

President Rich Bartke called the meeting to order at 4:35 p.m. Present were Barbara Hill, Tom Panas, David Weinstein and Joann Steck-Bayat. Absent were Debbie Weeks and Joanne Rubio.

Minutes

January 8th board minutes and January 13th general membership minutes were accepted. Joann will email out to the membership the general membership meeting minutes.

Sparks

Articles discussed to include were an update on the sale of the Navellier house, Barbara's article on the found photo album and the Lincoln Highway dedication. Joann will contact realtor to get house update.

Forge

The road number and names article will be the topic for the next *Forge*. Tom will review and give input to Rich's article. Dates for David's program will be included in the *Forge*.

Upcoming Programs and Tours

David gave a list of possible programs.

- Warnecke program entails a lot of work including contacting the family and school.

- Limelighter's home which would require a limited number of attendees.

- Gambling Part 2

- Stege's centennial celebration on May 18 could be followed up with historical program.

- Castro family program with Joanne. Tom is working with Joanne on this for a future program.

- Portuguese community

- History of East Bay Sanitary and garbage

Library's 100th Anniversary

The library will celebrate its 100th birthday tentatively on June 14. Tom will put on a slide show. Society was if it would like to cosponsor the event. Society's responsibility will be to have rep says few words and help with refreshments. It was agreed that we would be cosponsors.

Website

It was decided to continue to deal with the new website by email.

Dues

President asked whether memberships were coming in in the new rate. Tom reported that the majority were with maybe five not. Those had the old due rate form.

New Members

President asked if there were people that ought to be members. An increase in numbers adds not only financial support but political clout as well.

Arlington Tunnel

The Planning Commission has on the February 20th agenda the topic of an 8-9' fence around the entrance to the 1910 quarry funicular train entrance. David made a motion that the Society should take a stand and Barbara seconded the motion. The motion adopted and passed. Tom will try to make the meeting to speak to the historical interest of the tunnel.

Noteworthy El Cerritans List

Barbara has taken over this project. She apologized for not making more progress to date. Patch.com at onetime had wanted the list but Rich declined to give it them as it wasn't complete enough. We may consider giving it to them at a future date.

Mortar & Pestle

Barbara will be speaking to the Phoebe Apperson Hearst Museum about the item but she is curious whether it was in a burial site or just left in the field. Tom commented that we are asked by the from the Native American community to return the item we should do so.

Fourth of July booth

David will be sending in the application and money. The event needs a chair. Tom will help set up again, Barbara will work the day of. David asked that the display be made smaller. Joann will line up volunteers for the day. The questionnaire this year will be Rich's elevations in El Cerrito and their answers.

Brochure

Tom is working on David's write up.

Creeks

Mary Hughes-Tutass sent email saying things were going slower than she had anticipated.

Historical Resources report

Tom reported on several items regarding historic resources in town. He has now completed official Register nominations for the former Chung Mei Home site, the former Rodini property, and the former Contra Costa Florist building. He also noted that the revised plans submitted by Eden Housing several months ago for the Tradeway project retained the front (retail) portion of the former Contra Costa Florist building.

Tom also described the City Council's Strategic Plan study session on January 26th. The session started with a review of work done to date. The Council also heard a number of comments from the public. The remainder of the session was used by the Council to review various parts of the plan and then recommend certain actions be specifically implemented. Among these was the Council's agreement that the strategies used to implement the goals of the Strategic Plan should include:

- i) El Cerrito will adopt a Historic Resources Ordinance, and
- ii) El Cerrito will perform a survey of the town to identify the most likely historic resources.

Good of the Order

Barbara reported that she and Christine are considering a visit to the Richmond Museum of History to find out how some things are done behind the scenes.

Barbara also reported that the Society received an old small photo album that showed the construction of a home in the 1940's. She had exact photos in the History Room files but couldn't be identified but with the newly donated album she was able to tell the location of the photos.

David suggested and it was adopted that there be an item on every agenda updating preservation efforts.

Meeting adjourned at 5:55pm. Next meeting will be March 12 at 4:30 in the Shadi History Room.

Respectfully submitted,

Joann Steck-Bayat, Secretary