

ELK GROVE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

BOARD MEETING MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 9, 2015

Board Members and Guests Present: Sally Bergen, Diane Borden, Mary Bulford, Dennis Buscher, Barbara Claire, Lorraine Croup, Jim and Annaclare Entrican, Paula Ferris, Francis and Dolores Jacobson, Steve Lambert, Jeanette Lawson, Merry Leverton, Rich Lozano, Carol On, Cynthia Torosian, Milt Webb.

Call to order: Brookelea Lutton (President): The meeting was called to order by President Brookelea' Lutton.

Public Comment:

None.

Announcements:

Thanks to all who helped take down Christmas and put the museum back in order.

Thanks to Barbara, Mary and Dennis for the Ballroom Display.

Thanks to the docents who helped out at the opening on Saturday. Over 50 people attended and many enjoyed the beer and wine available in the men's parlor. Apple juice was also available.

Approval of Minutes: January 12, 2015--Diane Borden (Recording Secretary):

It was moved by Sally Bergen and seconded by Jeanette Lawson to accept the minutes of the January 12, 2015 Board Meeting (sent to Board for review) as submitted. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report/Bills--Jeanette Lawson (Treasurer):

Jeanette presented two bills for approval:

For the P.O. mail permit, \$220.00 and for SMUD (January bill), \$303.31.

It was moved by Jim Entrican and seconded by Diane Borden to approve the bills. Motion carried.

It was moved by Diane Borden and seconded by Barbara Claire to approve the Treasurer's Report (see agenda) as presented. Motion carried.

Rhoads School Update--Merry Leverton:

Classes have started and are scheduled through the end of May. A letter is being prepared for the Board to review in order to solicit funds for scholarships.

CSD Update--Rich Lozano:

A Board Meeting and retreat was held last week and items discussed included technology, budget policies and issues, personnel and salaries for next year (which have been frozen for 5 years), funding for health and retirement. They are attempting to sell CSD owned property (Dillard Ranch) not in their park jurisdiction consisting of about 100 acres, that is costly to maintain (\$600,000/year). Also talked about the Community Center planned at the corner of Morse Park (money is available). Finally, there was discussion about the lighting landscaping zones (12 areas). In the 90's a law went into effect saying that fees could not be increased without a vote. During the recession, fees for services have decreased, and now an increase of 10-15 percent is expected. Three zones will be unsustainable and will have to go back to the people for a vote. Water rates have also increased (parks use lots of water) and this will be on the agenda for the next couple of years. They want to find out how people feel and not just ask for more money.

Committee Reports:

By-Laws—Dennis Buscher:

The by-laws have been finalized, approved at the last general meeting and signed.

Policy & Procedure Committee—Brookelea Lutton:

On hold.

Calendar Committee—Sally Bergen:

Several photo albums are being reviewed. Research is continuing and we expect to make recommendations for a theme soon.

Membership—Lorraine Croup:

Lorraine reported we have one new member, Paula Ferris. Both Paula and Cynthia Torosian (current member) are in attendance tonight.

Newsletter for March/April—Barbara Claire:

The deadline is February 15th for submission of information. She will include a special insert for the Tea and information for the Red Door event.

Programs for General Meeting—February and March—Claudia Johnson:

Lorraine reported Tom and Cindy Mahon are our speakers for February and will talk about the Mahon Ranch land grant from 1882. Lorraine reported that the great-great nephew of James Hall (Eric Haschke) would like to donate some items and brought a steamer trunk. Per Brookelea, he has agreed to be our speaker in March. Lorraine thanked everyone for the balloons and cake for her birthday at the last general meeting. She mentioned an earring was found if anyone lost one.

Antique & Craft Show—Brookelea Lutton:

Brookelea said the Mayor's event, the Elk Fest, has been moved to August so we will avoid a conflict with them holding it the same day as our event.

