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WES COMMUNITY

An independent non-profit dedicated to supporting outdoor education at Whiskeytown Environmental School

WES Community Meeting Notes
Monday, April 24, 2023; 6:00 to 7:30pm
Via Zoom Web-conference

Present: Melinda Kashuba, Francesca Huntsman, Cassie Simons, Ellen Petrick, Tyler Compton (NPS), Gordon Flynn

Not Present: Nate, Ellen, Josh Hoines, FOW Rep

	Discussion	Action Items
Melinda	Meeting was called to order at 6:05 PM	
Approve Minutes Agenda & Changes	Approval of 3-23-23 Minutes. Francesca motions to approve and Cassie seconds. Motion passes. Approval of tonight's agenda: Motion to approve- Cassie. Francesca seconds. Motion passes.	
Liaison Reports		
NPS (Tyler/ Josh)	Planted 1600 Ponderosa Pines trees in various spots with many volunteer groups. Staff attended job fairs, most recently at Chico State to learn about how other parks address historical information and include Native American voices. The Buckeye Water Treatment Plant- getting good, clean water from Whiskeytown. Trails crew brought on full crew of 15 to work on roads, trails, and service areas. Staff attended two Earth Day events: Caldwell Park and Win River	

Board of Directors

Kathy Hill Melinda Kashuba, PhD
 Francesca Huntsman Cassandra Simons

WES Liaison -

SCOE Liaison – Nathan Fairchild WNRA Liaison – Tyler Compton

SCOE (Nate)		The spring field lab programs are going very well with staff lead Tallianna	
FOW (Don/Tammy)		Fundraiser Event scheduled for July 8th - Poker Paddle Kayak Run, family friendly event with various stops around the lake. Gala and Beer Bus Bash- coming up this summer as well	Promote Poker Paddle on social media- WES Community
Treasurer's Report (Kathy)		The February Bookkeeping was reconciled. Beginning balance: \$261,082.17 Ending balance: \$258,496.61 Deposits: \$6,352.45 Debits: \$8,938.01 As of March 27th, today's meeting date, the bank balance is \$235,591.66 The March Bookkeeping was reconciled. Beginning balance: \$258496.61 Ending balance: \$231,641.66 Deposits: \$1,282.36 Debits: \$28,134.31 April 24th: \$217,530.02 (balance as of end of the day)	
Old Business			
5a. ACE Hardware "Round Up at the Register" fundraiser.		Gordon has been in contact with Beth Tanner for Results Radio up to \$1200 with contract. Email vote from board was 3 people for and 1 person no vote so the motion passed. Will hope to get sponsors for radio spots out of this Expected update at the end of the week. Ask banks for community reinvestment money- try Tri-Counties (our bank). Josh is working on amphitheater engineering redesign for the Redding East Rotary meeting. Possibly around \$50,0000 or so Forest Service RAC grant may have about \$160,000 left to spend, and we are eligible to apply for additional funding. Three of the local Ace Hardware/GBK will be participating in raising funds through electronic transfers in June. (Shasta Lake, Eureka Way and West Side Road). Francesca needs a week and a half notice for web based information. Result needs to	(Francesca, Gordon)

		be in by May 5th so Francesca can have enough lead time for ACE Hardware	
5b. Status of Metals Direct plans and SHN survey (Tim Hill)		<p>Melinda and Tim met with Metals Direct last week. \$2.85 Million for one cabin (40 students) and admin building. Hoping to get in front of the SCOE county executive (1st or 2nd Tuesday of May), before the SCOE board meeting on the 10th. \$376/ square foot. Cabin- 2,000 sq. ft.; Admin- 4,000 sq. ft.</p> <p>Next event- can roll out the plans for the event.</p> <p>SHN- 45/153 trees- measured and mapped. Water Works Engineering is going to look at designing the water infrastructure.</p>	
5c. Capital campaign status (Melinda, Kathy, Francesca)		<p>Raised \$495,222 dollars so far of 3.5 million projected.</p> <p>Planning a spring letter with newsletter going out 2nd week of May (after SCOE board meeting May 10th)</p> <p>Continuing one on one contacts and networking</p>	
5d. East Redding Rotary Grant WES repairs. (Gordon, Melinda)		<p>East Redding Rotary wants to write a grant on our behalf. The new design for campus will be for a capacity of 192 people (16 groups with 10 kids and 2 adults). Discussion of projects with focus on amphitheater capacity. Further research, this may be the grant request.</p>	
5e. Grants and Foundations (Ellen, Melinda)		<p>The grant team is working through the list from Brandon Anderson and United Way. A presentation to United Way would be a good next step. Melinda will seek out a relationship to have on radar for future sustainability.</p> <p>Rose Foundation was a non-starter; they have moved in a different direction, not focused on environmental education any longer</p>	<p>Seek out a relationship with United Way- Melinda</p>

<p>5f. Shasta Land Trust Event May 6, 2023 at WES. (Kathy, Melinda)</p>		<p>Contact is Brady from Shasta Land Trust. Registration numbers increasing.</p> <p>Insurance needs an address for NPS to be held harmless in contract.</p> <p>We need more people to attend the event. How to get the word out? Mail Chimp and Facebook will be used.</p>	
<p>New Business</p>			
<p>6a. Report on National Park Foundation Friends Alliance meeting – April 13, 2023</p>		<p>National Park Foundation- gave us a \$15,000 capacity building grant and we have spent it all.</p> <p>Melinda attended a Zoom meeting that they hold twice a year.</p> <p>Looking towards 250th Anniversary of NPS and designing events</p> <p>Next step to engage corporate owners through volunteerism. Discussion of employee engagement tactics, (like Brown bag lunch at Jacobs)</p> <p>Recommend to form an insider group for employees with fireside chats to build relationships with largest employers in county. (Mercy- largest) These are both beneficial to cooperate culture and to us.</p> <p>Important to use their corporate language to find where overlapping areas of mutual benefit</p> <p>Note: volunteer events take 4-5 months to plan</p> <p>Melinda is working on going to Washington DC next February to promote the program!!</p>	
<p>Announcements</p>			
<p>7a. Presentations</p>		<p>Presenting to Shasta County Cattlemen's Association on May 1, 2023 at 6 PM at Vittles Family Restaurant in Anderson.</p>	

7b. National Park Service Education Award Committee (May 2023).		Melinda- Picking exceptional educators	
Note taker		Meeting adjourned at 7:35 pm. Cassie Simons	

Next meeting 6:00-7:30 May 30th 2023