BCHK Board of Directors’ Meeting
 December 12, 2019

Conference call: Erin Glassman, Steve Lindsey, Diana Skinner, Stephanie Huss, Cheryl Thomas.

Secretary’s report – Cheryl emailed minutes for review.

Treasurer’s report – Steve will email a Treasurer’s Report.

Regional and Chapter reports –

* Clinton Lake - Diana and a small group have focused on working on the blue and yellow trails upper trails; some work has started on the lower orange trail, which was extensively damaged by flooding. There is a lot of silt, and up to five miles of orange trail may need to be re-routed.
* SE Kansas – Steve reported on work recently done at Big Hill’s Timber Hill Trail with a chipper. He is also working with Bill Racy on methods of lespedeza control. They have received permission to use chemicals; still deciding best way to proceed. Steve and Bill have discussed the need for an educational conference on chemical control of weeds and unwanted trees.
* NW Kansas – Steve reported that Pat Lysinger at Oakley is discussing potential for riding trails with Nature Conservancy and Scott Lake at Little Jerusalem; terrain in actual park is fragile, but nearby access to about 15 miles of trail would avoid rock formations.
* Hillsdale State Park – Stephanie reported on a successful year of fundraising with about $6,000 in the Saddle Ridge Chapter treasury. Of that amount, $2,000 has been approved for equipment rental for trail repair. Mark Nepote, the Hillsdale ranger, has recently been promoted to State Park Manager, replacing Gary Lucas, who recently retired. Saddle Ridge has a very positive working relationship with Mark. Focus is on prioritizing areas of need for trail work. Successful work days have included mowing and clearing debris. New chapter officers will be elected in January, and they are hoping to send some representatives to the national meeting. Cheryl added that Mark Nepote is very complimentary of the work Saddle Ridge chapter members are accomplishing.
* Perry State Park - Steve reported on a recent visit to Perry and the updates to that campground.
* Erin reported on trails in Central Kansas: Sand Hills is not needing a lot of work; the El Dorado park manager expressed a desire to get an active volunteer group; successful trail work days at Kanopolis have included clearing debris, some rerouting, and building a retaining wall. Kanopolis hopes to have trails open by early spring; Park Manager Todd Lovin at Randolph also expressed a need for a volunteer base. Cheryl introduced Pattie Stalder to Todd, and shared Pattie’s email with Olivia Huddleston. Todd would also like to see a benefit ride at Randolph.

Old Business

* Website—Erin reported that the status of the website remains the same. There is still a need to add PayPal capability for memberships. Steve suggested that possibly Marlene Parker can help. Diana stressed the importance of including the web address on all materials and media. www.bchkansas.com
* Chapter formation and direction of the group – Erin suggested continuing to work toward a chapter in central Kansas.

New Business

* Trail signs and KS State Parks – Erin previously reported on a successful meeting Wednesday with KDWPT Director of Parks Linda Lanterman, Kathy Pritchett, and park managers from all state parks with horse trails. Linda would like to use the trail sharing signs on the Flint Hills Trail and other multiuse trails. She is very interested in educating trail users on sharing trails. In discussing the need for funding more signs, there may be matching grants available from the state. They will also investigate having the Department of Corrections make the signs. Stephanie will also check with a printer in Paola for a quote. Steve suggested Cheryl write another BCHA grant.
* Annual Meeting – Discussion on when and where to impact the most members. Erin suggested a trail ride at Sand Hills State Park with a meal and meeting.il Ride at Sand Hills State Park with meal & meeting. Will explore dates by email. Cheryl reported that Jim is planning a spring BCHA/KHC ride for April 25, meeting at Pomona State Park and riding a portion of the Flint Hills Trail. Steve suggested BCHKs become more involved in these rides, since ride proceeds are shared between the two organizations.
* Dates for meetings – It was proposed that quarterly meetings be held the 1st Sunday of every 3rd month (June, Sept, December), with the exception of the annual meeting. Locations will change.
* Equifest – The BCHKs booth will be set up beside the KHC booth in the main vendor location, Heritage Hall. Booth setup will be similar to last year. Steve has enough brochures for Equifest; they will need to be updated before printing again. Diana suggested leaving the address off and using labels to keep information current.
* Chapters, increasing membership - Steve suggested forming an Expansion Committee to assist with forming chapters in other areas of the state. Erin suggested continuing to post photos and information on work days. Trail work info could also be shared with local media. Cheryl will prepare the summary of 2019 work hours for distribution.
* Officer nominations are needed prior to the Annual Meeting. All positions are open, except for VP.

Meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl Thomas, BCHKs Secretary