

Tehama Together
Executive Committee Meeting
March 18, 2009

Open: Chris Pritchard opened the meeting of Tehama Together on March 18 2009 at 1:07 PM at Business Connections – 332 Pine Street, Red Bluff, CA 96080.

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

Absent: Gregg Gillies (Joan Kaiser Bell substituted for Gregg)

Guest: J. B. Stacey

Addition to Minutes:

Lupe wondered if the logo discussion was on the agenda. Chris said they would talk about it in the assignment/action section of the agenda.

Introductions:

Kathy Moore, from Slow Foods, was introduced to the committee members that had not met her. She gave a brief description of her involvement with that organization and she also shared her interest in Tehama Together. She wondered if anyone had seen the interview with Alice Waters, who is the head of the international team of Slow Foods, on 60 minutes? Kathy said Slow Foods has been in existence since 1986, and that it has many people involved in the Bay area. Kathy is involved with the local chapters of Slow Foods, from Butte County all the way to the northern border. She said Butte County has been very involved but it has been a little slower catching on in the Tehama/ Shasta County area. She mentioned that Shasta County has been doing a lot of the slow food ideas and so it was easier to introduce Slow Foods to that area. Kathy said each county is unique and she feels her job is to educate groups on the reasons that the slow food idea is a much healthier way to eat. There was a discussion on how healthier foods, the idea of growing healthy food is catching on all over, and how fast that is occurring. She said Slow Foods is sponsoring a

garden at Sacred Heart Elementary School in Red Bluff. After a little more discussion about food and how much everyone was looking forward to starting a community garden, the group continued around the table for introductions.

Chris Pritchard wanted to acknowledge Lynn Moule, the owner of Business Connections, for allowing Tehama Together to hold its meeting in her meeting room. Lynn is on the board of directors for Cornerstone Bank and was to give a presentation regarding the bank to the committee. She could not make the meeting and she has asked J. B. Stacey to fill in for her.

Approval of March 4, 2009 Executive Minutes:

Don Gerber moved to approve the minutes of March 4, 2009. Chris Pritchard seconded the motion and the minutes were approved. They will now be posted in the general section of the Tehama Together website.

Special Announcements:

Treasurer Nomination:

Lupe said she has someone who would be willing to be Treasurer for Tehama Together but this person would not be able to come to executive committee meetings because she works during the week and could not get the time off. Lupe said this person would be able to come to the Saturday meetings once a month and Lupe suggested she could follow what Tehama Together was doing by going onto the website. Lupe nominated her but a discussion followed with an agreement that the committee would keep looking for a treasurer who would be able to more fully commit to Tehama Together.

Presentation by J. B. Stacy from Cornerstone Bank:

Mr. J. B. Stacey from Cornerstone Bank gave a presentation as to what his bank could do for Tehama Together. He said that the bank is very community oriented and is very involved with its members. The bank offers a free checking account for a non-profit organization and they do make small business loans. The bank does make loans to non-profits as long as they are able to show they can repay the loan. He told the group

his bank is a very strong bank and has not taken any of the tarp money the government has offered. Lupe Green wondered if the bank was open to exploring micro lending and Mr. Stacey said they do that through the Ag Loan program, i.e., the junior live stock loans. Mr. Stacey said that since the bank is new they are not able to make donations to organizations until they are making a profit. Right now, they give to the community by sponsoring local sporting events, loaning their barbecue to organizations, etc.

Chris Pritchard explained the concept of Tehama Together to Mr. Stacey and invited him to go to the Tehama Together website to get more information. Mr. Stacy was asked if there might be a space in the bank for Tehama Together to hold their meetings occasionally. He described the bank's amenities and said that a room could be made available to Tehama Together if it were needed.

Don Gerber shared his thought that it was very difficult for young people to open a bank account. Mr. Stacy said his bank does not have a Learn to Earn program because another local bank has that program. He shared with the committee that he had started a Learn to Earn program when he was with another bank. Colleen Sheehan asked if he would come and share the Learn to Earn program in a workshop setting when Tehama Together was ready with its educational program. He said he would love to do that.

