SOUTHERN INYO FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE MEETING
Thursday, October 29, 2026 – 6PM

MINUTES

I. Call to order

II. Public Comment: 3 minutes per participant

III. Old Business

A. Tecopa Weird Tales Festival
- a. Volunteer check in.
  - a.i. Discussion on volunteer well-being and Amie's participation. Amie plans to staff her booth and offer limited background assistance but wishes to avoid liability by keeping her name off volunteer documents. The committee will assume responsibility for event management and planning to cover the gap left by Amie.
  - a.ii. Eliza will compile a list of volunteer tasks organized by day for an upcoming meeting with Bill. Will finalize the volunteer task list by early next week.
  - a.iii. Update on signs in DQ.
    - a.iii.1. Mike will take on this inventory and update next week.
- b. Premiere update.
  - b.i. 14 tickets left!
  - b.ii. Cynthia is finalizing the premiere seating estimates to project expected ticket revenue. Premiere capacity will be strictly capped at 100 seats, though we anticipate slight overflow.
  - b.iii. Everything for the premiere is proceeding as planned, with Cynthia managing the guest list and catering at the museum. The museum reception will run from 6:00 PM to 7:00 PM, followed by Ted's introduction at 7:45 PM and the movie screening at 8:00 PM in the Flower Building. Taps will not perform, so Phyllis will provide violin music in the museum, and a playlist will run in the Flower Building.
  - b.iv. Colette and Mike will coordinate setting up the Starlink connection and the merchandise point-of-sale system before 6:00 PM.
  - b.v. Colette has a plan with turning people away when seating is full.
- c. Site plan update.
  - c.i. Reviewed campground maps and discussed significant concerns regarding parking capacity and navigating around power pedestals and picnic tables. Using the back campground is complicated by hazards, so the lot across the street (C-section) and the D-section were proposed as alternative parking areas.
  - c.ii. Members will walk the site this weekend to establish a final parking plan, and porta-potties will be relocated beside the stage area away from the food trucks.
  - c.iii. Mike will ask Jennifer how far potties need to be from food trucks and how far they need to be from Marge’s trailer.
  - c.iv. Stage update.
    - c.iv.1. Committee approved Constance’s stage plan.
  - c.v. Source trash cans from community.
- d. Update event budget.
  - d.i. Need an updated budget from Cynthia.
- e. Temple of Weird update (Constance).
  - e.i. Volunteers will access the community center starting at 4:00 PM on Friday to set up the altars, lounge area, fog machine, and lighting.
  - e.ii. A specific altar dedicated to SIFPD will be assembled using found items from the fire department's storage.

e.iii. Setup will be strictly hidden from the public until the Saturday morning reveal, and items from the altars will be available for sale to benefit the fire department.

f. Event schedule
  f.i. The core festival will run on Saturday from 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM, followed by a Twilight Weirdness Dance Party and Temple Ritual from 5:00 PM to 6:00 PM to keep guests occupied while vendors pack up. The meet-and-greet was adjusted to run from 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM.
  f.ii. The event schedule will officially state 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM for the main fair, with the twilight dance party explicitly listed from 5:00 PM to 6:00 PM.
  f.iii. Next day showing of film.
    f.iii.1. Debated selling popcorn at the second movie screening but noted that running the equipment would require too much volunteer energy at the end of a long day.
    f.iii.2. Ted needs assistance running the screening.
    f.iii.3. John Muccio volunteered to supervise the donation station.
  f.iv. YT Creators.
  f.v. Music

g. Event features/fundraising
  g.i. Food
    g.i.1. Popcorn stand?
      g.i.1.a. The popcorn stand is canceled; instead, volunteers will offer leftover bottled water and simple snacks for cash donations, encouraging attendees to buy popcorn across the street. No other food.
  g.ii. Silent auction and raffle.
    g.ii.1. Raffle tickets will be sold at a rate of one for a dollar or six for five dollars. The prize pool includes a signature quilt and various gathered items.
    g.ii.2. The ticket pricing is locked, and the tickets will be distributed to volunteers for immediate sale.
  g.iii. Merch
    g.iii.1. Merch at Friday premiere?
      g.iii.1.a. Yes, Robin may do. Maybe Mike.
  g.iv. Vendors
    g.iv.1. Only two food vendors are currently confirmed, one of which sells only bottled barbecue sauce. The committee is hoping to secure a late application from Bash and Jas's Tacos.
    g.iv.2. Vendor booth assignments are being shuffled to properly place the silent auction and the SIFPD recruitment booth.
    g.iv.3. The silent auction will be placed in the prominent food truck area (FT2/FT3), and the committee will pay the late fee for Bash and Jazz's Tacos if they submit their application after the deadline.
  g.v. Field trips.
    g.v.1. Eliza will call opera house.

h. Website and communications update.
  h.i. The website has received highly positive feedback, and QR codes linked directly to the donation page have been generated for use at the booths.
  h.ii. Bios for musicians and artists are being added to the site.
  h.iii. Eliza will send updated schedule times for website posting, and photos of the silent auction items will be uploaded to the site.

i. Update on WiFi plan for event for staff, vendors, public, etc.
  i.i. 2 starlinks arrived. Will use at event.

j. Advertising, soliciting donations.

k. Isabelle expressed hurt feelings over being excluded from the printed town amenities map. The map was originally intended strictly for food and lodging, but the committee acknowledged her perspective and will contact her.

IV. Good of the Order

V. **Public Comment:** 3 minutes per participant

VI. **Adjournment & Schedule next Committee Meeting** Thursday November 5 at 6pm.