

Friends of the High Lakes

Minutes – General Meeting – June 29, 2015

A general meeting of the FRIENDS OF THE HIGH LAKES, INC., a California public benefit corporation, was held on June 29, 2015, at 6:45 p.m. at Sierra Hall, 6165 Center Street, Paradise, California. The meeting was called to order by Louis Johnson, Chairman. It was then moved, seconded and unanimously resolved to dispense with the reading of the Minutes of the last general meeting.

Safety:

Louis Johnson provided information on the safety exits for the building. Gary McElroy volunteered to call 911 in the event of an emergency and also offered to provide CPR should the need arise.

Members:

Attendees: See Attached List

Introductions:

Louis Johnson introduced himself and then asked that all BOD members present identify themselves. The following Adopt-A-Trail/Groups were represented as follows:

- Pair O Dice 4 Wheelers – Jim Earl, Dan Foshee
- Jack Ass Wheelers – Jeremy Wilson
- Lost Boys – Jeremy Wilson
- Dogtown Wheelers – Louis Johnson and Traci Brenneman
- Lotts Lake Association – Ron Stratton and Ruby Roethler
- Nor Cal Crawlers – Tim Jacobsen
- South Side Keepers – Mike Rich
- High Lake Trekkers – Nick Repanich

- Philbrook Community Association – Nick Repanich
- 4x4 Trailfinders (catch all group) – Nick Repanich
- Forest Service Advisory Committee – Peggy Moak
- Plumas County Sheriff – Todd Johns

Flags:

Forest Service has been busy putting red flags all over the High Lakes. While the FS has not advised their intentions, these flags may be indications of re-routing of existing trails and elimination of campsites with vehicle access. Of particular concern are the flags near Campbell Lake and Long Lake. The placement of the flags seems to indicate that the 611/613 trails are to be moved approximately 100-150 feet away from the lakes, as well as, eliminating/bypassing creek crossings. If these changes are implemented, camping at the lake is not out of the question, however, vehicle accessibility to the campsites will not be possible. The main concern is that parked vehicles would have to be left unattended overnight.

No information is being offered by FS at this time and therefore the time for public comment is still unknown. There may be an open house forum at the end of July, however, we have not been provided the particulars. Louis Johnson will make sure that notification goes out via all methods of communication (email blast, website, Facebook) as soon as there are more details. It is critical that FOTHL has cohesive, organized, and united representation at this open house, and any other such public input meetings, so that our voice is heard and our concerns addressed.

Graffiti:

There was group discussion on the best way to clean up the graffiti that has appeared along some of the main trails. Suggestions for removal/clean up included: using a pressure washer and/or obtaining rock colored paint. If anyone witnesses the vandalization, make a report (names, license plate numbers, etc.) to the Plumas Sheriff, and they will turn over the information to Forest Service.

Lotts Lake:

Gates have been placed at the entrances of the Stratton's and Native Sons of the Golden West properties. Another gate may be placed at the entrance to the Hume's property this summer (2015).

The Lotts Lake Association has not yet decided whether or not to place gates across the road. Forest Services is in favor of placement of additional gates. As all should be aware, trail 611 was created as a bypass for travel to the High Lakes without having to cross LLA private property. Everyone is encouraged to use trail 611 so that it remains functional. In the event that drive-thru access is denied by LLA, trail 611 will be the only access to the High Lakes from North entrance.

Positions:

Adopt-A-Trail Coordinator: Position Available – Duties entail: Act as main contact for, recruit, and inform Adopt-a-Trail groups, regular travel on trails in order to provide information to Adopt-a-Trail groups on any needed trail maintenance, and must attend BOD meetings and provide detailed updates, as requested.

Fund Raising Coordinator: Position Available – The sole purpose of the person(s) filling this position is to ensure the success of our main 'fund raising' event of the year - Fall Clean Up/National Public Lands Day. Over the past three years, we have established a list of local businesses that have provided annual donations. We would like to expand the list to include larger organizations. It was suggested that the BOD create a letter that can be sent out to various organizations regarding donations.

As nobody has expressed an interest in filling this position, the BOD will reach out to the various Adopt-A-Trail clubs and propose an annual rotation of the duties. M – Jim Earl, 2nd Jeremy Wilson; 8-0 vote, unanimously approved.

Event Coordinator: Position Available – While we do not have many 'events' , this position is vital to our continued success. Events (large and small) are the main way this organization raises money and provides education to the public. As nobody has expressed an interest, the

BOD reach out to the various Adopt-A-Trail clubs and propose an annual rotation of the duties.
M – Jeremy Wilson, 2nd Nick Repanich; 8-0 vote, unanimously approved.

