

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
GOLD COUNTRY TRAILS COUNCIL, INC.
Tuesday, April 12, 2022
Golden Empire Grange
11363 Grange Lane, Grass Valley, CA

Officers:

President: Jamie Canon

Vice President: Helen Crawford McDermott

Secretary: Mary Lundin

Treasurer: Cathy Scott

Past President: Bernie Molloy

Board Members:

Miriam Lytle

Laura Simmons

Teri Personeni, absent

Administrative Members:

Mary Johnson, Forest Svc. Liaison

Toni Owen, Membership Chair

A. Call to Order and Welcome

Meeting was called to order at 5:42 by President Jamie Canon. The meeting was started early to accommodate a New Member Social at 7:00.

B. Changes or Additions to Agenda

Add update on Edge Trail clearing. Also need ride leader for Saturday.

C. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting and Special Minutes

Minutes from February 8, 2022 BOD Meeting were approved as written. Motion was made by Cathy Scott, seconded by Laura Simmons.

D. Presentation of Treasurer's Report

Cathy Scott stated the bank balance as of 4/12/22 to be \$44,848.99. A deposit from PayPal of \$916.70 is not included in this total. A full accounting was provided for the files.

E. Forest Service Report-Mary Johnson

A review was given of the March 23rd meeting with Mary Johnson, Jamie Canon, and Laura Duncan with Paul Hart of the TNF. Note was made that the reconstruction of the Pioneer Trail due to the construction of the Hwy. 20 project will be paid for by Cal Trans.

A question from the membership about the non-equestrian vehicle parking at the GCET staging area was asked. It was noted that vehicle parking often obstructs trailer turn around space. Is there a way to inform/educate non-equestrian users about ways to consider this need when using this staging area? Full Forest Service report is attached.

F. Old Business

1. Power Tools Update-Helen Crawford

A battery operated 18" chain saw from EGO was recommended. Extra batteries will need to be purchased as they don't hold a charge for long after many uses. Bernie Molloy suggested buying batteries from Amazon as they are cheaper and well made. Long and short handled loppers and a hedge trimmer are still needed by the club. A motion was passed to allot \$1500 to purchase these items was made by Helen Crawford and seconded by Miriam Lytle. Mary Johnson suggested that we approach B&C Hardware with the cost to purchase online

and ask if they would meet or beat that price for our non-profit organization. Cathy Scott and Jamie Canon will talk with B&C about this.

2. United Trails Day 2022-Mary Johnson

Paul Hart has agreed that the annual United Trails Day will be held this year, pending weather and fire conditions. It has not been held in the last two years due to covid. This event includes GCTC, TNF, Nevada County Woods Riders and Bicyclists of Nevada County and is held on the first Saturday in October. This event began in 2008 as a way to have the different user groups get to know each other as shared users of the trails in the Tahoe National Forest. GCTC generally provides the meal after the workday, although it can alternate between the different groups. The three user groups split the cost of the meal. Because of the increasing fire danger in October, consideration is being made to change the event to earlier in the season.

3. Apparel Chairperson Needed

Sandrine Farrish has volunteered to be the Apparel Chairperson, working with Andi Duncan. A name change to Merchandise from Apparel was made to more correctly reflect the items available, such as drink containers and club emblem stickers. The question of making ordering available on the website was discussed. Because pricing is determined by quantity, further discussion is needed to see if this option is functional.

