

SOUTHERN INYO FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE MEETING
Thursday, September 3, 2026 – 6PM

MINUTES

I. Call to order

- A. Present: Robin Flinchum, Eliza Woodall, Mike Jerry, Amie Swallow, Julie Finn, Constance, Cynthia Kienitz. Via Zoom: Colette Zelwer, Kirsten Barrett.

II. Public Comment: 3 minutes per participant

III. Old Business

- B. Tecopa Weird Tales Festival
- a. Volunteer check in.
 - a.i. Volunteer needs were reviewed for Friday night setup and Saturday event operations. Roles were designated for entrance hand-stamping, attendance counting, participant parking enforcement, and marking event perimeters with caution tape.
 - a.ii. Cynthia indicated that she will have sufficient people to get set up on Friday night.
 - a.iii. Will need 3 more trash cans for the venue. Robin said Ron can provide them.
 - b. Site plan update.
 - b.i. Amie presented a site diagram. The committee identified major discrepancies in the county concessionaire contract regarding the designated space (south side of footbridge vs. Community Center side) and excessive sanitation demands (contract called for 20 port-a-potties and 2 dumpsters).
 - b.i.1. Mike will check in with Jennifer Mills at Environmental Health to confirm number of Porta potties and hand washing stations needed.
 - b.i.2. Double trailered porta potties that we can pick up ourselves rather than have them deliver which will save money. Mike will contact Joe's about the availability of these double trailered Porta potties and two more regular ones for the venue.
 - b.ii. Mike will ask Joe's about dumpsters. How many for 1k people.
 - b.iii. Discussion about Kandy's stage actually being a loan and not a purchase which would save quite a bit of money on the budget. Woodall will confirm.
 - b.iv. Mike will be contacting our liability insurance provider about a liability waiver for volunteers and vendors.
 - b.v. A joint meeting with the concessionaire will be held to reconcile the contract site map and limit rentals to 4 port-a-potties and 1-2 dumpsters.
 - c. Temple of Weird update - call to artists and supplies collection (Constance).
 - c.i. Constance reported donated supplies are stored locally and the main sign is completed. Up to 10 altars are planned inside the Community Center alongside an SIFPD altar, central sitting area, and tea service.
 - c.ii. We will finalize room layout diagram after official county site photos are completed.
 - c.iii. Decorating and setup inside the Community Center will begin Friday at 4:00 PM; volunteer "shamans" will act as guides and manage building capacity.
 - d. Event schedule
 - d.i. Simple film premiere.
 - d.i.1. Cynthia proposed a Friday schedule featuring a Crowbar reception (6:00 PM-7:30 PM, \$35 donation, finger food, sarsaparilla, music) followed by the film screening at the Flower Building (7:45 PM introduction, 8:00 PM screening, followed by Q&A).
 - d.i.2. Collette proposed the idea that SIFPD will allow Ted Faye/Imagination Connection to use the district's name and logo for fundraising promotion, while Ted retains premiere ticket proceeds (with an option to donate back) and supplies screening equipment for Saturday.

- d.i.3. A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) will be drafted granting mutual name/logo promotion rights and equipment usage without subjecting SIFPD to direct screening costs or liability.
 - d.i.4. The idea was approved by the committee.
 - d.ii. Next day showing of film w/costumes.
 - d.ii.1. A second outdoor screening was scheduled at 6:30 for Saturday evening using available folding chairs, Ted's screen, and Kirsten's audio setup. There was some disagreement about the seating being straw bale versus regular folding or plastic chairs.
 - d.iii. Wonderhussy meet and greet.
 - d.iv. Weird Tales tent w/Artisia Belle.
 - d.v. Music
 - d.v.1. Kirsten and Constance will coordinate specific stage performance slots with out-of-town artists.
 - d.vi. The committee discussed informal Sunday activities, including commercial UTV tours (operated by Matt) and independent canyon/sightseeing outings hosted by Ted Faye and Mark Hall Patton.
- e. Event features/fundraising
 - e.i. Food
 - e.i.1. Hooker's food truck is confirmed. A couple of Mexican food vendors are in the works with the local tamale vendor maintained as a back-up option.
 - e.ii. Silent auction and raffle.
 - e.ii.1. Secured/discussed items include Mark Hamlin's telescope, a handmade quilt, a Tonopah Best Western stay, Lon Bronson show tickets, a massage/facial certificate, a Jim Marsh Goldfield getaway, an Isabelle t-shirt dress, and a 20-minute relaxation station session.
 - e.ii.2. Need to continue beating the bushes for more items.
 - e.iii. Merch
 - e.iii.1. Apparel options were reviewed. Sweatshirts will be priced at \$50. Stickers, T-shirts, and tote bags will also be produced.
 - e.iii.2. Printing quotes were provided (\$16.75/shirt with background color, \$15.75 without).
 - e.iii.3. Graphic elements from the event poster will be converted into standalone stickers and merchandise designs.
 - e.iv. Vendors
 - e.iv.1. Vendor Alley accommodates 22-35 slots with power-equipped campsite spaces reserved for food trucks. A request from the Pahump Car Club to participate was evaluated and rejected as off-theme.
- f. Update budget if needed.
 - f.i. Formal budget updates were deferred until accurate dumpster, port-a-potty, and contract pricing are obtained.
- g. Website and communications review.
 - g.i. Collette praised for her amazing work on the site.
 - g.ii. Options were reviewed for adding artist, storyteller, and food vendor bios, photos, and links to the official website.
- h. Logo/Graphics update.
- i. Discuss simple agreement with Ted Faye. (Zelwer)
- j. Advertising, soliciting donations.
 - j.i. The urgency of securing a finalized event poster was emphasized to replace unauthorized flyers circulating on social media.
- k. Review and record tasks assigned.

IV. Good of the Order

V. Public Comment: 3 minutes per participant

VI. Adjournment & Schedule next Committee Meeting Thursday September 10 at 6pm. Meeting adjourned at 8:46.