

BOARD OF DIRECTORS - EL CERRITO HISTORICAL SOCIETY MINUTES - OCTOBER 15, 2013

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 September 17, 2013 meeting were approved as submitted.

Topics Discussed

Next Programs

November 3, 2013 Architecture in El Cerrito - 20 RSVPs as of today; David will accept 50 but expects about 40 people. There will be 2-3 architects at the event. Refreshments will be served and David will speak. The event will be held at the former home of one of the Limelitters on Brewster Drive.

Spring/Fall 2014 TBD Marsh House program
Port Costa tour
Chung Mei Home

Canopy Update

Tom informed the Board that he tested the canopy and it works well. It is being stored at the Shadi Room.

Program Re-Cap - October 10, 2013 - El Cerrito Plaza

About 75 people attended the Plaza event at the El Cerrito Senior Center on October 10, 2013. A photo of the event will be included in the next "Sparks". Janet Foley loaned her scrapbook to David. Tom will check through the album and scan any photos to be saved for the Historical Society photo files. The contact list that was sent around at this event will be placed in a file in the Shadi Room. Joanne R. has a copy of the Plaza event list to add names to the Historical Society e-mail list.

Historical Society Membership List

Tom passed out a list of current members of the El Cerrito Historical Society. Tom updates the list based on receipt of dues. The Historical Society secretary adds the addresses to the mailing list, but does not keep an on-going membership list. A few members have been added in the last few months. Currently there are about 126 members. The folks on the list who have not paid dues this year will be dropped from the membership list by Tom, but they will stay on the e-mail list. (Membership information is stored in Drawer F at the Shadi Room.)

Sparks

Rich will write the next Sparks. Tom will scan a photo, sent by David, into that document and Joanne R. will send Sparks out when it is finished. Joanne will get the current Historical Society mailing list from Joann S-B and add new e-mail addresses from the Plaza event.

Famous & Noteworthy List

Barbara attended a recent Curators' meeting. She asked them about "noteworthy and famous" lists for their towns. The resounding response was that most Historical Societies just have one list called "Noteworthy". Other curators said they determine if someone is noteworthy by "just knowing" and having an appropriate disclaimer. The Board agreed to do the same for El Cerrito. Rich will combine the two lists we currently have started into one list. We will divide the list into time periods. (1839-1916 and 1917-Present).

Mabuchi Building Up-date

In the past month Tom has attended a public meeting called by Eden Housing as well as a Planning Commission meeting and a Design Review Board meeting regarding Eden's proposed senior housing project. At each meeting Eden's tone has softened regarding the former Contra Costa Florist building and they have shown more flexibility. Tom and Laura Iiyama from the Contra Costa JACL were also asked to attend two additional meetings requested by the City and by Eden to discuss the best way to honor the legacy of the former Contra Costa Florist building. The Board thanked Tom for his efforts representing the Society in the negotiations and asked him to continue on as he has been doing.

Historic Walking Tour Brochure

David showed the Historic Walking Tour Brochure he and Tom have been working on. The Board agreed to stay with the one-fold format and add several photos. The Board thanked Tom and David for a job well done.

Shadi History Room News

Barbara bought a copy of Dr. Shepherd's novel called *Lim Yik Choy*. It is in Drawer C at the Shadi Room. The Shadi Room also received a copy of *Ventures In Mission: The Cameron House*. This is about the Cameron House in San Francisco. Donaldina Cameron was instrumental in Dr. Shepherd's decision to start the Chung Mei Home.

Chung Mei Chronicles expense

Tom informed the Board that he had found a book binder who would unbind the three *Chung Mei Chronicles* books, give the pages to us for scanning and then rebind them. The cost will be \$125.00 x 3 books for a total of \$375.00 + Tax. The Board approved a motion to spend this amount for this project. Tom will pursue this. Tom noted that scanning the pages may be a major effort.

Bank Signature Cards

Rich, Tom and David are on the Bank Signature Cards as of this date. The Board decided to keep the cards as they are currently and re-visit this item after the January 2014 Historical Society general membership meeting.

Secretary - El Cerrito Historical Society

It was decided that Joanne Rubio would take over the job of sending out the Historical Society mailings. Joann S-B had been doing this during the transition period of switching secretaries. Joanne R. has set up the echistsocsec@gmail.com account for Historical Society Secretary items. Joanne R. will contact Joann S-B to let Joann know she can send the lists that she has to this new e-mail address.

New Business**Reception to Celebrate the gift of the Chung Mei Chronicles**

Joanne suggested we have a community event to celebrate these historical books donated to the Historical Society from Dr. Shepherd's granddaughter. This event would be held in the foyer of City Hall. The community would be invited, including former Chung Mei residents. Refreshments would be served. The displays could possibly include: the three *Chronicles of Chung Mei*, photos of Chung Mei Home and a slide show of Chung Mei. Copies of selected pages of the "Chronicles" would be available for folks to read and/or take with them. The Board approved going forward with this event. Tom and Joanne will begin working on this.

Sundar Shadi Movie - Sunday, October 20

The City of El Cerrito is sponsoring the showing of the Sundar Shadi Movie at Cerrito Theater on Sunday, October 20, 2013. The City and KCRT produced the movie about Sundar's life. The movie is 37 minutes long. Tom will ask Suzanne Iarla, from the City, for a copy of the movie to be kept at the Shadi Room.

NEXT MEETING: TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2013 - 4:30-6:00 p.m.