

Tehama Together – Yes We Can
Executive Committee Meeting
January 26, 2009

Opening: Chris Pritchard opened the committee meeting on January 26, 2009 at 10 AM.

Present: Sushie Rose Hahnel, Phil Dynan, Nan Renish, Orle Jackson, Joan Gerber, Don Gerber, Chris Pritchard, Ashley Stewartwall

Discussion:

A Mission Statement was put together and read by Sushi Rose Hahnel

Tehama Together Yes We Can – is a group of local people coming together to improve the quality of the lives of the citizens in Tehama County. Our purpose is to serve the collective interest and create a community of equality so that all socioeconomic levels have access to resources. We intend to include venues where people can network for volunteering, jobs, services, politics and other topics, therefore providing a place where it is easy to find other like-minded people and resources in our community. To provide a place where education is available on a host of topics and where parents can come and have a safe place to leave their children while they partake in activities at the center. Where tweens and teens can come after school to socialize and for tutoring.

There was a discussion as to whether the Mission Statement, as submitted, listed too many items and therefore might be confusing to the public as to the Center's purpose. It was decided by the committee that Orle Jackson would write up another version of a Mission Statement and present it at the next meeting.

Fund Raising:

There was a discussion as to how the group should proceed to inform the local business community of the Center's purpose and how the group could solicit their support.

The committee agreed that a coffee shop, food co-op or consignment shop and educational workshops would generate three streams of income for the Center.

Donations could be solicited from the private sector that often times want to help the disenfranchised in their community.

The community will be asked to pitch in and donate their time, energy, money and needed items to get the Center up and running.

Launch Center:

In order to open the Center the group must have the coffee shop and the food co-op or consignment shop up and ready. The educational workshops will evolve as time goes on and as the community share their needs and interests to the Center.

A discussion followed as to what it would take to get the Center started.

- Securing a 501 c3 (finding an attorney)

- Liability Insurance

- Securing a site for the Center (rental agreement)

- Preparing the site, such as painting the walls, etc.

- Utilities such as phone, computer access, electricity

- Licenses to run a food establishment

- Will need to take credit cards

- If the group goes with consignment shop, furniture will be needed

It was agreed that when the Center was ready there would be an opening event and a theme and date of opening will have to be discussed. A discussion followed on the various means of publicity that could be utilized.

As an outcome of this discussion the consensus was that a food coop would support the community, and be more in line with the purpose of the Center, than a consignment shop. A few in the committee have had experience with food coops. There was much discussion as to suppliers, prices, health issues, licensing, start-up costs and atmosphere of the co-op. Co-op or consignment shop will be discussed further in the general meeting on Saturday.

Many ideas were discussed among the committee. Here is a list for further discussion:

- Election of Officers
- Membership List
- Recycling
- Networking
- Liaison with Obama
- Regular meeting times
- Media and Publicity
- Website, Bulletin Board and Newsletter
- Community needs assessment
- Community access TV
- Identify any additional needs

There will be an election of officers and discussion at the next meeting, which will be January 31, 2009 at 1 PM at this location.

Adjournment: 12 PM

Written by: Colleen Sheehan

