

Tehama Together
Executive Committee Meeting
April 1, 2009

Open: Chris Pritchard opened the meeting of Tehama Together on April 1, 2009 at 1:12 PM at 24 Antelope Boulevard, Red Bluff, CA 96080.

Present: Chris Pritchard, Gregg Gillies, Colleen Sheehan, Orle Jackson
Absent: Lupe Green, Kathy Moore, Don Gerber

Approval of Minutes for March 18, 2009:

There were no corrections to the March 18, 2009 Executive Committee Minutes and the minutes were approved.

Additions to Agenda:

Colleen Sheehan wanted to report on her conversation with the county building inspector.

Announcements:

Chris Pritchard shared that Orle and she attended a gardening class held last Sunday. Chris said it was very informative and she enjoyed it.

Gregg Gillies said he spoke to Cam Redwood who is involved with organic seeds – he has 1000 tomato plants in this year and is interested in an outlet for them. Gregg said Cam is seemed very interested in the group and would like to have someone e-mail him to give him information about the meetings. Gregg wondered if we had a brochure to give out to people interested in Tehama Together and Orle suggested Tehama Together make up a welcome brochure to have available to hand out. Gregg will give that information to Chris and she will follow up on it. Orle said he had spoken to Leigh McCloud and it would be good to follow up with an invitation to her to join one of the Tehama Together meetings. Chris said it could be more of a personal e-mail, thanking them for their interest, directing them to the Tehama Together website and then just inviting them to attend one of the meetings held during the month.

Gregg mentioned another source up in Manton that is not certified as an organic farmer but everyone knows he is organic. He said he knows a lot of people up in his area that might be interested in getting involved with Tehama Together and Chris said when he gets those contact he should pass them on to Kathy Moore, the chair of Tehama Together's food entity. A very lively discussion of different gardening and food issues continued around the table. Some of the topics were: Contacts Gregg has regarding food, ideas of food fundraisers, what is the time line for Tehama Together need to prepare for growers to bring in their produce to sell, cold frames and some ways to build them, some of the ideas Chris heard at the garden 101 program, how to build screen covering for the summer plants, bugs and the way to deal with them, organic soil, possible menus for fundraisers, Gregg shared some of his restaurant experience, are Tehama County residents ready for a place like we are proposing, not focusing on low income residents, non profit mentality vs. entrepreneur, poverty vs. prosperity, flavor of the minutes, we want all inclusive for our events, some will be able to attend, events for all classes, classes to mix will take time, word of mouth and trust for the residents of Tehama Together, we have done a lot in the short time and the few core people we have had showing up at the meetings, fundraising food contests, donations for getting the coffee house prepared or opening.

Old Business:

Locations Follow-up Bare Flag Restaurant Location:

Follow-up to the Bare Flag Restaurant location was tabled due to the absence of Lupe Green.

Follow-up with J. B. Stacey:

Orle Jackson reported he had spoken to Mr. Stacey regarding the candidates for the Tehama Together Treasurer position and was told that Mr. Stacey had two feelers out. He said he would get back in touch with Orle when he had some news.

Bakery Follow-up:

Bakery follow-up was tabled due to the absence of Kathy Moore.

Building Permits Follow up:

Colleen Sheehan handed out her notes on her contacts to the group. She said she attempted to find information on the Internet but could not find information or when she did, it was very complicated. She said after several calls she was connected with Scott from the City Planning Department. She explained to him her confusion and he said the information is very complicated and he is not aware of a list with the steps a business needs to take in order to pass inspections with the various government agencies. His suggestion was to contact the professionals and let them tell Tehama Together what is needed. Here are some of his suggestions:

1. Make sure the area you have chosen for your site is in zone C2 or C3.
2. Before you call professionals go over the building and see exactly what changes the group wants to make to the site.
3. Call J. D. Ellison with the City Building Department and make an appointment for him to come out for a free inspection. He will let you know exactly what you need to do to get your site ready for business and who else you need to contact. He will probably refer you to the fire department and the health department. The fire department will make a free inspection of your site.
4. He said Tehama Together would need health inspection, occupancy and business licenses before they can open for business.

Chris Pritchard said she knows J. D. Ellison from her dealings with him in her business. She will call him and ask if he will come out and look over her site. There was some further discussion of Chris's site being used for Tehama Together.

Chris spoke about the last general meeting and the feeling she got that most of the people did not think an actual place was needed to be able to continue with Tehama Together. She spoke about the lack of

support other than the few who are on the executive committee. She gave the example that when the group was asked for volunteers for the fund raising committee only the handful of people who always volunteer were willing. Chris said her feeling is that if people do not step up and help with the decisions, the decisions will need to be made without their input. Chris wondered if anyone else got the feeling that a space was not needed. Orle said he did not think that was the case. He said he felt that the group thought it was an option to start without the expense of a space. Chris agreed that might be the case but she said people did not step up to raise the money to do anything else either.

Chris said that the group could look at this in another way. She said since the 501 (c) (3) is not coming together easily they might decide not to go after the nonprofit status at this time. The group can do the food entity under Slow Food's nonprofit status. Chris said that in order to file for the 501 (c) (3) status we need over \$1,250.00 and it may take months before it is in place. Chris said that in order for the Community Services Network to operate it needs a space and the Coffee House needs a space. She said if enough people are not willing to help with the fundraisers what is the next option.