PHS Senior Project Coordinator: Position Available – For the past couple years, we have been approached by seniors from the Paradise High School regarding completing some sort of project (as required for graduation from PHS). Unfortunately, we have not been in a position to offer any assistance due to the late timing of the requests (winter). We need a volunteer to prepare some guidelines for a project, communicate the availability of such project to the school district, gather applications from candidates, present applications to the BOD for review and approval and then, ultimately, oversee the project with the chosen individual(s).

Merchandise Coordinator: Position Available – Duties entail: maintaining an accurate inventory of merchandise, ordering merchandise in advance of upcoming events as to ensure adequate supplies are on hand, participating in all events where merchandise is to be sold, reporting readouts to the BOD of quantities of items sold per event, and fulfilling merchandise orders that come in through the website.

There was discussion of expanding the graphic designs and colors available for the merchandise, as well as creating “event specific” merchandise (e.g. 2015 Fall Clean Up).

Elections:

Adopt-A-Trail Coordinator: Doug Poppelreiter – M- Gary McElroy, 2nd Tim Jacobsen; 8-0 vote, unanimously approved.

PHS Senior Project Coordinator: Jeremy Wilson – M- Traci Brenneman, 2nd Nick Repanich; 7-0 vote (Jeremy abstained).

Merchandise Coordinator: Gary McElroy – M- Jim Earl, 2nd Traci Brenneman; 7-0 vote (Gary abstained).

Media Coordinator: Torey Feldhaus – M- Nick Repanich, 2nd Louis Johnson; 7-0 vote (Torey abstained).

Forest Service Advisory Committee:

- The FSAC has a position available and is looking for applicants. The position is for an “alternate” for the Motorized Recreation Use representative. The alternate representative must attend and participate in the monthly meetings. The alternate would only be required/allowed to vote on topics in the event that the main representative was not available. Those interested may submit a letter of interest to Peggy Moak via email at pmoak@buttecounty.net .
- The public is encouraged and welcome to attend the monthly meetings of the FSAC. Meetings are held on the 4th Monday of each month. The next meeting is to be held in August. For more information about the FSAC, meeting minutes, and schedules go to the Butte County website at www.buttecounty.net .

Miscellaneous:

- Butte County met with Lassen National Forest Service in February, 2015, regarding reclassifying 25N05 (Smokin’ Duck), which runs from the Philbrook intersection to the Lotts Lake T, from ML3 to ML2. No word has been given on the outcome of that meeting, nor has any progress been made since.
- Butte County received a grant for improvements in the Big Bar Mountain/Granite Basin area, and is looking into easements on Four Trees Road. The gate is not currently locked, however the road needs quite a bit of maintenance and would not serve as a viable alternate route in an emergency.
- The Plumas Sheriff’s Department has asked that we advise them of “busy” weekends or events that are happening in the High Lakes. Depending on funding, they may be able to provide additional support.
- The Jackass and Rock Creek trails no longer appear on the Forest Service Maps (South entrance to the High Lakes) and therefore are not being maintained. Without use, these trails are practically closing themselves.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 PM by Louis Johnson, Chairman.

List of General Meeting Attendees

X	Last	First	City	Club Affiliation
x	Brenneman	Traci	Paradise	Dogtown Wheelers
x	Casagrande	Bruce	Paradise	Pair-O-Dice 4 Wheelers
x	Earl	Debbie	Paradise	Pair-O-Dice 4 Wheelers
x	Earl	Jim	Paradise	Norcal Crawlers
x	Felhaus	Torey	Shingletown	FOTHL
x	Foshee	Dan	Magalia	Pair-O-Dice 4 Wheelers
x	Jacobsen	Tim	Paradise	Norcal Crawlers
x	John	Todd	Quincy	Plumas County Sheriff
x	Johnson	Louis	Paradise	Dogtown Wheelers
x	McElroy	Gary	Magalia	FOTHL
x	Moak	Pete and Peggy	Concow	FOTHL
x	Pausch	Fred	Magalia	Pair-O-Dice 4 Wheelers
x	Phelps	David	Magalia	FOTHL
x	Poppelreiter	Doug	Magalia	Pair-O-Dice 4 Wheelers
x	Repanich	Nick	Chico	FOTHL
x	Rich	Ann	Orland	South Side Keepers
x	Rich	Mike	Orland	South Side Keepers
x	Stratton	Ron	Paradise	Lotts Lake Association
x	Roethler	Ruby	Paradise	Lotts Lake Association
x	Wilson	Jeremy	Paradise	Jackass Wheelers