasurer's Report**
Teri Personeni reported the bank balance to be \$27,400.03 as of 2/29/16. Willie Brusin motioned and Barry Vacarro seconded approval of Treasurer's report. Teri then updated members on the financial committee audit of the 2014/2015 fiscal year by Teri, Ann Driver and Gail Anderson, noting that no discrepancies were found.

3. **Forest Service Report**
Paul Hart expects to have the clearance in April to proceed with the Cable Trail. Brush will be cleared from the proposed trail pad at that time. Paul Hart will put up the 25 multi-use carsonite trail stickers donated by GCTC for use at Burlington Ridge.
The Lone Grave workday scheduled for April 17th will include relocating a portion of the Dascombe Trail next to Rock Creek Road in a serpentine manner to eliminate erosion caused by water flow. This has been approved by Paul Hart. Brushing will be led by Irv Mazur.
Vicki Testa, Willie and Sue Brusin, met with Paul Hart regarding using the FS GIS to produce an updated map of the Burlington Ridge trails around Skillman Campground. Vicki will use the GIS and transmit the information to Jet Lowe of the FS who will produce the maps. We will continue to use our current maps until we receive the 50 new maps.

4. **"Very Old Business"** per President Laura Duncan
A plaque was presented to Vicki Testa from the GCTC board for her years of service to the club and as a board member. A picture will be submitted for the newsletter.

5. Old Business

A. 2016 Calendar Events

1. Additions (tack swap, line dance, draft horse barn tour, trail trial)
The tack swap was proposed in place of a speaker at a meeting. The line dance could be held during the July Ice Cream Social meeting. Trail trials could be held in September or October at the NCH arena. More information will be forthcoming on these and the barn tour by Allyn Carman for GCTC members at the Draft Horse Classic.

B. Pioneer Ride Update/Karen Schwartz

Karen was not present. It was noted that the date for the Skillman workday and work/camp/ride at Skillman is May 18th, and May 19th-21st, not the dates noted in the last newsletter. Skillman opens to the public on May 26th.

C. Poker Ride Update/Jeff Foltz

Jeff gave a thorough update on the process of running the Poker Ride fundraiser, what has been accomplished and what is still needed. The date is Saturday, June 4th. The flyer and registration form is available on the club website. Linda Lanzoni will handle the first-come camping reservations. Jeff asked every member to either donate an item or ask a vendor to donate an item for prizes. A silent auction will also be held. A 2-part donation receipt is available. One part is for the donor, and the other part will go to the club treasurer so she can send a thank-you acknowledgement.

6. New Business

A. Sound system purchase/Jaede Miloslavich

The newly purchased sound system was successfully used at this meeting. Workshops to train members for backup will be announced.

B. Credit card application/Teri Personeni

Teri has been making purchases for the club on her personal credit card. A card with a \$500 limit is available through Chase bank where the checking account is. Motion was made by Willie Brusin and seconded by Ruth Mazur to have Teri acquire this card for club use.

C. Tracking volunteer hours

Laura reminded members that club trail work hours are submitted to the Forest Service. They receive funding based on volunteer hours.

D. Publicity position recruitment

Teresa Dietrich has volunteered to be the Publicity chair.

E. Skillman Horse Camp improvements/Linda Lanzoni

Linda stated that the FS plans to run Skillman Horse Camp in 2016 the same as in the past. The FS is concerned about running the campground at a loss. The club is looking into placing temporary panel corrals in some sites to encourage use. Helen McDermott suggested using the campground area as a staging area if it is closed.

F. Three year strategic plan

Members were asked to think about what they would like to see in the three year plan.

G. Pt. Reyes support letter

The Morgan Horse Ranch at Pt. Reyes National Seashore will likely have no horses on site in the future, due to the use of motorized vehicles by the Rangers. Any club members who wish to support the continuation of having the horses on site can write to the park headquarters.

H. Celebration of Trails – 2016

The Nevada County Celebration of Trails will be on June 4th. The GCTC Poker Ride Fundraiser is our participation in the day, however, a volunteer to represent the club at the event is desired. Jaede has manned a booth at the event for the past two years and asks that someone else volunteer this year. This event offers a fun opportunity to meet other trail users and introduce them to GCTC's mission and local trails.

7. Adjourn

Meeting was adjourned at 8:00 for refreshments and to welcome our speaker for the evening, Erin McChesney, who spoke on Proper Conditioning for Trail: Endurance, NATRC or Horse Camping.

Submitted by Mary Lundin, Secretary