

# EL CERRITO HISTORICAL SOCIETY

## MINUTES SEPTEMBER 16, 2014

The meeting was called to order by President Rich Bartke

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

The Minutes of the August 19, 2014 Board Meeting were approved as submitted, with one amendment stating that Tom Panas will be the editor of the ECHS Website.

### **E.C. High School Music History Program 6:00 - 7:00 p.m. - EC High School**

Dave will bring beverages and cookies Rich will bring materials from the history room

### **Portola School Archives**

Mufti said these items are stored at Adams School. She hasn't been able to get to it so she will come to the next meeting.

### **East Bay Regional Park District Program**

People really enjoyed it. This event was well received. It was a lot of background history of the Park District. The presenter was impressed with questions asked by the audience.

### **EBMUD History on October 23 - 7 p.m. - Community Center**

Dave will make a brochure and will send it to us first tonight. He will prepare a flyer to pass out tomorrow night at El Cerrito High School and to be taken to the County Library event this Friday by Joanne.

### **Basket Fundraiser (Marketing) - Open Space Campaign**

October 12 - Silent Auction - Community Center - Outdoor Courtyard

Several Musicians will play. The ECHS basket will contain a copy of the El Cerrito Arcadia book, matted images, T-shirt, brochures and membership form. The T-shirt can be exchanged for a different size. Vicki Nolan is in charge of this event for the *Open Space Campaign*. This project is for the City and the residents. The ECHS Board will decide on a case-by-case basis as to what local charity fundraising drives we should support and how much we should give. Tom will get the amount of each item to David. The campaign has about \$50,000 pledged so far for the *Open Space Campaign*.

### **List of Nobel Prize winners - UC Berkeley**

22 Faculty-Current and Deceased; 29 UC Berkeley Alumni - Barbara brought copies of this list. Rich wants to look it over. Joanne will check the names on census records and property information to see if they lived in El Cerrito

### **Friday Night Website Presentation - CC Historical Society & CC County Library**

Historical societies in the county have been invited to attend this event. It will be at the CCC Library in Pleasant Hill at 6 p.m. on Friday, 9/19. Joanne agreed to attend.

### **Recent Donations**

\*7-8 display boards showing the 2002 - Open House - History of Cerrito Theater - David W.

\*Historical Interviews - Get a form for no restrictions for using this material - Eve Ma

\*Box from Fire fighter scenes; Fire department collection; Chronicled many of the fires -  
Donation from Debbie's dad

### **Anza Trail Markers - El Cerrito**

The Board discussed where these signs or interpretive markers could be placed. Suggestions were San Pablo Avenue and the Ohlone Greenway. Tom found out that there is one approved "National Anza Trail Route". It was suggested that perhaps grants were available from the Park Service for this project, similar to the one in Wildcat Canyon Trailhead.

Tom will check in with Melanie Mintz and Yvette Ortiz and get back to Hale Sargent about the idea. Tom will push forward with this idea. Joanne agreed to help on this project, too. Perhaps we want the same style of signage as the Trail Trekkers will have to name the various trails.

### **El Cerrito Historical Society Museum**

The Board discussed the two places most likely for a ECHS Museum. They are the Veterans Memorial building which could be used for meetings, storage of large items and a museum/display. The other space is the Rodini House. We could occupy a part of it. The Rodini House has been offered for use by one or more community organizations. The plan is that the building will be moved to the south west corner of the lot and restored in accordance with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards. Both sites would need to be climate controlled/humidity control.

David suggested a multi-pronged approach: Exhibit Space & Storage using both the Historic Rodini Home and the Veterans Memorial building. A suggestion was made to rotate and change exhibits at both sites.

We need to let the City know we are interested in using the Rodini House. We need to find out who is going to manage that project. It will be about 3 years before it is available. Rich will talk to John Goia about using the Veteran's Building. He will also talk to someone at City Hall about use of the Rodini House.

### **Diphtheria School in El Cerrito - 1915**

Chris Treadway informed us that there was a special school set up in "Rust" for students and teachers who were carriers of diphtheria, according to a local news article of the time. The school had 52 students. Students came from around the area to attend. In Nov. 1915 the Rust Library was closed due to the same diphtheria outbreak. Joanne will continue to research this topic & write her findings for our historical files.

**Agenda Item for Next meeting:** Castro on ECHS Website

**Meeting Adjourned**

**NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, October 21, 2014**