**General Membership Meeting Minutes**

**GOLD COUNTRY TRAILS COUNCIL, INC.**

**Tuesday, January 9, 2018 7 PM**

**Nevada County Horsemen’s Clubhouse**

**10600 Bubbling Wells Road**

**Grass Valley, CA**

**Officers: Board Members:**

**President Helen Harvey Bernie Molloy, Absent**

**Vice President unfilled Helen Crawford**

**Secretary Mary Lundin Elicia Kamberg, Absent**

**Treasurer Teri Personeni**

**Past President Laura Duncan**

**A. Call to Order and Welcome**

 Meeting was called to order at 7:03 by President Helen Harvey.

**B. Changes or additions to agenda**

 Add #3 and 4 to New Business. Delete #3 under Old Business.

**C. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meetings**

 September 2017 and November 2017 General Minutes approved.

**D. Approval of Treasurer’s Report**

Teri Personeni reported the bank balance as of December 31, 2017 to be $32,543.44. Profit and Loss Statement showed a net profit of $762.71. Treasurer’s Report approved.

**E. Forest Service Report-Mary Johnson**

1.)  In order to do trail work in the Grouse Ridge area, Paul Hart, TNF has initiated a plan to create a NEPA report for a large section of the area so that when trail work is needed there will not have to be separate NEPA's created. That is not on the schedule for 2018 as there are other trail projects in the district that will done first. However, the improvement for the rocky area on the Bowman Mountain Trail is still scheduled for 2018. The date has yet to be set. Paul Hart also reports that there will be two backcountry patrollers in the Grouse Ridge area for next season.

2.)  The trees that were reported down on the Spaulding Lake trail in August, as well as downed trees off Excelsior and on the Burlington Ridge trails were removed by TNF crew. Additional tree issues were reported by the trail adoption program and Paul has been notified.

3.)  There is no new information on the status of Lone Grave Area maps that are being prepared by Jet Lowe, TNF.
As reported earlier, the Burlington Ridge trail map has been completed and is available at the Chalk Bluff trailhead or at the Coyote Street TNF office. Those maps were paid for through Green Sticker (motorized vehicle funds). The maps highlight the motorized trails, but also show the non- motorized trails.

4.)  A trail work day was conducted by BONC on the Hoot Trail on December 10, 2017. The objective was to clear sight lines by trimming brush, and minimize features of the trail that were not user friendly to other non-motorized users.

5.) A letter was received from the Tahoe National Forest Supervisors Office announcing a proposed Yuba Trails Enhancement Project. The project is located north of Downieville and is in Sierra County.  The project consists of four proposed motorized trail re-routes and three unauthorized route removals.  This proposed project does not directly affect GCTC's work area so is information only at this time.

**F. Old Business**

**1. Pines to Mines/GCTC Fundraiser-Laura Duncan**

A grant application is being prepared to construct a non-motorized bridge over the Spaulding spillway. GCTC participation will be the Tack Sale fundraiser, and the $1000 donation already approved. Elicia Kamberg has secured the use of the Loomis Basin covered arena for March 18th.

**2. Hoot Trail Update-Cathy Scott**

Cathy, Sue Brusin and Suzanne Vaccaro hiked the trail on Sunday. They noted no changes to the trail since summer. Cathy contacted Paul Hart and asked for an update. GCTC wants to be involved in modifications and work. She spoke with cyclists. They prefer to travel one direction for safety.

**3. Meeting location for Board Meetings**

 Removed from agenda.

**4. Trail Sections Assignments**

The Adopt-A-Trail trail section assignments are to keep trails clear of downed trees, erosion, and other obstacles. When an obstacle is observed, take notes or pictures, including of any poles or signs that indicate location. This will also help to determine if this is a GCTC or FS removal. Talk to Mary Johnson if you want to sign up.

**5. Reimbursement Policy**

The form to obtain reimbursements is available on the website. Receipts must be attached. The reimbursement policy is that anything over $200 needs prior Board approval for Board Members and Chairpersons. Any expenditures by general membership requires prior approval of President or Vice President.

**G. New Business**

**1. Membership Statistics-Cathy Chase**

Currently there are 212 renewed memberships, and 146 who have not renewed. The new membership roster will hopefully be available in March.

**2. 2018 Work Day Calendar**

Jaede displayed the proposed 2018 calendar. Added were Tevis on July 28th, May 19th Penn Valley Parade, and July 4th, Nevada City Independence Day Parade, all non-GCTC sponsored events, but important to note. Also mentioned to try for September for the Skillman Campout/Pioneer Ride.

**3. ACE letter of support from GCTC**

Jaede reviewed the letter from Action Coalition for Equestrians commenting on the new General Plan for Auburn State Recreation Area regarding trails. GCTC has added our name to this letter, along with several other individuals and groups, in support of additional safety measures for trail users, especially equestrians.

**4. NCH Rent Increase-Teri Personeni**

Beginning January 1st, the rent for the NCH Clubhouse for our meetings has increased from $50 to $75 per use, plus an additional $75 for use of the kitchen during the Thanksgiving dinner meeting.

**Additional information from the membership**: Sonja, the representative from Cal Star/Reach informed us that CARE FLIGHT is the emergency evacuation provider for the Truckee/Nevada State area, and are not members of the Cal Star/Reach network. If you recreate in those areas, it is best to join that provider’s plan as well.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:56, followed by refreshments. Speaker was Shaun Clarke, Land Access Manager, Bear Yuba Land Trust who shared the accomplishments as well as future plans of BYLT in regard to saving open space for public enjoyment. He stressed their desire to work in conjunction with groups like GCTC to further this goal.

Submitted by Mary Lundin, Secretary