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MINUTES OF TRACKS GENERAL MEETING, September 14, 2019
At Woodland Lake Park, Lakeside, AZ 85929

Meeting called to order by Jim Snitzer at 8:25 AM. Approximately 29 members were in attendance. No new members or guests were present.

Minutes of the last General Meeting were reviewed. A motion was made by Kay Richter to accept as read, seconded by Ron Miller and approved unanimously by those present.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1. Arlene Nelson told members that Fall Festival is in 2 weeks and she needs as many participants as possible. Those participating need to sign waivers required by the Town. The parade starts at Compass Bank in Pinetop. It will be a 2 mile walk to Blue Ridge High School. There will be bikers and hikers. Arlene also has TRACKS hats, t-shirts and sweat shirts for sale.
2. Lorna Cox was present to get signatures for TRACKS and Forest Service annual renewal agreement for trail crew. She needs to get this completed before Ed Collins retires October 1.
3. Volunteers are needed for various TRACKS positions, newsletter, trail crew and Tour of the White Mountains bike race. Jim announced that following the October newsletter, the publication will be quarterly for the winter months. If anyone is interested in helping with the newsletter, TRACKS will provide the computer that is needed to do the job.
4. Jim also announced that TRACKS membership has decreased from 555 to 450 after yearly culling.
5. Jim also told the group that a private owner in the Panorama area has asked for an easement from his property. TRACKS does not have an issue with this request.
6. A complaint sent in by a hiker who said the trail from Blue Ridge #2 ended at Blue Ridge #1 when in fact it continues across the road for several more miles. Jerry Good went out and solved the problem by adding several more signs. It is thought that the logging in the area had removed some signs or altered the road.
7. Jim said that we need suggestions to use the money donated for Liz Wise Memorial. Some has been spent for a sign at Game and Fish. Lorna Cox suggested using the title "Wise Guides" for our Trail Guide. Tim Strand suggested using a trail on the Apache Reservation to dedicate to Liz and Bob. Approval would be needed from the Apache tribe.
8. Lorna Cox stated that e-bikes are not allowed on Forest Service non-motorized trails. E-bikes are allowed on BLM land and National Monuments. This ruling has come from Washington, D.C.
9. There will be a meeting on September 19 in Show Low from 5 – 7 PM at Show Low's Police Dept. to discuss where people will be allowed to camp off road. Arizona is the only state allowing access off road for big game retrieval.
10. A replacement is needed on TRACKS Board for Betty Zink who is resigning. The replacement would be a computer-wise person who can work on TRACKS website.
11. Trailhead adopters need to report to Joan Patrick There is a need for trailhead adopters and trail stewards for Ghost of the Coyote and General Crook Connector.

12. Lorna Cox spoke of an ongoing fire near Lake Mountain which was initially started by lightning but fire crews are assisting to do more controlled burning in that area up to 2300 acres which is much needed to burn hundreds of very crowded small pine which has regenerated in massive numbers.

Next General Meeting will be at Darbi's Restaurant October 12 at 8:00 AM.

Following the meeting, Kay Richter and Steve Bochman led a hike along Walnut Creek.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 AM.

Submitted by Kay Alderton, Secretary/Board Member

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