

El Cerrito Historical Society Board Meeting Minutes

April 16, 2013

President Rich Bartke called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m. Present were Tom Panas, David Weinstein, Joanne Rubio, Debbie Weeks, Barbara Hill, Joann Steck-Bayat.

Minutes

March 12 board minutes were accepted.

Map Donation

Rich was given a 1915 Bay Area map from Fred Granzella. Rich will find out if it is a loan or a gift. Mr. Granzella also delivered to Rich a Grand Jury Manuel from 1972. David will deliver to the Marin County Historical Society once it is determined whether it is a loan or gift.

Next Program

Cerrito Theater on June 15 is the next members' meeting. David will start with the PR soon. Future possible topics are El Cerrito Plaza, George Friend house and the Limelitters house. Joanne has collected old articles about the Plaza and will forward to David for the development of the Plaza program.

PA System

It was decided to borrow the Garden Club's PA system once more to see if it fits our needs.

Finances and membership

El Cerrito Historical Society

Financial Recap

FY 2013-14 Through March 2013

Beginning Cash Balance at Mechanics Bank (3/1/13)	10,759.23
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Upcoming Activities

May 18	1-4pm	Stege	David and Tom will attend
June 14	7pm	Library Anniversary	
July 4		Booth at Celebration	

Sparks and Forge

Tom will send out *Forge*.

Historical Resources

Tom commented on the National Register applications for the former Chung Mei Home, Rodini, and Contra Costa florist sites that he submitted in February at the request of the State Historic Preservation Office. The State Office has now requested certain changes and commented that the former Rodini and Contra Costa sites might not qualify for the National Register, in which case Tom will prepare new nominations for the State Register. The State Office has yet to comment on the application for the Chung Mei site. No one has heard any news regarding the Navellier property and Tom said he would contact the Hillside Neighborhood group to see if they had any news.

The April 22 EIR scoping meeting for the Eden Housing San Pablo Avenue Mixed-use Senior Apartments project was discussed. Eden has proposed retaining and rehabilitating the former retail shop and removing the former residence. Since removing the residence clearly constitutes an adverse impact on the Historic Resource, mitigation will be required. Tom said that he intends to attend the April 22 meeting

and advocate for i) keeping the entire Historic Resource intact and ii) propose that the team suggesting mitigation measures should include a member of the Japanese community who has advocated for the preservation of the Historic Resource and a member of the community at large who has advocated for the preservation of the Historic Resource.

Board of Directors of the Society unanimously approved the following two resolutions:

1) The Board of Directors strongly recommends rehabilitating the entire Historic Resource on the property in accordance with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties. This would include both the former retail shop portion and the former residential portion of the Contra Costa Florist building.

2) To best represent the interests of the community, the Board of Directors strongly suggests that the team studying and proposing mitigation measures for the Historic Resource on the property include:

- i) a member of the Japanese community who has advocated for the preservation of the Historic Resource, and
- ii) at least one more member of the community who has advocated for preservation of the Historic Resource.

Tom will write a letter to the city with both passed motions.

Shadi Room Policies

Barbara presented the room policy and discussed room visitors taking items from the History Room. Joanne suggested a yellow out card system be put in place. Topic tabled until next meeting.

Website

Debbie went over all website progress. She took the directors' suggestions and will incorporate them into the site.

de Anza Sign Placement

Tabled until next meeting.

List of Notables

Barbara and Rich will meet and discuss. They have formed a subcommittee.

Meeting adjourned at 6:30pm. Next meeting May 21, 2013, 4:30. Tom will take minutes in Joann's absence.

Respectfully submitted,

Joann Steck-Bayat, Secretary