

Grand County Wilderness Group Board meeting

September 27, 2020 Zoom meeting 4:00pm

The following board members were present: Toni Wujek, Gary Piper, Steve Hennings, Beth Collins, Joyce Clair, Roxanne Singler, Jack Reichert, Ingrid Anderson, Monica Sandstrom

The meeting was called to order by President, Beth Collins.

Monica Sandstrom moved to approve the minutes of the June 7, 2020 Board meeting and the minutes of the August 2, 2020 Board meeting. Seconded by Toni Wujek. Motion passed.

The Treasurer's report was given by Toni Wujek.

Sulphur Ranger District Update: Clayton Cornwell called in with a report. There were no Forest Service volunteers this year because of the Covid-19 pandemic. Next year it will depend on the situation at that time. Monica asked if it would have made a difference if our group had our own insurance. Clayton said possibly but he would have to check with other volunteer wilderness group to see how it was handled. He reported that the Forest Service is working on an update to recreation.gov to establish a system for 2021 reservations and GCWG would possibly not be involved in selling ANRA passes, but would be used for information to the public. Beth will talk to Clayton about the passes since GCWG have 166 passes and we want to sell them or give them back to the Forest Service and get a refund. CPR/First Aid training was discussed with Clayton. The Forest Service does its own training and has a certified trainer.

Volunteer Agreement: A discussion was held about writing an agreement for next year and adding Covid information as needed. It was moved by Monica Sandstrom and seconded by Steve Hennings that a committee be formed to research how other wilderness groups handle volunteer agreements and insurance. Motion passed. The committee will also look at former volunteer agreements we have had with the Forest Service. The committee will consist of Beth Collins, Monica Sandstrom and Toni Wujek. Beth will ask members if anyone else is interested in serving on the committee. The Headwaters Trail Alliance has its own insurance, paid employees and funding from the county. Toni will talk to them and get more details.

Committee Reports:

Leave No Trace. Ingrid did a great job informing people and there were some articles in the paper.

Summer Hikes. There were none because of Covid.

Adoption of HTA Vasquez Trail. Steve reported that the paperwork is done for the GCWG to adopt this trail for 2021. It will involve twice a year trailwork and perhaps there will be a camp/work session. This year it is possible we may have a trailwork day in October or November avoiding hunting season. October 15-23 and November 2-6 are times with no rifle hunting. The Williams Fork fire is another concern. Beth Collins and Jack Reichert expressed

interest in helping. Beth will notify the membership to see if others are interested and a list of interested people will be used if a day opens up this fall.

2020 Public Lands Day Monica reported that she had offered help from our group but did not hear back. There were less people involved this year because of Covid. She suggested that the group consider doing a project on Colorado Public Lands Day which is the 3rd Saturday in May. Possibly a group project to clean up Monarch Lake. Beth will include this in the membership letter.

CPR/First Aid Courses: These classes are required by HTA. Gary, Beth and Toni are interested at this point. Beth will send information to the membership and check with Katie Soles to see if individuals or groups can get the training.

Fall Membership meeting: The meeting is scheduled for Saturday, October 24 at 5:30 pm at the YMCA. The room will be announced as we may be moved into a larger room to accommodate Covid restrictions. It will be limited to 50 people, social distancing and masks required. Everyone will bring their own food and drinks. Jack will contact the YMCA to see if there is internet service and if there is, Gary will set up Zoom. Beth will talk to Clayton about a Forest Service representative in person or on Zoom to give an overview of the fire, windfall that has caused trails to be blocked, and the updated reservation system for 2021 on recreation.gov.

Winter get-together: Jack will ask the YMCA about availability for a room in January or February on a Saturday or Sunday.

Spring Annual Meeting: Jack will check on availability for a room at the YMCA during the first two weeks of May.

Spring Camping Trip: Steve Hennings and Chuck Chladek are planning this for later in May.

AA Barn Summer picnic: Beth will call the Forest Service to see what dates are available in August 2021

Board meeting schedule: To be scheduled later. Possible January Zoom meeting.

Old Business:

Toni asked Beth to remind the membership that no dues will be collected for this year. She also mentioned that new coordinator is needed for Junco Cabin. Beth will mention this at the membership meeting.

Gary reported on the land swap proposal by Bob Fanch of Devil's Thumb which will be proposed to the Forest Service. Bob Fanch is looking for public support from the GCWG. After some discussion it was decided that GCWG cannot take a stand as a group as we are partnered with the Forest Service. The membership will be informed at the October meeting of the proposal and individuals can speak up during the public comment phase.

It was moved by Ingrid Anderson that the meeting be adjourned. Seconded by Roxanne Singler. Motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 5:55pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Joyce Clair, Secretary