4. Poker Ride Fundraiser Update-Laura Duncan

Laura is getting the annual fundraiser organized and some members have already stepped up to make it happen. Bill Dryden will assist Barry Vaccaro with the barbeque and GCTC will provide the meat for the BBQ and the side dishes while members are asked to bring appetizers and desserts. Cal McKittrick will be the photographer. Laurie Sweeney and Mike Peckham will be campground hosts, camping there and getting campers settled into their respective sites. Prizes for the Poker Hand Winner, the raffle and the silent auction are needed. Members are encouraged to solicit prizes from vendors they use. The club has tax deductible gift forms available to provide to the vendors. A prize coordinator is still needed. Many members at the meeting volunteered for cleanup help, as there is always a need for that. This year a new method of calculating poker hands will be used to expedite the process. A new method of receiving the pre-registration packets will speed up that process. Laura reminded us to encourage "retired riders" who may not plan to attend because they aren't riding, that there are many ways they can help this fundraiser be a success. Give Laura a call or send an email to get involved. This event is so important to the continued access to non-motorized trails that Horses Honor organization has donated \$50 to GCTC in support of what we do. To top this off, there will be a GCTC members only guided trail ride on Sunday at Skillman Horse Camp.

5. Trail location software committee update-Toni Owen

Toni gave an update on the progress of the trail software committee who will meet again next week. The plan is to make a Map Library for our website. Once a specific software is chosen, instruction will be given on its use. A good way to practice using the software is to take your dog for a walk and record it.

G. New Business

1. Nonmotorized Trail Advocacy- Helen Harvey

This will be covered during the New Member Social. Instead, Helen discussed the upcoming Celebration of Trails Day that is held June 4th, the same day as our annual Poker Ride Fundraiser. The Bear Yuba Land Trust has asked if we would be having a guided horse ride

or kids hike at Lone Grave for this event again this year. The board decided against that but will continue to have a booth and possibly a horse in attendance.

2. May 7th Day Ride

The date has been changed to May 4th for a proposed ride from Skillman to the town of Washington. This is a 4- to-5-miles ride each way down Alpha Road which is mostly on a dirt surface. This ride was very successful in the past, even making the local newspaper. The previous owner of the Washington Hotel, Sue, provided a rope line to tie the horses to and water troughs. Some local children were given rides on some of the horses. This year will have a slightly different set up per Jamie.

3. May 21st Penn Valley Parade

Jaede recently sent out an email describing the upcoming Penn Valley Parade on May 21st. This is an easy 1-mile parade route from Western Gateway Park to the Rodeo Grounds. If your horse doesn't mind a crowd and can walk in pairs down the flat parade route, contact Linda Lanzoni to get signed up. For non-riders, there are other opportunities to be in the parade representing GCTC.

4. Picnic Tables at Harmony Ridge -President Jamie Canon

The opportunity to replace at least one picnic table at the Harmony Ridge Market was discussed. The old tables took a real beating over this past winter. These tables are frequently used by equestrians as well as bicyclists riding at Lone Grave and stopping for refreshments at the market. Someone will need to be in charge of finding out the cost, and asking BONC if they would like to share the cost. It was suggested that the table be labeled with "Provided by GCTC and BONC."

5. Invite General Membership To Board Meetings-President Jamie Canon

Jamie has encouraged board members to personally invite new members to attend board meetings. These meetings provide a wonderful opportunity to see what makes the club work, and can encourage members to volunteer for needed positions. Input from members when they have an idea to share or comments are always welcome. The idea of a time to be set aside for an "open comments period" was discussed.

6. Strategic Plan- Jeff Foltz

To be discussed during New Member Social.

7. **Added**-Tree on the Edge Trail at Lone Grave has been cut and cleared off the trail.

8. **Added**-A trail leader is needed for the ride on Saturday.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:55 for the start of the New Member Social.

Addition to the Minutes:

The New Member Social was attended by many new members, as well as some "already members."

Topics covered were a welcome by President Jamie Canon, introduction of board members and an introduction by each person attending. Jeff Foltz summarized the club's mission and strategic plan. Mary Johnson explained the partnership between GCTC and the Tahoe National Forest, and about trail rides, workdays and campouts, as well as the purpose of Trail Patrol. Helen Harvey explained the need for continued non-motorized trail advocacy. Laura Duncan introduced the new members to our annual Poker Ride Fundraiser, it's reason and the way the members make it successful. Jaede explained our email notification system, the website, and overall social media access. An open forum followed, with refreshments provided by Phyllis Fanning.

Submitted by Mary Lundin, Secretary