Orle Jackson told Mr. Stacey the group was searching for a treasurer and asked him if he might know someone who might want to fill that position for Tehama Together. Mr. Stacey said he knew several people who were involved with the community that might be interested and he would be happy to inquire. He said there would be no conflict of interest for someone to be treasurer and to be associated with the same bank that Tehama Together used. The group thanked Mr. Stacey for coming to share his information with Tehama Together and he said he appreciated being invited.

501 (3) (c) Update:

Colleen said she had successfully filed the name Tehama Together, Inc. with the Secretary of State for sixty (60) days. This saves the name until the Articles of Incorporation are filed. If the Articles are not filed within the sixty (60) day time period she will re-file for another sixty (60) days. The cost is ten dollars per sixty (60) days.

She said she has been working on the Articles of Incorporation and the Tehama Together Bylaws. She will post them on the Tehama Together website for the executive committee to review and make comments. Orle suggested that copies be given to the executive committee so they will have a hard copy to look at.

Colleen said she needed some clarification on names to add to the bylaws. It was decided that all names of the executive committee would be added and if there was a question the committee member would let Colleen know. Lupe wanted to know if Tehama Together was having an advisory board separate from the board of directors. It was agreed that since there are only so many people to pull from that the advisory board be included with the executive board to make up the board of directors at this time.

Since Don Gerber and Colleen Sheehan had to leave the meeting early, it was agreed there would be a special Executive Committee Meeting on Wednesday, March 25, 2009 at 1:00 PM to hear a presentation from Kathy Moore regarding Slow Foods

Orle made a motion to make Cornerstone Bank the official bank of Tehama Together. There was a discussion and Lupe then seconded the motion. It was voted on and approved. Cornerstone Bank is now the official bank for Tehama Together but a decision was made that the committee would wait to see what happens with a treasurer before a bank account is opened. It was also decided that another donation would be collected at the General Meeting on March 28, 2009 to add to the money

we already have in order to open the account. The group agreed to contact Mr. Stacey next week to see if he had any suggestions for a treasurer. Lupe brought up the question of how many signatures would be required to sign checks for Tehama Together. After a brief discussion, Lupe moved that the President/Chair of Executive Committee and the Treasurer would be the two signatures on the checking account. Colleen seconded the motion and it was voted on and approved.

Kathy Moore asked about membership and a discussion followed as to whether Tehama Together had decided to be a member or non-member organization. The consensus was that Tehama Together would be a non-member organization with no charge to be a member when it came to voting, but there would be a non-voting paid membership participation in other areas. Kathy wondered about the member bio on the website. It was explained that the bio just adds your name to the list of persons interested enough in Tehama Together to want information about the organization. This also allowed them to be kept informed of decisions and activities within the group. The group will be offering paid membership for the various entities within Tehama Together, which will offer benefits. There will be a very nominal fee of \$15.00 or \$20.00 dollars per year.

Kathy said she is very interested in becoming a part of Tehama Together within the food portion of the group. Kathy mentioned that she met a person who was thinking of opening up a bread shop where they would bake their own healthy bread and possibly combine a food co-op with the bakery. Kathy will speak to her and ask her to come to one of the Tehama Together general meetings.

Kathy said she saw her role in the organization as two fold, seeing how Slow Foods fits in and establishing the community garden entity and how Slow Foods and Kathy can help in that area.

A special executive meeting for Wednesday, March 25, 2009 was set up so that Kathy Moore could have time to share with the group the

workings of Slow Foods and how they might be of help to Tehama Together.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:45 PM.

Action Items:

Follow up with J. B. Stacey not assigned

Logo Discussion Lupe Green

Follow up on Bylaws Colleen Sheehan

Follow up on bakery Kathy Moore