

El Cerrito Historical Society

Minutes of Meeting August 18, 2020

Present: David Weinstein, Dianne Brenner, John Falconer, Pat Shaw, Tom Panas

****Indicates Action Items**

1.) Minutes of prior meeting: There were no comments or corrections.

2.) Treasurer's Report: Pat Shaw provided the Treasurer's report. She reported no income, and expenses totaling \$433.88. The Restricted Funds balance is \$5,500.00, the Unrestricted Funds balance is \$12,029.65, and the July 31 Mechanics Bank Balance is \$17,963.53

3.) Public Comment: ~~There was none.~~

4.) Events:

- a. Karen Sorensen's talk on Albany history is scheduled for October 22 at 7 p.m. John has posted it on our website, and Dave will post it on NextDoor.
- b. Tom has been asked to provide a talk on El Cerrito history for the Pinole Historical Society.
- c. There was a discussion about changing our regular meeting night, since Chris T. can't make Tuesdays, for the time being. We agreed to meet on the third Thursday instead.
- d. Erin Merritt was invited by Dave to attend and make a presentation about an idea she has for outdoor, site-specific theater performances. Her goal is to provide work for out-of-work actors, as well as safe entertainment for the public. She proposes a driving tour to performances at perhaps 8 sites scattered throughout El Cerrito, Richmond and San Pablo, with attendees remaining in their cars. She would charge a flat fee per car. The target would be to have 3 cars present at one time for each performance. Off-street parking is a requirement. At each location, there would be a short (5-10 minute), site-specific performance by performers who live in the neighborhood. Performances would be repeated on Saturday and Sunday afternoons for several weeks running. What she wants from ECHS: We could perhaps provide a performance, but more likely historical information around which she can build a script. She is hoping to organize one of these in Oakland in September, and possibly El Cerrito in October. ****** Tom and Chris T. will speak further with Erin about this.

5.) Technical Assistance from California Historical Society: ****** John said he is reaching out for information.

6.) People of Color and ECHS: So far we have not spoken to potential candidates to work with the society in a capacity that could lead to eventual board membership. **Dave and Tom said they would reach out.

7.) Recent Donations:

8.) ECHistorical Society Procedures: Tom made the changes in text that were required so the procedures are done and ready for posting on the website.

9.) Next Forge: Production and mailing of the current issue of the Forge actually cost less than the previous issue.

10.) Sparks: Dave said he hopes to get one out soon, maybe with Merritt's program as content.

11.) Website/YouTube : Looking for sources/stories we have on the website, which Erin could use in the performances. The website does not have a list of videos it has available, but the YouTube channel does have a list. YouTube videos are searchable. John may re-do the website's homepage, adding a "what's new" feature, and making it easier to find things.

12.) The meeting was adjourned.