

GOLD COUNTRY TRAILS COUNCIL BOARD MEETING
Tuesday, April 14, 2015

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

Attending:

Karen Schwartz, President

Melissa Ribley, Vice President Karen Wyeth, Secretary

Teri Personeni, Treasurer

Board Members: Fran Cole Charles Green Vicki Testa

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

Others: Linda Lanzoni Jaede Miloslavich Sue Brusin

Call to Order: Karen Schwartz called the meeting to order at 6:04 PM. Sound quality at the March meeting seemed better for the PA system, but the room still echoed with so many people talking during the tack swap. Treasurer's report moved to after the Forest Service report.

Approval of the Minutes of the March meeting: The minutes were approved.

Forest Service Report: Willie Brusin met with Paul Hart at Chalk Bluff and Upper Burlington. They discussed unauthorized signs from Pioneer Trail to the multi-use trail. Paul has put up 45 new signs in the Burlington trail system.

Skillman - Cory Richardson is the new campground coordinator for the Tahoe National Forest. He's in charge of maintenance and likes the idea of no rocks that would be a problem for horse trailers at Skillman. He supports grinding stumps and is generally very cooperative. He seems to support the proposed layout of the campground. Water is turned on at Skillman and the waterline repaired.

Horse water is turned off at the green box. Water troughs are in place. Downed wood will be transported to White Cloud and split for campers. All of the red-tagged trees will be removed. The TNF crew will clean up most of the brush, but we will have to finish the job during the workday. Six manure signs need to be ordered and given to Cory. A manure bin will be installed. A new lock has been purchased for the Skillman Gate. The combination is 2119. Teri suggested that we have our own lock on the chain. Willie and Pat Gibbs surveyed the camp, but it's hard to find markers even with a metal detector. Teri, Melissa, Cory, Cecilia and Linda will meet at Skillman and mark the plans. A question came up about whether GCTC was building and paying for the new corrals.

The prefabricated bridges are available on websites. Paul needs to secure permission to place the bridges over the two small creeks on the Pioneer Trail

near Lang's Crossing. He would prefer to build the bridges out of natural material on the site.

The Cable Trail meeting with the biologist and archaeologist will take place on the last week of April. We may hear in May on the status of the trail. There are three local trail machine operators in the area. Estimates range between \$1,000 and \$3,000 per day. Willie thinks it won't take more than one day. Paul will select the operator.

Paul couldn't submit the application for the green sticker funds this year for a multi-use parking area at Upper Burlington. He will do it for 2016.

Sue and Willie gave a talk on trail locations and maps in the Hwy 20 corridor to the Nevada County Horsemen, Inc. on Friday, April 10.

Sue put out trail maps at the Gold Country Equestrian Trailhead. Four areas were flagged to be pruned for the Lone Grave workday. There is also flagging for more extensive clearing by the Forest Service.

The Forest Service recommends that GCTC submit a date for the 2016 Poker Ride to Cecilia after this year's ride, and then again in January so we're assured of our preferred date.

Sue and Willie have six hours each at Skillman and four hours each for planning the Lone Grave workday.

Rice's Crossing - the park is 2/3 in Yuba County and 1/3 in Nevada County. Sue said that the bridge over the gully will be difficult to build and expensive. It probably won't be done this year. GCTC donated \$450 to the Rice's Crossing effort. We will be involved in planning trails so they will be suitable for horses.

Approval of Treasurer's Report: Teri reported that we had \$27,509.26 in the bank in Feb. Income was \$511.76 and expenses were \$303.89. Current bank balance is \$27,717.13. Report was approved. It was generally felt that we don't need a more detailed report. Karen Schwartz wants recommendations on an independent auditor.

Old Business:

Membership - Mary Johnson reported that she was still receiving renewals. She hasn't received membership forms when people use Pay Pal. This will be fixed with the new web site. She estimated that there are about 169 members. The phone directory will be sent out as pdf to everyone on the email list.

Leaders update - Pamela Warmack is the new publicity person. There is no permanent camp cook or historian. Karen S. asked whether we need to have a historian or whether our Facebook page could replace the need for one. Irv Mazur will be the phone tree organizer. Karen and Harry Wyeth will lead the Lone Grave workday. Debbie Malloy and her husband will be the cooks and will consider being the permanent camp cooks for the rest of the season.

Website Review - Helen Harvey recommends finding a web platform other than Word Press. Of the two website designers we have information about, only one is working with Weebly. We could make changes at any time to the web page content and it produces a very user-friendly site. The Board selected a home page style and approved a contract with Punk Rock Tech owned by Britney Yunker. The motion was made by Teri, seconded by Fran with modification of timing and milestones. Approved unanimously.

The Board discussed problems with the current Facebook page, such as the inability of GCTC to make changes to the calendar. Karen Wyeth moved that we go back to the original Facebook page, take down the current one. The new FB page would become active when the web site goes live. Karen Schwartz will notify Merrill after the Board approves the first 3 pages of the web site. Seconded by Teri. Approved unanimously. The web site and the Facebook page should have links to each other both ways.

Calendar Update -

- 1 - Lone Grave Trail Work Day April 18th-The Wyeth's will send out a reminder of the workday.
- 2 - Running I Schooling Event, May 2nd, has had a number of people going. There is still room for more.
- 3 - Skillman Work Day, May 13, should be added to the agenda. Debbie Malloy will be the camp cook for that day. Melissa and Robert Ribley are the leaders.
- 4 - Cronan Ranch, May 9th, will be led by Merrill Kagan-Weston.
- 5 - Poker Ride, May 16th-Linda Lanzoni has only one entry so far, but the corrals are full. Email notification is not out yet. Jaede said that we don't have all previous entries in digital format. These need to be sent from a Yahoo account. Everyone should post the event on their own Facebook page to help expand the notification. Debbie is unable to be the cook for the Poker Ride. Fran Cole suggested having a food truck. Linda needs someone to camp there Friday night to welcome riders who are camping there and make sure campers end up in their correct campsite. Teri Personeni volunteered to be there. Karen Wyeth asked about printing a map of the route so people could ride it later. She, Linda and Sue will look into doing that.
- 6 - Celebration of Trails Day, May 30 - Karen S. asked whether anyone would like to lead a ride on that day at Lone Grave. No one volunteered. Jaede and Karen S. will be there at the GCTC table. Karen W. volunteered to help out with that.

1 - Pioneer Trail Ride - Skillman is reserved June 2-4 for the Pioneer Trail Ride and campout. Sue will get maps from Jet Lowe. There could be catering Tues. and Wed. Melissa knows a Mexican food service and will send the name to Karen S. Fran will give Karen S. the food service names from the Lacy J. Dalton event.

2 - East Bay Hills Trail Ride, Sept. 2-6 - Karen S. has arranged for Morris Older to speak at the May General Meeting about this ride.

Lone Grave PortaPotty Update - It has been installed and is supposed to be serviced every other week for \$90. Teri saw that it had been serviced weekly and had little toilet paper. Melissa will check into it.

Insurance paperwork errors - Karen S. will send Teri changes needed to paperwork.

Legal Compliance Checklist - Fran Cole is concerned that individual Board members are not protected against liability, and that GCTC doesn't have a Conflict of Interest Statement. Legal issues will be scheduled for the next Board meeting at an earlier time in the agenda.

New Business:

Focus Group Meeting for Donner Memorial State Park - It's scheduled for April 30 from 6:00 to 8:30 PM. Helen can't go. No one volunteered.

3 Meeting adjourned at 8:15 PM.

4 Respectfully submitted by Karen Wyeth, Secretary