

SIERRA FREEPACKERS MEETING MINUTES  
May 21, 2019

Meeting called to order by President Cathy Miller at 6:34 p.m. in the Oakhurst Library.

Minutes: Motion to approve the April minutes as presented made by Mary; seconded by Karoline.  
Minutes approved as presented.

Treasurer's Report: Laurie reported a small decrease to the balance due to some checks paid out.

Membership: Laurie reported we have one new member and several others renewed.

Education: Denise will cover the pack clinic later in the meeting.

Public Lands: Bob not present. Nothing to report.

Old Business:

1. Raymond Parade: The unit was well represented with 6 riders and 3 pack animals. Mary mentioned it would be nice, next year, to have the kids walk in front with the banner so attendees know who we are.
2. Pack Clinic: Denise reported the pack clinic went very well. Including members at the clinic, total attendees were 31. Tentative plans will be to hold another in the fall or spring.
3. Forest Service Awards: Cathy, Mary, Denise and Sharon attended the Sierra National Forest Volunteer Award Ceremony in Clovis. It was reported that there are double the number of volunteer groups working with the FS compared to previous years. The unit was recognized with award for cultural diversity; Denise was recognized having more than 4000 hours of volunteer service; she earned a Lifetime Achievement Award. Yay Denise!! Patricia was recognized for volunteering over 1000 hours; she earned a Chief's Award.
4. Heritage Days: Mary reported about 1000 kids/parents/teachers visited our display/animals at the event; and that the members present talked to half of them. Denise made some suggestions for more interactive displays for the kids; and games for kids to earn treats to give to the animals. Or treats to give to kids. Anyway, more treats needed.
5. Bass Lake Trail Work: A work day scheduled for May 7 resulted in 60 trees removed in 1.5 miles. Previously on a work day in the same area 42 trees were removed. Happily, there are fewer and fewer trees to fall. The end will come soon. The bike group replaced the bell boxes. Mary reported the trail signs are gone; she will speak to Cori about replacement.

New Business:

1. Kelty Work Day: Planned for June 1. The plan is for fence repair, pump repair and installation; corral moving. Maybe some tree removal if necessary. General discussion about equipment, logistics and such. Start time 9:00 at Kelty.
2. Big Meadow Camp Host: SanJoaquin unit hosts at BM all summer. They reached out to us to see if any members were interesting in hosting July 21 through August 10; and again September 15-29. You'll get a site and 2 corrals. You get to clean bathrooms and remind visitors of the rules. There is water for stock but you will need to bring your own people water. If interested contact Jim Knapp.
3. Tires For Water Trailer: Denise reported the water trailer has teeny tiny tires. It actually needs bigger tires to adequately handle the load. With bigger tires comes the need for a larger axle. Do we want to upgrade the existing trailer or buy a new one? Karoline mentioned she might know of a

trailer that might be available. Denise will look into the costs of replacing the whole trailer and report back.

4. Purchase of Storage Trailer: General discussion about what we need in a storage trailer; that can hold all the tools and demonstration devices for the unit. Can be stored and moved from member to member's house. A house with a large yard. Like John's. Karoline might know of such a trailer as well; she will report back.
5. Addition: John reported that a cross cut saw class is being planned for sawyers needing recertification. Members are also interested in initial certification; John to check with Dave Moser about that and get back to us.

General Discussion/Announcements:

None

The next meeting will be Tuesday, June 18, 2019 at 6:30 p.m. in the Oakhurst Library.

Meeting adjourned at 8:01 p.m; motioned by Karoline, seconded by John.

Respectfully submitted,  
Sharon Seslowe