

BOARD OF DIRECTORS - EL CERRITO HISTORICAL SOCIETY

MINUTES - SEPTEMBER 17, 2013

The meeting was called to order by Vice President David Weinstein
Present: Tom Panas, David Weinstein, Debbie Weeks, Joanne Rubio
Absent: Rich Bartke, Barbara Hill

The Minutes of August 20, 2013 meeting were approved as submitted.

Tom Panas distributed year-to-date financial report through August 31, 2013 (copy attached). The Board discussed the report.

Topics Discussed:

Next Programs

October 10, 2013	El Cerrito Plaza - Senior Center - El Cerrito
November 3, 2013	Architecture in El Cerrito
Early 2014	Marsh House program They will come to El Cerrito.
Spring 2014	Port Costa tour
TBD	Chung Mei Home

Eden Housing - Mabuchi Building meeting

Tom P. attended this event last Wednesday, 9/1/2013 and commented on the draft EIR. The discussion at the meeting centered around mitigation at the former Contra Costa Florist site. Three members of the Japanese community attended as well as 4 or 5 other community members. Tom said the proposed mitigation was inadequate and encouraged engaging the community in the process. He felt the plan as laid out is not defined enough and fails to include many of the mitigation ideas proposed last spring.

Planning Commission - Wednesday, September 18 - 7:30 p.m.

Tom P. will attend this meeting with the Planning Commission. The Board authorized him to speak on behalf of the El Cerrito Historical Society to pursue better mitigation regarding the Mabuchi Building. The new planning director is Margaret Kavanaugh-Lynch.

Canopy Update

Tom informed the board that he has the new canopy but has not yet tested it.

Historic Walking Tour Brochure

The Board discussed the brochure being two pages, stapled. Tom will work on the lay out. The suggestion is to have some images along with the text Dave has put together. This brochure will be taken to a print shop when it is finished. The Board thanked David for his work on this brochure.

El Cerrito Historical Society - Web Site Up-date

Debbie went through all of the parts of the web site, explaining what was finished and what still needed to be completed. She will send a link to the Board members so they can peruse the new site. The payment for this web site needs to be changed from Joann Steck-Bayat's credit card to another one. Debbie agreed to put it on her credit card and be reimbursed. The Board agreed to this.

"Homepage"	All Set
"The Historical Society"	Narratives 1/3 completed
"How To Join"	Need to set up Pay Pal or other...
"Shadi History Room:"	Need image
"How You Can Help"	All Set
"Contact Us"	All Set
"Photo Timeline"	Needs 12-20 photos to briefly chronicle the history of El Cerrito - Tom will supply these.
"Events"	This will be put on when we go "live".
"Places of Interest"	Need content
"EC in Print"	Working on this
"Meetings & Minutes"	THE BOARD DECIDED TO CHECK OUT OTHER HISTORICAL SOCIETY WEBSITES TO SEE WHAT THEY DO.
"Board Members"	Now it only lists names. Tom volunteered to have his phone number included.
"Newsletter"	This will include <i>The Forge</i> and <i>Sparks From the Anvil</i>
"Chung Mei Home"	Need Photos
"Preservation Updates"	Need Content - Tom will do this.
"Links"	The Board needs to take a look at what is there.
"Shop our Store"	Need Pay Pal or other....Debbie will check into using credit cards.

The Board thanked Debbie for all of her work on the site.

Shadi History Room News

Tom traveled to Tennessee to meet with Dr. Shepherd's granddaughter, Elizabeth. She gave him three bound volumes of the "Chung Mei Chronicles" to donate to the El Cerrito Historical Society. These volumes are invaluable as they chronicle the beginning of the home in 1928 and continue through the 1940's. Tom requested that the Board approve taking them to a binding shop to see how much it would cost to unbind them for scanning purposes and then rebind them. The Board approved Tom looking into the cost of such an endeavor. Tom has already send a "Thank You" note to Elizabeth.

Bank Signature Cards

Tom suggested we set up new signature cards with our bank, as there are some new Board members and some on the old cards are no longer on the Board. He will look into the process and get back to the Board. David suggested waiting until January of 2014, since we will be voting on Board Directors at that time.

Secretary - El Cerrito Historical Society

At the last meeting, Joanne Rubio agreed to serve as the Secretary of the Society. She would like the Secretary's materials such as the membership e-mail lists to be on an e-mail account that is not her personal e-mail. The Board endorsed the idea of a dedicated e-mail account for the Secretary. Joanne will set one up. Debbie agreed to meet with Joann Steck-Bayat to figure out the best way to transfer the e-mail membership list. There was some discussion of whether having Joann Steck-Bayat continue sending out general announcements to the membership was the best plan. At a previous meeting, it was agreed that it would be okay if she continued doing so. At this point we need to know if Joann Steck-Bayat wants to continue doing that and how she will get updates to the mailing list. For now the Board will continue to work with Joann Steck-Bayat for mailings. Based on Debbie's findings, the Board will further consider this at the next meeting.

NEXT MEETING: TUESDAY, OCTOBER 15 4:30-6:00 p.m.