

TCC Board meeting 4-25-13

**Meeting commenced at 7:12 pm.**

**Board members attending:** MarkNygard, DorothyReik, Gabrielle Lamirand, Gary Jensen, Jayni Schuman.

**Also in attendance:** Rebecca Maiden Nygard, Dayna Miller, Bonnie Morgan, Karen Cooke (TYS), Joe Pileggi, Holly Alsop, Bryan Hutchinson, Dawn Geer & her asst./partner, Brando Farr, with partner Sophie Holt??? (Topanga Merchant), Flavia Potenza, Julie Macinally, Amit Gilad, Brooks Ellis..

Mark indicated skipping review of last minutes in order to move through the evening's heavy agenda.

**Reports:**

Parking lot construction is complete and property infrastructure is progressing in general.

Gabrielle reported TCC's revenues from Earth Day: old t-shirts & donations totaled \$750, Lemonade & Coffee sales were \$2,000, with a total profit amount of \$1,700.

**New Business:**

Bryan introduced a proposal to use the House as a private pre-school during the week, with credentialed teachers Dawn Geer and her partner, \_\_\_\_\_ running the school based on a "Green School" philosophy combined with other workable, hands-on methods. It would be M-F, 9 am to 3 pm, with optional after hours care if needed. Testimonials from local parents were provided for the Board to review. Gabrielle voiced concerns about existing classes and activities being affected. Mark suggested working out a schedule, with Bonnie's assistance, and also for Dawn to create a formal proposal to be presented at a future Board meeting.

Flavia and Julie relayed a dire situation involving Topanga resident Stephany Dubov. She is experiencing extreme financial problems, including being evicted, due to ill health. Mark explained that the TCC could immediately give a check for \$300 per TCC's emergency need policy and board approval, and that TCC can offer the use of the property for any fundraising efforts, schedule willing. Motion by Mark for TCC to donate \$300, seconded by Gabrielle and passed unanimously. Bryan Hutchinson then generously offered \$300 to match the TCC donation.

Brando Farr submitted a request to the Board to consider offering the use of the

House for an evening to kickstart a new Topanga business he and his partner, Sophie have started, **Topanga Merchant**. TM is a delivery service that brings fresh, locally grown organic products to members' doorsteps. They need at least 100 prospective clients to join in this enterprise, paying a \$30 starter fee that would provide the customer with a crate of organic, fresh food. The 100 member mark allows TM to purchase the food at wholesale prices, saving the consumer 15% less than buying at a grocery store. TM would like to host a dinner, called a "Founders Feast" at the Community House as a marketing effort to introduce the service to Topanga. The dinner would be cooked by Brando, who is also a chef. He would do all cleanup, and he would need the House for 5-6 hrs. on a week night, like Thursday. The \$30 sign up fee has already been provided by the current/prospective clients, but he has a small budget of only \$100. Board members suggested doing a trade, like cooking lunches

for volunteers of the new playground construction during "Build Week" e.g. Discussion continued and concluded with plans for the dinner to take place at the next General Meeting on May 9.

### **Old Business**

Amit & Brooks report progress on Reggae 'pon the Mountain, one day event to held July ????

Artwork, music, budget, contract. Music budget will be the same or slightly more than last year. Promotional efforts: radio, tv, Polynesian Underground, 5 bands, including "Catch a Fire." Generally working on increasing profit 20-30% each year. Ticket prices will be \$25-30. Lon Haber will be involved with promotion & advertising. Amit stated that no sherriffs will be necessary per \_\_\_\_\_, and Leland Teng says no addl. CHP required unless Sherriffs Dept. recommend it. Mark addressed email he received from Matt at Theatricum re: his concern about last minute date change, etc. Amit assures that everything is okay, and that he has outside funding available. Mark reminded them of some of the past problems and commented on his current concerns: planning too late, keeping the budget low, with 50/50 they should put up 50%. Also the communication needs to improve, and that includes both of them reporting more often, being more available, and returning phone calls. Dayna added some suggestions about how to make more profit than previous years. Gabrielle added that before the budget can be approved, she would like Brooks & Amit to meet with Bonnie about building the contract.

Mark reported on the problems at Earth Day this year. The biggest issue was that

the event ran overtime. The music was scheduled (and contracted) to end at 6 pm, but ran until 7:40. Also, the drum circle went on and on after the music finally ended. Jerry, Joe and Mark had to deal with all the problems that the overtime caused; vendors, parking, etc. Also, mark wants every contract, whether security or\_\_\_\_\_ to be reviewed by TCC president. Mark suggested, as a motion, that there be a charge for when contract times are not adhered to, and that before next year's contract can be agreed upon, the owed overage charge must me paid, otherwise contract will not be signed by TCC. In summary, motion was stated as such: As per contract, TCC will bill Stephanie for extra time used. Motion passed unanimously. A second motion was drafted by Dorothy for Bonnie to come up with a plan to solve these issues for future contractual overage fees and deposits. Motion seconded by \_\_\_\_\_ and passed unanimously.

T-shirts for Topanga Days to be voted on by board: Mimi put together an analysis that shows the difference in cost and profit between selling shirts with a one color logo and shirts that have the neon ink.

We make more money using the one color than the color logo (also would be more money with add'l 2 neon screens and make the shirts heavier). The board passed, unanimously, to go with the one-color logo.

Meeting adjourned at 8:48 pm.