

El Cerrito Historical Society

Minutes of Board Meeting September 16, 2021

Present: David Weinstein, Dianne Brenner, Pat Shaw, Pat Durham

****Indicates Action Items**

1.) Treasurer's Report: (I haven't received the Treasurer's report, but decided to distribute these minutes without waiting for that information.)

2.) Board Member Comments – not on Agenda:

- a. We all agreed that Pat Durham's presentation about the history of the Martin Luther King Day parade in El Cerrito was very well done.
- b. Dave mentioned that Board member Chris Treadway is temporarily in the hospital. Board members are encouraged to send him cards and well wishes to his home address.
- c. Chris Treadway has a book in the works and it may be possible for Board members to help him get it finished and published. Dave Weinstein will let us know.

3.) Public Comments: None

4.) Events: Janet Byron, with Berkeley Path Wanderers, is planning to offer a Creedence-themed walk around El Cerrito, highlighting various buildings that were significant to the band members (houses, schools, etc.). We might consider asking Alex Palao if he'd be willing to offer his presentation about the band again, this time via Zoom. We might work out coordination with the walk. Maybe the walk will also be offered via Zoom and coordinate with the Palao presentation.

5.) Land Acknowledgement: This topic will be addressed in the future. Tom Panas is consulting with Native residents on wording.

6.) Historical Society Flyer: John Stashik is working on this but he is out of town, so no news on this until his return.

7.) Sparks and Website: The Friends of the Cerrito have been contacted (by PIC Rights) regarding the presence of copyrighted material on their website. Here is a link to one article about PIC Rights, FYI. There are many. <https://copyright-demand-letter.com/picrights-ltd-copyright-letters-making-noise-in-the-us/>
Dave suggested we review the Historical Society's website to remove any photos/items that we don't have rights to use. ****Dianne offered to review the website and see if she is able to do this and take and send screenshots of questionable photos to Tom Panas for his review. **** Photos that are over 50 years old are generally available for fair use. Meanwhile, ****Pat D. will check with the videographer**** who made the film about the history of the Martin Luther King Day celebration in El Cerrito

to make sure the video doesn't include any copyrighted materials that are unlicensed. Once that question is answered, Dave will link the video to our YouTube channel.

8.) Outreach to recruit more active members:

- a. **Society space(s):** We need someone to establish and maintain liaison with Friends of the Library, to pursue the Society's interest in having a room for exhibits in the new public library.
- b. **Archivist:** We need someone, or a team, to take up the archiving activities for all the materials that are donated to the Society.
- c. **Forge Editor and Webmaster backup:** As we have discussed in the past, we need to have people who can back up and pitch in to assist with editing the Forge and managing our internet presence.
- d. **Writers for Forge & Sparks:** Since the recent articles about the history of the Black community in El Cerrito were written by white people, we would like to find members of the Black community to write more articles. Pat Durham said she knows people who could do that and she will ask them.
- e. **Board Members:** We should all be thinking about who we might want to invite to join the Board. Bylaws allow up to 9 board members.

9.) Pandemic and pace of activities: We acknowledged that the pandemic has been slowing down the pace of Society activities, so, while we still want to challenge ourselves, we also can give ourselves a break.

10.) Next Meeting: October 14, 2021, 5 p.m. (2nd Thursday)