

MINUTES

GOLD COUNTRY TRAILS COUNCIL
Tuesday, December 17, 2015, 7 PM
Nevada County Horsemen's Clubhouse
10600 Bubbling Wells Rd.
Grass Valley, CA

Attending:

President: Karen Schwartz
2016 President: Laura Duncan
Secretary: Karen Wyeth
2016 Secretary: Mary Lundin
Treasurer: Teri Personeni

Board Members:

Vicki Testa (2015)/Merv Kril (2016)
Charles Green

Forest Service Liaison: Willie Brusin
Membership Chair: Mary Johnson

Others:

Sue Brusin
Gail Plakos

1. Call to Order: Karen Schwartz called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. She welcomed the new board members and thanked those who are leaving.
2. Minutes were not taken at the Thanksgiving feast. They will be written and submitted as soon as possible.
3. Approval of Treasurer's Report: The current bank balance is \$27,985.42. Teri reported that an outside audit is too expensive and not necessary for an organization with a low income. We can ask at the Jan. meeting for a member to volunteer to review our finances. Karen Schwartz has completed the form for directors and officers insurance. (Through a later email, Fran Cole informed us that Larry Viegas hadn't received it, so she provided it to him. We should receive a quote soon.) We will continue to contract for the Horsemen's Assn. room. Charles explained that we are charged for the large room for membership meetings, but not for the board meetings in the small room. Tom Stevenson does the booking. Jaede is borrowing a sound system for the Jan. meeting.
4. Forest Service Report:
Cable Trail - Paul Hart is still waiting for clearance of the reroute. He expects trail construction to occur in the spring of 2016.

Burlington Ridge - Paul and Rob are re-signing the Burlington Ridge area. Motorized trails should have unique colors. A final map will be made after the re-signing. Willie and Sue will meet with Paul in Jan. to hopefully receive a final trail map. He is working with Jet Lowe to make it official. The road will be marked. Vicki will attend the meeting with Willie and Sue.

Bullpen Lake Trail - There is a 60' easement for NEPA purposes to modify the steep part of the trail. Paul will flag it near the Lindsay Lake road sign for the GCTC Loney Meadow work day.

Lang's Crossing - The creek crossings are still in the planning stage. Paul wants to use natural material to avoid doing a review under NEPA.

Bowman Mountain Trail - The new trail needs to have less of a slope and it will go outside of the 60' easement. The steps will be removed. The planning for this with BONC has not been announced.

United Trails Day - The date to reroute the Pioneer Trail below Chalk Bluff Road has not been announced. Once the date is set, it will not be changed.

Skillman Campground - Linda Lanzoni hasn't been able to get a quote for the corrals. The recreation.gov function is going out to bid in 2016. Trash collection service has been expensive. Regular service must be paid for whether the camp is used or not. It may be possible to have on-demand service. We should pay contractors directly for any work we pay for.

5. Old Business:

Membership - Mary reported that 25 of the 100 non-renewals have renewed at the time of this meeting. Gail Plakos will be the hospitality chair.

2015 Calendar Events -

United Trails Day - GCTC had a good turnout, better than other groups. Debbie Malloy will continue as food chair for work days.

Thanksgiving Feast - Mary Lundin said that we didn't have enough social time. The meeting and dinner were at the same time and the program was during dessert. Mary Johnson suggested that for the election of board members, we give all members a chance to volunteer for all positions. If there are contested positions, our by-laws require that we conduct the election by secret ballot. The board will discuss these suggestions further during 2016.

2016 Calendar of Events - Cecelia should be able to block reservations for the Poker Ride, scheduled for June 4. She should be informed as soon as possible. Lasier scheduled for 6/25; Loney for 7/14 through 17. Merv will check date for Cronan ride to avoid conflict with any group event. Ask for trail bosses at the Jan. meeting. The Pioneer Ride can include work, so there should be no charge. Work in the morning,

ride in the afternoon. People could camp for 2 nights. We should do this 3 days before Skillman opens. We should work with Melissa and Robert on planning the work. Check with Jaede regarding the Celebration of Trails Day. If we work at Skillman in May, we don't need to work there in July. Aug. work day will be Wed., Aug. 24. Sept. work day, 9/17. Teri recommended that we have a sign-up sheet for work days. Thanksgiving Feast will be 11/8. Hospitality volunteers should arrive at 5:00 with social time starting at 5:30. We should meet with BONC and Woods Riders in Jan. to coordinate schedules, especially the United Trails Day. The Top Hand award will be announced at the Jan. meeting.

Website/Facebook/Newsletter - Laura suggested that we officially appoint Jaede the Communication Chair. She could also benefit from having a back-up and a committee to help. The board agreed.

Governance Committee - We will discuss this at the Feb. board meeting when Fran can attend. Harry Wyeth submitted some legal information about what non-profits are able to do, in order to assist the board in deciding whether to pay for the Pioneer Ride. He was not intending to serve on the Governance Committee.

Trails Committee - Karen Wyeth reported that she has a draft map of the Loney Meadow area that she obtained from Jet Lowe. She passed out copies. The board approved posting it on the web site and having a larger laminated copy prepared by Walker's Stationery for the Jan. meeting.

6. New Business:

Pioneer Trail Joint Work Day - Mary Johnson will coordinate a joint work day with YBONC, BONC, and the Woods Riders on the Pioneer Trail.

"Big Project Vision Statement" - Karen Schwartz recommended writing a plan for the next 3 to 5 years. The board agreed that it is time to do this.

Irv Mazur suggested that we schedule a Wed. night out at the Holbrooke Hotel where he plays music. He will ask them if they would donate a percentage of the dinner income to GCTC.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 pm

Submitted by Karen Wyeth, Secretary