

GENERAL MEETING MINUTES
GOLD COUNTRY TRAILS COUNCIL

Tuesday, September 13, 2016 7 PM

Nevada County Horsemen's Clubhouse

10600 Bubbling Wells Road

Grass Valley, CA

Officers:

President	Laura Duncan
Vice President	Melissa Ribley
Secretary	Mary Lundin
Treasurer	Teri Personeni
Past President	Karen Schwartz

Board Members:

Fran Cole
Charles Green
Merv Kril

1. Call to Order and Welcome

President Laura Duncan called the meeting to order at 7:10.

1. Approval of the Minutes of the previous meeting

Linda Lanzoni moved and Teri Personeni seconded that the minutes be approved.

1. Approval of the Treasurer's Report

Teri Personeni reported the balance was \$28,020.04 as of 8/31/16. Teri briefly reviewed the Year End Financials. She stated that the YE reporting was mostly finished except for a portion that she had trouble with the IRS website.

1. Forest Service Report

See attached report.

A. Bear Yuba Land Trust received a \$300,000 grant to improve trails and parking at Rice's Crossing. This will be 6 miles of trail in the beginning, with plans to go to Bridgeport (South Yuba State Park.) BYLT may also try to get a grant for a bridge at the penstock on the Pioneer Trail which is near Fuller Lake and the Lake Spaulding Trail.

B. The Bowman Mountain trail rock work will be scheduled to do in 2017. The trail rework needs a NEPA before it can proceed.

C. The 2nd weekend in July 2017 is to be reserved for the Loney Meadows workday. Paul Hart has asked GCTC to continue working on the Bull Pen Lake trail alignment.

D. Barry Vaccaro will create a new Lindsey Lake trail sign when TNF provides pictures of the old sign.

E. The Cable Trail work will resume as soon as it rains. It should be ready to ride next year.

F. The workday on Saturday, September 17, 2016 will be to clear brush on the Hallelujah Trail. Irv will coordinate the food. Meet at the Equestrian Overlook parking area at 8:00 for a 9:00 safety meeting.

G. Ginny Dix has sent a check for \$500 for the new trail map at the Gold Country Equestrian Trailhead as a memorial to her husband, Don Dix. Don Soto is building the new sign post.

H. Jet Lowe has asked for a GCTC person to be involved in the 2017 Grouse Fest which will hopefully include the relocation of the Bowman Mountain Trail. GCTC participation in the planning process will help to make sure the trails are equestrian friendly. It was noted that the Penner Lake Trail remake is not equestrian friendly.

I. The 2016 United Trails Day will be October 8th. Work will be on Chalk Bluff and Upper Burlington Roads with 8 new switchbacks added to the trails. Willie asked Irv if he would coordinate the day.

1. Old Business

A. Member notifications

Laura asked for suggestions from the members about how they would like to be informed of activities. Effectiveness of the phone tree is questioned.

B. Trail work coordinator position

Someone is needed to manage the sign up sheets, oversee the lunch, and basic processes of getting the work days organized. A description is available of the duties from Mary Johnson. Contact Jaede if you have an interest in this.

C. Skillman update-Melissa Ribley

Cecilia from the FS is in charge of the campgrounds in this area. She has agreed with the club's request to keep the campground open through October. Reservations will not be available and services will be minimal. Melissa asks that the club members use these facilities as a way to show the FS we want to continue having Skillman Campground available for equestrian camping.

D. Mines to Pines Trail update-Fran Cole

This is a long term project to connect trails between Truckee and Nevada City. At Fran's request, we will be equal partners with BONC and Truckee Trails Foundation. GCTC members should stay involved so that trails are appropriate for equine use. Fran suggested that funds from the proposed Frank Smith Ride fundraiser be used to contribute to this project.

E. Spring trail ride fundraiser

This would be on Frank Smith's ranch near Hwy. 49 in South County for GCTC members. No date has been set. Help is needed for this fundraiser.

F. GCTC T-shirt purchase

Mary Johnson and Fran Cole are looking into vendors. Linda Lanzoni has a source for vendors. Irv asked if the club was interested in hats with our logo.

G. September 17th work day

See discussion under Forest Service Report item F.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Election of 2017 officers

The nominating committee of Jaede Miloslovich and Karen Schwartz will gather nominations of officers and board members for the November election. Additional nominations will be asked for at the November meeting.

B. Three year strategic plan-Jeff Foltz

A survey is being put together to go out to members about their desires for the mission of GCTC in the future. A committee will go over input.

C. Insurance coverage for additional activities

Some members rode their horses in the local 4th of July parade and would like to do so in the future, as well as the Constitution Day parade, and Penn

Valley Rodeo. In order to represent GCTC, insurance coverage would be needed and is not currently provided for these activities. Members who are interested in these things should submit the ride information to the BOD who can then check with our carrier to see if insurance can be obtained.

D. Back up communication position

Pamela Warmack has volunteered to help Jaede with communications when she is not available. Any other members who would like to assist can contact Jaede for information.

E. November meeting date change

Because the regularly scheduled meeting falls on Election Day and the clubhouse is a polling place, the November meeting will be held on the 3rd Tuesday, November 15th, instead of the 2nd Tuesday.

F. Sunshine person

Charlotte Chapman is our Sunshine Person. If you know of a member who might need a bit of cheer, please contact her.

G. Draft Horse Classic barn tour

Allyn Carman reminded the group that she will provide a barn tour at the Draft Horse Classic for club members. Meet at the Carman barn at the fairgrounds at 1:00 on September 24th. There is no charge to enter the grounds during the DHC.

H. Work day participation - Irv Mazur

Irv reminded the club that without work done on the trails by volunteers, we would not have trails here. He also noted that some riders are unaware of their location when something happens, such as bee nests or injuries. Irv and Cathy Scott put up mile markers on the Dascombe Trail for better location awareness.

Willie Brusin spoke to the members about the passing of founding member, Don Dix. He spoke of many memories of trail rides and trips to various places with Don and Ginny, and Carl and Penny Avery, also founding members along with Willie and Sue. Don cooked chili for the Poker Ride, as well as read poker hands for many years. He participated in many ways throughout the club's existence, and will be missed greatly. Our heartfelt sympathies go out to Ginny and their family at this sad time.

1. Adjourn

Meeting was adjourned at 8:08 for refreshments and a very informative program by club member, Evelyn Soltero, owner of All About Wells.

Submitted by Mary Lundin, Secretary