

SIERRA FREEPACKERS MEETING MINUTES  
October 15, 2019

Meeting called to order by President Cathy Miller at 6:37 p.m. in the Oakhurst Library.

Minutes: Motion to approve the September minutes as presented made by Mary, seconded by Kelli.  
Minutes approved.

Treasurer's Report: No report; Laurie absent.

Membership: No report; Laurie absent.

Education: Denise brought in and shared some new hang tags. There are now special tags for specific groups of users: front country, canoers, hunters, fishermen, etc. A special tag for stock users will be coming soon. Denise also mentioned the state has extra education money and will divide it up among the units.

Public Lands: Patricia reported that the public comment period for motorized bikes in the wilderness has ended.

Old Business:

1. Granite Creek Corral Tear Down: Completed 9/25. Went without a hitch; lots of people helped make the job go easy. Three panels were brought out for Dave to repair. Discussion as to if we want to find a grant to replace the wooden portion of the corrals with panels or not. Denise reported Dave had some plans on possible arrangements of panels. Denise to follow up with costs of additional panels, clamps, nuts and bolts needed. Mary agreed to check with Karen Kroske for grant possibilities.
2. Public Lands Day: The unit met at Snow Play area to clean and repair the Kiosk, pick up trash and put out a hard smoldering fire left unattended. Mary suggested we create a sheet we can leave at camp sites saying we were there, pointing out good things and also things that can be improved on. Mary suggested Patricia create the sheet; focusing on trash, human/stock waste and fire.
3. State Board Meeting: Cathy and Denise attended the meeting at Santa Nella 10/12. Topics discussed include new volunteer hour reporting instructions going into effect 1/1/20; new insurance information and instructions; units now have 7 public days; and for parade planning it's critical that if you say you're going to be there you need to be there as the state insurance will be paying per person and per animal. Denise also reported the state is losing members; the trend is getting worse. Emphasis on targeting young people to join. Discussion on what some units are doing to "celebrate" new members; and what we might be able to do along those lines: quarterly newsletter; more fun days fewer work days; toy delivery on horseback at Christmas; canned food drive with pack animals; and other incentives to encourage membership.

New Business:

1. Enclosed Trailer: We need to set a budget and a trailer size. Tabled for further discussion at next meeting.
2. AHRP Kiosk: Gloria reported she had no new information from the AHRP board. She will attend the next board meeting and will report back at our next meeting; if AHRP doesn't want the kiosk we can get it placed in Granite Creek.
3. Rendezvous: Scheduled for March 27-29 in Red Bluff. Early plans are coming along. Scheduled for Tulare in 2021; and our unit has been asked to help and we are planning to do so.

4. Hensley: We received a report of trails needing work at Hensley; as soon as it starts to rain we can schedule a work day.
5. Addition: Mary will not be at the next meeting as she will be out of town.
6. Addition: Mention of drones and recent aggressive behavior against equestrians; discussion of possible desensitization clinic for animals.
7. Addition: Possible fun ride scheduled for 11/2; Cathy to send out email for location and time.

General Discussion/Announcements:

None

The next meeting will be at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, November 19 at the Oakhurst Library.  
Meeting adjourned at 8:14 p.m; motioned by Cathy, seconded by Mary.

Respectfully submitted,  
Sharon Seslowe