

High Desert Backcountry Horsemen Minutes

June 13, 2024

Approved at August 8, 2024 Meeting

1. **Members Present:** Maria VanHart, Barbara Maxwell, Cindy Beem, Leigh Beem, Kathy Stoker, Becky Tietze, Robert Brown, Don Clark.

Maria called the meeting to order at 6:39 PM.

2. **Approval of May 9 2024 Minutes:**

Motion to approve the May minutes was made by Barbara, and 2nd by Maria. Approved unanimously.

3. **Treasury Update:** No changes reported by Cindy.

4. **Liability Waivers:** Apparently the liability waiver for members is part of the paper membership renewal form, so if you renewed using the paper form you have completed the waiver. The on-line form includes a section known as the Liability Release, which is the same thing. In addition, there was discussion of bring guests on rides, and they need to sign a Liability Release form. Ideally a ride leader will bring blank copies, just in case.

5. **Ride Review and Additions:**

- a. June 29th - Ride Grandview Trail, was to be led by Robert Brown but he has a conflict so instead Cindy will leading this ride. There was discussion about where the trailhead is, where trailer parking would be, and so on. Cindy will meet with Robert this weekend, and probably will be joined by Becky and Kathy, to pre-ride the trail. Since this is a statewide ride, every Chapter might be sending representatives. Robert has been attempting to do trail maintenance on the Grandview Trail and would like to use this ride as an opportunity to get some feedback to the Forest Service on the value of the trail maintenance specifically for equestrians.
- b. July 20th - Diane - On the Kaibab
- c. August 10th - Navajo Lake ride with the St George chapter
- d. September 21st - Grandview Trail again, with Robert Brown. Possibly a lower elevation ride.
- e. October 19th - Cottonwood Trail (see notes below under Trail Projects)

6. **What Speakers Would the Group Like to Have:**

The only mention was of two farriers: Barbara described a farrier who would come from somewhere up-state, Don mentioned a new farrier in Orderville. No action was taken on inviting either.

7. **Trail Projects:**

- a. Clear Shinarump - needs to be scheduled
- b. Clear Grandview - put on hold while issues are resolved around the width of the clearing that is done by Robert's machine.
- c. Cottonwood - If we find any maintenance needed on the Cottonwood trail on the 10/19 ride then we could schedule a workday on 10/30.
- d. Kaibab - no date set.

- e. Related topic - Public Lands Representative - Noel has been handling this role by himself, and Leigh has offered to get involved to expand our ability to work with the various land administrators.
- f. Related topic - We can't commit to many work projects if the members aren't showing up for meetings. This leaves us not knowing whether they want to or can be involved in the projects, and makes it difficult to assist the land administrators. Maria will work with Ranger Allison to arrange a project for maybe six people.

8. **Do We Want to Offer Zoom as a Future Meeting Option:**

Yes, in fact we may want to move the meetings to 100% Zoom. Several of us "attended" a hybrid meeting (some were actually meeting in SG, some attended via Zoom) of the St George Chapter via Zoom, and the audio was terrible. If a meeting is entirely done on Zoom the audio problems pretty much go away. However, there are other negative aspects to holding entirely virtual meetings.

For the near term we will continue to hold in-person meetings and use Zoom so anyone who cannot physically attend can still attend via Zoom. We will use Leigh's company Zoom account to start, and Don will look into pricing of a Zoom account for a non-profit (so the meetings can run longer than the 40-minute limit on free Zoom meetings). Leigh will send out a meeting invitation that will make joining simple, and that meeting ID and password will be used for all future Zoom meetings.

Barbara will talk with the administration of the Kanab Center about improving the wifi at the Center, as the current limited wifi capability negatively impacts Zoom's performance.

9. **Do We want To Purchase A Medical Kit:**

When Dr Tara presented to us recently she described the medical kit contents that we should have with us on back country rides. There was discussion of purchasing a kit from Dr Tara or Gina (we couldn't remember who would be the actual source), so Maria will investigate.

10. **Adjourn:** Maria moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:48 PM, Barbara 2nd.