

TWHA Meetings 8.3.11

at Lisa McLaughlin's House in Berkeley

**Attending:** Page Schorer, Ute Frey, Eric Schroeder, Susan Palo, Kirsten Whitsett, Morris Older, Gary Fitts, Lila Abdul Rahim, Alison , Jane Binder, Lisa McLaughlin

**Minutes (Lila):** approved with no changes

**Membership (Page):** 2 renewals, 1 new member

**Treasury (Morris):** Ride account has more than \$9500. Still need to transfer 2010 funds to TWHA and to Ridge Trail, plus there's \$1500 reserved for trail project. TWHA needs to determine a use. Kim and Morris to reconcile accounts before next meeting.

Board voted to approve to pay somebody to weed whack Lomas Cantadas trail from Tres Mesas to steam trains for up to \$200. Page will get a bid.

Question for the Park: Susan will inquire whether TWHA should maintain Tilden Wildcat water troughs or whether the Park will. (Es Anders Camp, Steam Train parking lot, Jewel Lake?)

**Newsletter (Morris):** none right now. Has 4 potential articles for an October issue.

**EBATC (Morris):** Multi-use trail excursion and picnic Aug. 7.

Bicycle Trails Council presented a trail to be considered for multi-use in Fremont Hills. Park says it would rather consider several proposals at once rather than one at a time.

**Donations (Kirsten):** TWHA needs to discuss making a potential annual contribution, possibly outside Tilden Wildcat, and develop criteria for distributions. Kirsten to check into state park needs. Need accurate records of past donations and need all board members to bring donation opportunities to board's attention.

**Six Day Ride Aug. 31-Sept. 5 (Morris):** Sign-ups are slow (9 horses so far). Need help promoting.

Cooks and speaker assigned. Great speakers. Scheduled. Donations from Ariat, Marmot, REI, Sports Basement, and others in the works. Possibilities of bicycles joining.

**Trailwork (Susan):** Board agreed to host a special trail work day on Sat 8/27 to clear Vollmer Trail and possibly Grizzly Peak Trail before the Five Day Ride. Susan will talk to Park and will email with further info about this.

**Becky (via email to Gary):** still wants to organize Meet a Horse Day

**Member survey (Lisa):** objective to determine what the membership wants from this club. Ute and Page volunteered to help. Deadline mid September for a beta test with board members, launch before next meeting (Oct 12), and present results at annual meeting in Jan.

**Wildcat Parking:** thanks to equestrians speaking up at board meeting last year, horse/trailer parking is now approved. Board was uniformly supportive of equestrians. But construction appears to be on hold due to protests. Lisa will follow up with ranger to learn more.

Sierra Club, Contra Costa Times and East Bay Express article July published against parking. Write article to them that they're not covering the whole issue?

**Next Meeting:** Board voted to move October meeting to Oct. 12 (after Tevis) at Kirsten's house.

**Idea parking lot:**

Kirsten: Should we donate more money to ailing state parks or other equestrian causes in need? Yes or no. If yes, which park or which cause. Board to develop criteria by which to make allocations in the future.

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