

El Cerrito Historical Society

Minutes of Board Meeting April 15, 2021

Present: David Weinstein, John Falconer, Dianne Brenner, Pat Shaw, Pat Durham, Chris Treadway, also Ed Crowley

**\*\*Indicates Action Items**

**1.) Minutes:** The minutes were approved, with no comments or corrections.

**2.) Treasurer's Report:** Treasurer Pat S. provided the Treasurer's report, dated April 15, 2021. She reported income of \$661.58 from dues and royalties, including one new life member. Expenses totaled \$85.17 for printing and scanning. The Restricted Funds balance is \$5,500.00, the Unrestricted Funds balance is \$14,019.69. The Mechanics Bank Balance was \$19,519.69 as of March 31, 2021. After some discussion, it was agreed that we will continue receiving paper royalty statements from Arcadia, not digital.

**3.) Board Member Comments – not on Agenda:**

- a. Dave hasn't had time to work on the proposed map of historic places and buildings in El Cerrito. He has instead been busy working on the Gerald Martin article for the Forge.
- b. We also decided to send thank you notes/acknowledgements to new members, renewals and lifetime members. John pointed out that the Society used to send a certificate to lifetime members, and he will send a copy of it to Dave. Beginning with the start of this membership year, **\*\*Dave will send a letter of thanks\*\*** to each member upon receipt of their dues payment (new and renewal), with a special certificate to be included for the lifetime members. **\*\*John will help Pat Shaw compile a list\*\* of the new members in the various categories, including their mailing addresses, and send it to Dave.** Hereafter, each month when there is a new member, Pat Shaw will send the name, address and category to Dave.

**4.) Public Comments:** None

**5.) Statement of Purpose:** Dave has drafted this piece and everyone thought it was fine. Dave will look into having it printed. It is to be distributed through the library, community center, Chamber of Commerce newsletter, etc.

**6.) Events:**

- a. Pat Durham will provide a brief write-up on her upcoming talk about the history of the Martin Luther Jr. parade in El Cerrito. The talk is scheduled for this July (via Zoom using Dave's computer), so we want to begin to publicize it in the next Forge. John F. advised us he will be out of town from June 20 until

some time in August, so we will need to seek technical support from someone else.

- b.** The Human Rights Commission has begun taking stories from Asian Americans for their Truth and Reconciliation project. Tom Panas is helping them find people to interview.
- 6. By-law revisions:** Dianne Brenner made a motion, seconded by John Falconer, to approve the bylaws as revised. The motion passed unanimously.
- 7. Forge:**
  - a.** Dave had hoped to publish an issue of the Forge in April, but he is still working on his article on Gerald Martin. Mr. Martin is a founding member of the NAACP in El Cerrito, and the last remaining founder. The article will be published in the hard-copy Forge and will also be posted on-line. Dave will also transcribe and edit the full Martin interview to produce an oral history with photos, that can be kept in the archive and posted online as a PDF.
  - b.** We could do more to develop our working relationship with the El Cerrito High Archiving Committee and the Morehouse Project, and Dave will contact them to get on the email list for their newsletter to alumni. El Cerrito is one of very few, if not the only, high schools with a museum. Dave mentioned that Kings Park HS in New York has a museum, but it's in an Administration building, not the school.
  - c.** The Keystone Montessori school may be the subject of a future article, as a profile of an historic EC business.
- 8. Sparks:** Dave hopes to issue a Sparks in the next month. It will include an item on Pat Durham's upcoming talk about the history of El Cerrito's Martin Luther King Jr. parade. Ideas for other articles include the High School's Archiving Project.
- 9. Website:** John has added Dianne's home video of the Shadi Christmas display to the website. The video was filmed on Christmas Eve in 1995, when the display was still set up in Mr. Shadi's yard on Arlington Blvd.
- 10. Adjourn.**