

## **TRACKS General Meeting Minutes**

### **August 10, 2024**

1. Meeting called to order at 8:05. Twenty-eight (28) in attendance.
2. Guests and new members - Lakeside Recreation Manager, Stephanie Rainey, and Sherry Altaha.
3. July Minutes: Nick Lund made the motion. Kay Richter second. Unanimously approved.
4. Old Business - none
5. New business
  - a. Zia Rides 9/14 – TRACKS needs volunteers to monitor some of the aid stations and roads.
  - b. Chipmunk Re-route CM8-CM18 – EATC will meet on this 8/14 and this project will test the new EATC approval process.
  - c. Fall Festival Parade, Sept. 28th – Arlene usually organizes. This year, Lynda Beal is in charge. Theme is Ruby Jubilee 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Pinetop-Lakeside’s incorporation. Need hikers, bikers, equestrians to walk and ride. Need ideas for the entry - decorations, music.
  - d. Tracking Volunteer Hours
    - Jim Snitzer collects Monday volunteer hours, reports to Forest Service, mid-September. Hours help the FS obtain budgeting. Hourly rate approx. \$30 an hour.
    - Cathy Purvis collects other volunteer hours: donating blood, volunteering at the shelters, community cleanups, leading hikes or rides, etc.
    - Lynn turns in miles to Four Fry for thinning the forest. Helps with their budget too.
6. Other
  - Stephanie Rainey – Steve brought up that trees were getting cut next to the Iron Horse Trail. Stephanie told us that projects the FS is doing now were started 4-5 years ago due to the time involved in getting approvals. Once implemented, changes to the contracts also take time to make.
  - Controlled burns damaging plastic trail markers and causing trees to fall on trails. Whose responsibility to clear those trees? Immediate – the FS. Down the road – TRACKS.
  - Peggy Lund has secured many great items to bid on at Happy Tails Humane Society Fundraiser, Sat., Aug. 24th. at Charlie Clarks, 10:00 -4:00.
  - Guest speaker, Mary Ellen Bittorf, Nature Center founder and former Audubon President spoke of TRACKS history, Bev Garcia, and the importance of open spaces, and TRACKS work for this community. She thanked all the people in TRACKS who work hard for our open spaces.
  - Sat., Aug. 31, 6:00 pm – 7:00 pm, Mary Ellen, will give her last presentation, Birds, Wings, Feather and Things at the Nature Center.
  - Lynn recommends going to Pinetop website and sign up for “Talk of the Town” newsletter.
  - Nick Lund – years ago, American Trails awarded TRACKS with a national award for service.
7. Announcements:
  - TRACKS T-shirts for sale. See Arlene.
  - Bev Garcia’s memorial service, next Saturday, Aug. 17<sup>th</sup>, from 12:00 noon -2:00 at sister, Lorraine Harmon’s home, 1292 Lot A, East Wolford Rd., Show Low, AZ.
  - Ron Miller – TRACKS purchasing commemorative Box Elder tree from Christopher’s Garden for Bev Garcia. Date for planting ceremony and commemorative plaque at the Nature Center are being arranged with family.
  - Registration open for 2024 Summit for AZ Trails, Oct. 25-26 in Cottonwood. Lynn can’t go. Would another member like to go? TRACKS covers some costs.

- Discontinuing Mon. afternoon and Sat. once-a-month hikes led by Dave Samala.
  - Back Country Horsemen and Nature Center's Cowboy Breakfast, Sat., Aug. 17<sup>th</sup>, 8 am – 10 am at the Nature Center. Plates \$5, \$10 & \$15, plus ala carte items.
8. Next General Meeting is 8:00 on September 14<sup>th</sup> at Woodland Ramada
  9. Adjourn at 8:46.

Submitted by Secretary, Mreen Helm 8-10-24

Approved by President, Steve Dobbs 8-10-24