

Cherokee Community of the Silicon Valley

August 5, 2008

6:05 – 8:25 pm

Santa Clara City Library

Meeting called Harold Doyle **Note taker:** Donna Wheelehan
Attendees: Present: Harold Doyle, Aggie Fishel, Dana Keys, Gail Miller, Tim Miller, Donna Wheelehan.

Minutes

Agenda item: Review/Approve Minutes from Last Meeting and Agenda for This Meeting **Presenter:** Harold Doyle

Discussion: Minutes from last meeting were approved.

Recap: May 17 Northern California Picnic

All agreed that the Cherokee Picnic was a successful event and it was especially great to have so many people from Cherokee Nation come. Everyone was friendly and it was a chance to get to know the other community groups, too.

What worked well:

- Everyone who attended was interested in what Principal Chief, Chad Smith, had to say. It was good to get an update on the Freedmen issue, too.
- The food was good and plentiful.
- The Cherokee Choir, Cherokee Storyteller, and the various demonstrations made the event interactive.
- The new CCSV banner looked great.

What we need to work on for next time:

- Publicity for the picnic was not effective. The flier CN sent did not go out to CCSV members.
- CCSV should also do a raffle or something to interest attendees in joining our group.
- Not critical, but it would be nice to have the picnic closer to the South Bay.

COUNCIL MEETING

Agenda item: September 13 Stomp Dance **Presenter:** All

Discussion: Julia emailed CCSV to inform us that a group from Oklahoma would be in the area on September 13-14 to perform a Stomp Dance demonstration. She wanted to know if CCSV could host one of the demonstrations, along with a potluck on Saturday, September 13, 10am-2pm. Dana has been in contact with Katie Jones, who is Co-President of the Cherokee Student Club, under the auspices of the Stanford American Indian Organization (<http://www.stanford.edu/group/saio/>). Katie is going to see if the Stomp Dance can be held in the Eucalyptus Grove at Stanford University (where the Powwow is held). All agreed that this would be the perfect location.

Other possibilities for locations might be the Palo Alto Veteran's Hospital or the Ohlone Center in Fremont.

Conclusions: All agreed that this is a very exciting program to host and one that should create more interest in CCSV. Having the Stanford group involved might interest more students in joining CCSV.

Julia has asked that we not publicize this to everyone and only invite our members and those who are knowledgeable of Cherokee culture and customs. We will invite our members, Stanford students, and attendees of the June genealogy workshop given by Dana.

CCSV members agreed to bring main dishes for the potluck. We may also consider using CCSV funds to purchase food. Dana has some drinks from the Scotts Valley Little League Snack Shack that she will donate.

It was also suggested that we hold a raffle.

Action items	Person responsible	Deadline
✓ Finalize Stomp Dance arrangements	Dana	ASAP
✓ Notify Julia about travel considerations to/from airport	Dana	ASAP
✓ Get list of SCHGS June Workshop attendees from Trina	Dana	ASAP
✓ Send a Save the Date email to CCSV members and mail a notice to those without email	Gail	Sept 1
✓ Flier for November Meeting	Gail	Sept 13

Agenda item: Memberships **Presenter:** Harold

Discussion: Most of the CCSV memberships have expired and we need to have members renew and to recruit new members. It was agreed to have membership periods begin in September.

Conclusions: It was decided to lower the cost of membership to:
Individuals \$7
Family (per Household) \$20
Scholarships available to members willing to volunteer at CCSV events**
Donations accepted (to help sponsor memberships and other CCSV activities)

**need to work on wording

Action items	Person responsible	Deadline
✓ Revise membership form	Dana	Sept 5
✓ Encourage people to join	All	Ongoing

Agenda item: Financial Update **Presenter:** Tim

Discussion: The current balance is \$339.20. \$102.82 was spent on the new banner. \$75 was brought in on new memberships.

Conclusions: Anyone needing to be reimbursed for CCSV-related expenses should get their receipts to Tim.

Action items	Person responsible	Deadline
✓ Submit receipts to Tim for reimbursement.	All	ASAP

Agenda item: Community Groups Bylaws **Presenter:** Harold

Discussion: CCSV received the bylaws for the community groups established by Cherokee Nation. In order for CCSV to become a chartered community group, the bylaws must be voted on by our membership. We also must hold an election for council positions.

One concern is that the bylaws state that 60% of CCSV members must be citizens of Cherokee Nation. Another is that the bylaws state that a minimum of 6 meetings need to be held each year.

Conclusions: All felt that CCSV is not ready to have our members vote on the bylaws and for council members. It is hoped that we can attract more people to join CCSV at the September Stomp Dance event. It was decided to have the bylaws and council positions be one of the topics for our November meeting. We then could have an informal gathering (perhaps at a Starbucks) in December for those who are interested in becoming a council member. This would be followed up with a general election in January.

Council questioned whether there is any flexibility to the bylaws, especially with 60% members being CN citizens regulation and the number of meetings needing to be held.

Action items	Person responsible	Deadline
✓ Check with Julia to see if there is any flexibility to the bylaws.	Dana	August 15
✓ Watch CCSV membership ratios to be sure 60% are CN members	Gail	Ongoing

Agenda item: Topics for Group Meetings **Presenter:** Dana

Discussion: Dana has compiled a list of possible topics for our General Meetings.

Conclusions: Upcoming Topics
September – Stomp Dancing
November – Bylaws and PBS Video, “Spiral of Fire”

Other ideas:
Cultural Identity
Native Voices Radio Show
Cherokee Creation Story
Sweat Lodge
Genealogy

Action items	Person responsible	Deadline
✓ Finalize our 2008-2009 meeting calendar	All	TBD

Agenda item: Community Assistance Letter **Presenter:** Tim and Gail

Discussion: Grants of \$1000 are available to the Community Groups from CN. A form letter needs to be completed explaining why we need the money and how it will be used.

