SOUTHERN INYO FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
SPECIAL FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE MEETING
Thursday, October 22, 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. Existing event signage, including signs painted for previous events, is currently stored at the Dairy Queen building.
      a.ii. Eliza is drafting a comprehensive volunteer task list to coordinate setup, money drops, and monitoring duties.
      a.iii. Larry will inventory the existing signs at the Dairy Queen. Eliza will finalize the volunteer chore list and send it to Bill to allocate specific tasks to his crew.
   b. Premiere update.
      b.i. The film's presentation incorporates Native American perspectives and will feature live Native American flute music during seating.
      b.ii. Organizers noted that 38 out of 85 available tickets for the Friday premiere are already reserved.
      b.iii. The second showing on Saturday at 6:30 PM will require a team of four volunteers to manage seating and entry.
      b.iv. The premiere will offer light snacks, coffee, and tea rather than heavy food or popcorn. Approximately 20 seats will be formally reserved with signs for event volunteers. Mike will pay for the printed step-and-repeat posters over the phone via credit card. The Saturday film showing will be free and first-come, first-served, with a suggested donation.
   c. Site plan update.
      c.i. The committee discussed the event boundary overlapping with Marge's trailer.
      c.ii. Organizers raised concerns over liability and county permits, leading to a debate over whether Marge needed to relocate her trailer for the event.
      c.iii. Kandy confirmed her team will move the stage and requires payment via credit card along with a signed campground agreement. She will get an invoice to Mike.
      c.iv. Four regular dumpsters and two 6-yard dumpsters are scheduled for delivery on Friday and will be scattered across the site.
      c.v. Marge will not relocate her trailer; she will instead sign a liability waiver and unplug her power for the day, while organizers will place safety cones and submit an amended site plan to the county. Mike will pay Kandy's stage-moving invoice via credit card, and the stage will pull power from pedestal D18.
   d. Update event budget.
      d.i. The merchandising budget is currently over by $200.
      d.ii. Internet equipment costs will be pulled from the miscellaneous budget category.
      d.iii. The fencing budget may be reduced since caution tape and cones are primarily being used for perimeters.
      d.iv. The budget will be updated to include $15 per pedestal for electricity fees and approximately $100 for vinyl event stickers.
   e. Temple of Weird update (Constance).
      e.i. Constance will act as the MC in character, providing radio-style announcements and directing attendees throughout the day.

e.ii. The Temple's interior will be constructed on the Friday before the festival using donated art supplies.
e.iii. The Alien Guy will lead informal UFO spotting tours during the daytime.
e.iv. Constance will provide a rough schedule of stage events to ensure smooth transitions between open mic participants and bands.

f. Event schedule
  f.i. Next day showing of film.
  f.ii. Wonderhussy meet and greet.
  f.iii. Weird Tales tent w/Articia Bell.
  f.iv. Music

g. Event features/fundraising
  g.i. Food
    g.i.1. Popcorn stand?
      g.i.1.a. Tabled for next week.
  g.ii. Silent auction and raffle.
    g.ii.1. The silent auction will feature roughly 22 items, including a centerpiece 3x4 painting by David Aaron Smith, pending a coordinated pickup.
    g.ii.2. Red tablecloths will be ordered for the silent auction tables.
  g.iii. Merch
    g.iii.1. Update on order.
    g.iii.2. Determine stickers order.
  g.iv. Vendors
    g.iv.1. Vendor spaces are effectively full, featuring eight food vendors and various booths.
  g.v. Field trips.
    g.v.1. Field trips will include a mine tour led by Ross and an informal Sunday morning Cathedral Canyon walk led by Ted.
  g.vi. "Twilight Weirdness" is scheduled from 5:00 PM to 6:00 PM to bridge the gap before the 6:30 PM second film screening.
  g.vii. Instead of hosting a formal dance party, a playlist of weird dance music will play near the stage during the 5:00 PM hour while vendors break down their booths.

h. Website and communications review.
  h.i. Colette praised for awesome website!
  h.ii. Thirty 16x20 promotional posters were printed at a cost of approximately $350.
  h.iii. Volunteers will distribute the printed posters in high-visibility locations across Vegas, Pahrump, GB college and Tecopa. A black-and-white event schedule and map will be designed and photocopied at the local library to serve as an attendee handout.

i. Determine WiFi plan for event for staff, vendors, public, etc.
  i.i. Two Starlink satellite dishes were ordered under the Maddy grant.
  i.ii. One Starlink unit will provide WiFi at the festival site, and the second will be set up at the flower building for the Friday and Saturday film premieres.

j. Advertising, soliciting donations.

IV. Good of the Order

V. Public Comment: 3 minutes per participant

VI. Adjournment & Schedule next Committee Meeting Thursday October 29 at 6pm.