

EL CERRITO HISTORICAL SOCIETY MINUTES
MARCH 18, 2014

The meeting was called to order by President Rich Bartke

Present: Barbara Hill, Tom Panas, David Weinstein, Rich Bartke, Joanne Rubio Absent: Debbie Weeks

The Minutes of February 18, 2014 Board Meeting were approved as submitted.

Topics Discussed

Sparks and The Forge

The Forge was written by Barbara about John Marsh. Tom will edit it and a final version will go out soon.

Marsh House State Historical Park Presentation - March 25 - 7:00 p.m.

This event will be at the Arlington Park Clubhouse. Board members who are coming should arrive about 6:15 to help set up. Tom will bring a screen and the P.A. system. Dave will bring cookies and soft drinks. Rich will bring wine.

Honor Pioneers of El Cerrito - April 23rd - 4:30-6:00 p.m.

Tom and Joanne have been working the plans for this spring event. This will be a reception in the City Hall lobby. We will honor those who are over 90, were born in or near El Cerrito and grew up here. Dave suggested video recording the event. Tom will put together a flyer.

Model of Cerrito Theater

The board voted to accept the Cerrito Theater model from the Friends of the Cerrito Theater. It was built by Charles Moran. It will be displayed in the Shadi Room. It may be loaned out on occasion. A suitable cabinet will be needed to place it on and this cabinet will need to be approved by the City. Tom will check this with the city and then someone will need to order a cabinet that matches the furniture in the Shadi Room.

Photo Credits

We need to be sure that every image we use on the web, in e-mail, in print or otherwise has a proper photo credit. Consult with Tom if you have any questions about this.

Hillside Park Festival/Trail Trekkers - Saturday, May 17

We have agreed to participate in this event. The main goal for this event is to get information out about Hillside Park and to support the purchase of the Madera Parcel. So far the Trail Trekkers have raised \$33,000. Tom is willing to set up a table with materials and do a walk/talk about our history. Barbara will help on this.

Brooks Island - Rancho San Pablo Land Grant

Joanne gave Barb information about the book written by the Antone Gargurevich, the oldest son of the family who lived on Brooks Island. Joanne is doing some research to find out more about the history of Brooks Island.

Speakers Panel

Tom, David and Rich agreed to be speakers for the Historical Society on history and architecture. Rich will draft an announcement that speakers are available. This announcement will be put in Sparks.

Tess Taylor

Tess Taylor, a well-known poet and a professor at UC Berkeley, requested a review of some historical information she included in an essay she wrote. Tom provided an extensive critique. Tess lives in El Cerrito.

Rodini House

The Planning Commission is having a study session on the Rodini property. Tom is going to the meeting. The owner has agreed to restore the home to the Secretary of the Interior Standards for Rehabilitation. This is a significant agreement for the Society and El Cerrito.

Living History Day

Joanne described what a "Living History Day" might look like. Many museums and historical societies do this from time to time. This is a big project and would take considerable planning plus the assistance of volunteers. It might be something to do next year or for our 100th anniversary in 2016. Several suggestions were made as to where it might be held. The Community Center is one good possibility. Tom will talk to the Rec. Director of El Cerrito to see if there is an interest in participating in this kind of event. Joanne will continue to develop the idea. Barbara said she could be Fay Breneman. Joanne described the event as depicting life in El Cerrito. Any era could be chosen. Guests would be able to "visit": Lafayette Park, Jordan's Pharmacy/Soda Fountain, a farmer's produce market, a streetcar, the post office in the hardware store, the library in Dr. Breneman's house, rabbits/chickens on a farm, etc. This is all an attempt to transport people back to an earlier time in El Cerrito. Joanne would organize a team to work on this project. They would plan the event which would include backdrops, live music, food, animal pets in cages, games and a person at each "booth/store/site" dressed in character and playing that role. Each of these would be depicting a shop/place that was in El Cerrito during the time period chosen.

4th of July

The application fee is \$45 this year. The Board agreed to participate in this event. Tom, David, Barbara and Joanne will help out. Tom will send in the application with the fee.

History Trunks

As mentioned at the February board meeting, Joanne, will bring a sample of a "history trunk" from a museum. This will allow the Board to see what those contain and how we might develop this idea.

I.R.S. - Conflict of Interest Policy

Tom passed out copies of the sample Conflict of Interest Policy that is on the IRS web site. The Board members agreed to read it over for discussion at the next meeting. Tom will also check with other historical societies try to locate an example of this policy that would be more appropriate for an organization of our size.

Meeting Adjourned

NEXT MEETING: April 15, 2014 - 4:30-6:00 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Joanne Rubio, Secretary