

Grand County Wilderness Group
Board Meeting on June 11, 2023 at the Headwaters Trail Alliance office

Present: Ingrid Anderson, Andy Borek, John Hughes, Gary Piper, Roxanne Singler

Gary Piper, President, called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m. and noted we had a quorum of five of the nine Board members.

Joyce Claire has resigned because they moved to Evergreen. Holly Whitten volunteered to serve on the Board. She was unanimously elected to a three year term through 2026.

John Hughes volunteered to be secretary.

Steve Hennings was coordinating trail work including GCWG Trail Assessment Hikes and GCWG members participating in projects with the Headwaters Trails Alliance. Steve has moved to Utah. We need to recruit someone to take his place.

2023 Programs: The Board reviewed our programs for 2023:

The GCWG has adopted the Vasquez and Columbine Lake trails for assessment of needed trail maintenance and participation in HTA projects. Gary will coordinate with Sean Burke, HTA Field Manager.

Cabin hosting plan:

- Monarch: We committed to 2 slots on Wednesday and Friday and 3 slots on Saturday. HTA has paid Ambassadors Friday, Saturday and Sunday. With 3 or 4 people per day this gives GCWG volunteers time to also hike trails and talk with people.
- Junco: Monarch: We committed to 2 slots on Friday and Saturday. HTA has paid Ambassadors Friday, Saturday and Sunday. With 3 people per day this gives volunteers time to hike trails and talk with people.

Members are encouraged to also volunteer on other days at both Monarch and Junco.

Trail Assessment hikes: Steve put together a plan and members can sign up [where?](#)

Trail Ambassador program: Gary to coordinate where Erica has put together a sign-up site.

High-Note Thursdays: HTA has a booth at each of these; Andy has coordinated with them to have a GCWG volunteer at the booth for each show.

Art Affair: Confirmed Ingrid is coordinating this for July 8 and 9.

The Board agreed all of the above projects would continue in 2023 without any significant changes.

New Business:

Strategic Plan: Gary proposed and the Board agreed to creating a strategic plan for all of our projects. The planning would take place this fall and be completed in time for the GCWG Winter meeting.

Supporting USFS Wilderness Ranger: Andy explained that in the past people had to get and display paper wilderness permits. Now the permitting system is on-line and permits are electronic. Katie Oliver is the new wilderness ranger. If she comes across campers violating a rule, e.g., too close to water, but no one is at the campsite she has no means of communicating with them. The USFS is instituting warning tags, which Katie can hang on a tent if necessary. Because the GCWG no longer has to monitor and issue permits, Andy proposed the GCWG cost-share in printing the permits. Andy will bring the cost to the Board.

Next meeting: The Board will have regular quarterly Board meetings the second Sundays of March, June, September and December. The next meeting is September 10 at 6 p.m. at the HTA headquarters.

John moved the meeting be adjourned at 6:30 p.m., Ingrid seconded and we all went home.