**Sierra Freepackers Meeting March 20, 2018**

**Call to order** by Cathy Miller t 6:30 pm

Minutes approved as presented

**Treasurer report** presented by treasurer Laurie Wagoner

Beginning Balance: $3633.83

Checks paid out: YLP Barn $75.00 Weir & Assoc. Accounting $85.00 John Wagoner 14.88 Total: 174.88

 Ending Balance : $3458.95

**Membership**  Laurie Wagoner No new members or renewals this month

**Education** Denise Robinson, reviewed the 7 principals of Leave No Trace (LNT)

1. Plan Ahead and Prepare

2. Know the regulations and special concerns for the area you'll visit.

3. Prepare for extreme weather, hazards, and emergencies.

4. Schedule your trip to avoid times of high use.

5. Visit in small groups when possible. Consider splitting larger groups into smaller groups.

6. Repackage food to minimize waste.

7. Use a map and compass to eliminate the use of marking paint, rock cairns or flagging.

**Public lands** Jay Sezlowe was not able to attend

**Old Business**

1. Spring Cove Trail: Mary Odell reported that grant proposal was submitted and expects to get the reply in about a month

2. By laws: Cathy Miller presented the By Laws ARTICLE III. OFFICERS and ARTICLE V. MEMBERSHIP discrepancies between By Laws and current practices were discussed by Board and present Membership and a consensus was reached that Cathy Miller will write a draft of the By Laws amending them to reflect current practices and present them at the April meeting for consideration.

3. South Fork trail: Trail Blazers plan a hike/trail work from Hite Cove on March 26,27,28

**New Business**

1. Raymond Parade April 21, 12pm meet at parking area behind fire house 10:30am. Wear blue jeans, white shirt, unit Bandana and hat or helmet. Bringing a pack animal is encouraged. Cathy Miller is going to purchase Flags, poles and stirrup holders. LNT Principles signs that can be displayed on the packs for parades and other events was discussed.

2. YLP horse show booth was discussed and the consensus was that we should wait for better weather

3. Pack clinic to be held Monday April 2nd at the Raymond Rodeo grounds at 10:00am

4. National Trails Day June 2, 20018 Mary will follow up with having the Sierra Freepackers listed on their site

 5. Volunteer hours report Mary Odell amended the unit’s final volunteer hour value for totals 2017 to 198360.95, 276. Miles, 881 contacts

6. Grants Trail Stewardship Grant was discussed

7. Granite Creek work party, other pack trips? Scheduled July 15-20 High Sierra Volunteer Trail Crew is going to work at Camp 77 August 19-25 is asking for pack support .

**Announcements:**

1. We have been invited to participate in Heritage Days, May 4th 8-1pm with stock they will provide panels

2. Manzanita Lake there are plans to enhance the recreational facilities may include horse camping and trails. The Coarsegold Resource Conservation District and PG&E

**Next meeting** 6:30 April 17, 2018 at the Oakhurst Library

**Meeting adjourned**: 8:05pm

Minutes submitted by:

Patricia Vallentyne