Chris took this time to offer a possible solution for Tehama Together and its issue with finding a place to call its own. Chris said that since she is moving her office to her home in a few short weeks the building that Tehama Together has been holding their meetings in would not be available. She suggested she continue to pay the rent on her office site with the idea that she would promote workshops to raise the money to pay the rent, utilities and phone service. The group could concentrate on that end of Tehama Together as a money producer. Chris gave a scenario of how this could work. A nominal fee would be charged for a workshop, which could be held every day. An example would be a workshop charge of ten dollars and if you held one workshop per day that would be \$500.00 a week and about \$2,000.00 a month. The Coffee House could be run by donation only, if that is within the city regulations. Chris would be paying the rent and facilitating the workshops. The income would come to her and she would donate a portion of that directly to Tehama Together. Tehama Together would not be obligated to pay rent, would have a place to house the Coffee House, the Community

Services Network, and could participate in the workshops. She wondered if that sounded like something that could work for the group. Colleen wondered if that meant Chris would be at the Tehama Together site all the time. Chris said she would be there half of her time. The other half would be devoted to her own business. The left over income from the workshops, after paying the rent and donating to Tehama Together, would supplement her income for her time spent in preparing, organizing and facilitating the workshops. Chris said in this way the group could start functioning as a viable group until money was raised for a better location. Orle was concerned about the classes. He said he did not have enough information about what the workshops would include to make a judgment as to how viable they could be. He wondered if there would be enough ongoing participation by the community to sustain the site. Who would come to the workshops? Colleen used an example of another organization she knew of that tried to have workshops on a Saturday. She said the workshops were not well attended. Chris said she felt there might not have been much publicity and Colleen agreed that was true. Orle said St. Elizabeth's puts on a workshop every month and it is well publicized, but is not very well attended. Orle said he thought it was great Chris wanted to give of her time and effort, but he was concerned that it might not be a viable enterprise. Chris said she is just trying to keep Tehama Together going. Orle said he knows fundraising is needed. He suggested getting in touch with Phil Dynan to see if they could hold an art auction at his art gallery.

Another suggestion from Orle was a garage sale. Chris said what she is talking about is not just a one-time event but a steady stream of income. Orle said he wanted that also, but this is just to get started. Orle said he does not think it is a good idea to give up the 501 (c) (3). He does not want to be under an umbrella organization. Orle said he would rather go slowly and whatever time it takes to get Tehama Together up and running on its own, he is willing to do. Chris said she is fine with whatever the group wants to do. Chris said she is very concerned about the group after she closes her business doors in a few weeks. Orle suggested that Lynn Moule might let Tehama Together meet in her conference room for its meetings. He suggested that might even get Tehama Together out in the community more than this site has done. Gregg also expressed his concern about Chris obligating herself

financially. Orle asked if Chris had ever been involved with nonprofits before and she said no. Orle said we are doing great. In the few months the group has been together they have sixty people that have come to our meetings or signed up to show interest in the group.

Gregg thought we should consider using the grange for an event. He suggested Tehama Together could put out a dinner plate for 25.00. There would be a specific time, such as the third Friday of every month. The dinners would include a variety of menus and he would use locally produced food. Possibly, have some donated music after the dinner. Gregg said if you put out a three-month menu and people got used to the dinners it would become a special Friday night event for the community. The grange needs support and this would help both groups. Colleen said she would check with the grange to see what the rent is and how we can proceed to use it. Gregg said there is a beautiful grange in Manton and he thinks it would be great to have an event up in that area also. Chris mentioned she knew the people at Mt. Lassen Transit and wouldn't it be fun to get a group from here to go up to Manton for a dinner and some music event. This would get Tehama Together out into other areas of the county since it is a countywide organization. Chris thanked the group for their support and for their part in helping her sort out her ideas and thoughts for Tehama Together.

New Business:

Parade:

Chris shared that the Red Bluff Roundup sponsors a parade every year. The parade will be Saturday, April 11, 2009 and the entire town comes out to see it. Chris suggested that Tehama Together be in that parade. As many members of Tehama Together as we can get can meet about 9 A.M. to line up for the parade. It starts at 10 A.M. and lasts about two hours. Chris said we could each carry something that represents our interest in Tehama Together such as a book, a cup for coffee, a hoe or shovel, etc. We could all carry balloons (white and blue). Gregg said he cannot walk very far but Chris suggested we could use her truck and Gregg can drive it. It is a flatbed and people can ride up in the bed of the truck. Chris said the theme of the parade this year is Hats Off

to Tehama County. Therefore, everyone would wear a hat of their choosing to represent themselves the theme of the parade. The group was excited about this but was not sure if there was time to pull it all together. A discussion continued about the parade and Chris said that she would send out an e-mail to the group to see what kind of a response she gets. She said if only a few people respond she does not want to do it. Orle suggested we have tee shirts for Tehama Together. It was decided there was not enough time to do that for the parade. It would be a good idea to have tee shirts at some point in time and ball caps were suggested. It was agreed to go for the parade if we have enough time.

Orle suggested that we should be sending mailers out occasionally to the people on the Tehama Together list because some do not have access to e-mails. There was a discussion as to the expense and what would be sent in a mailer.

The next meeting will be the fund raising meeting on Saturday, April 4, 2009 at 9 A.M. The general meeting is on the following Wednesday, April 8, 2009 at 1:00 P.M. Colleen said she would call all the people on the list to remind them of the general meeting. . The next executive meeting is Wednesday, April 15, 2009 at 1:00 P.M.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:30 P.M.

Action:

Brochure or flyer to give out to interested persons	unassigned
Cam Redwood follow-up	Chris Pritchard
Bare Flag Stage follow-up	Lupe Green
Follow-up J. B. Stacey	Orle Jackson
Bread Shop follow-up	Kathy Moore

J.D. Ellison follow-up

Chris Pritchard

E-mail to group re: parade

Chris Pritchard