Haunted Stage Stop—Brookelea Lutton/all—Reevaluate:

Brookelea expressed her concern for having two events (Haunted Stage Stop and Christmas) so close together and the need to ensure that we protect our artifacts and avoid wear and tear to the property. She opened the floor for discussion as an opportunity to re-evaluate our needs as well as our resources. Comments included: our mission, crowd control, that for 4 months we are tied up with two events, the ballroom display should be kept for a longer period, liability issues, staying with the Victorian era fashions, docent training and use of students, applying for grant funds as much as possible.

This event gives us exposure, promotes history, and shows off the Museum. We have invested a lot to have a safe place to come for Halloween. An informal vote was taken and it was agreed to keep the Haunted Stage Stop as planned for one more year. Cynthia Torosian volunteered to handle the student docents and work with the Drama Club and their instructor. After the event is held, we will re-evaluate.

Red Door—Jim Entrican:

Scheduled for Saturday, March 21 from 9 AM to 3 PM. Jim passed around a "wish list" for getting volunteers to man the two shifts and will schedule a meeting soon.

Spring Tea—Sally Bergen:

The theme chosen is "Passport to Paris" (see attached). Sally passed around a list of places and asked us to identify those we will solicit for door prizes. She would like to receive these by mid-March. Carol On will do the publicity and the budget will be presented at the next meeting. We will be adding some extra tables for this event.

Yard Sale—Lorraine Croup:

The yard sale will be held July 24-26, 2015. Lorraine will be at the Museum on Sunday, March 22nd to take donated items. Barbara and Mary will have the jewelry section again. Advertising will be put in the Citizen.

Unfinished Business:

City of Elk Grove Grants—Barbara Claire:

Barbara has been working on several grants: City of Elk Grove for \$8,210 for the Tom Russell Research Library has been submitted. She has received an informal notice that this has been recommended for total funding. Grant for Special Events, due March 8th will be submitted for the Red Door 2016 and any other requests. She has completed the grant request for equipment in the amount of \$706 for this year's Tea. She will submit a request to CSD for equipment due April 3rd (for July 2015 to December 2016)

Foulks House Restoration and Blacksmith Shop/Storage Shed—Jim Entrican:

Jim asked to table this for now.

Front Porch and other Dry Rot Repair (eaves and balcony)—Jim Entrican:

Steve Lambert presented a letter and bid from Cliff Brackett with CBC Builders, broken down into 3 sections: the lower landing (\$2,242); the beams and upper balcony (\$5,626); and the repair of fascia with gutter on the northeast side of the building (\$1,583). It will take about 3 days to do the front porch. After discussion, it was agreed to do the front porch floor dry rot and level the fountain first (see below). It was moved by Jeanette Lawson and seconded by Jim Entrican to approve \$2,400 (from Wightman Fund) plus \$500 (General Fund) for a total of \$2,900. Motion carried. Steve will have a formal contract prepared for the two items and anticipates the work to be started within 3 weeks.

Fountain—Jim Entrican:

Jim reported that Cliff Brackett estimated about \$300-\$400 to level the fountain.

Open Positions—Brookelea Lutton:

Archivist – Jim and Dennis will do this temporarily and Merry Leverton and Paula Ferris volunteered to help.

Christmas Chair

Docent Chair

Printer/Copier Purchase—Barbara Claire:

After further research, Barbara recommended we don't need to spend the money now.

Reese School Committee—Dennis Buscher, Jim Entrican:

Brookelea talked to the Architect and he has been waiting to get our deadline. She told him April 1st for them to give us a ballpark estimate.

Scout Projects—Jim Entrican:

Jim has 3-5 more projects coming over the next 6 months.

New Business:

James Hall Donation—Brookelea Lutton:

(See Program Chair above)

Chamber News—Brookelea Lutton:

Vote to approve \$300/year to participate in luncheons. After discussion, it was moved by Jeanette Lawson and seconded by Merry Leverton to keep our membership and allow approval of \$150 for half of the luncheons (\$25 each). Motion carried.

New laws for volunteers and student interns – Brookelea said that the new law creates an expectation that volunteers and student interns are protected from harassment and discrimination in the interviewing, selection and while in service to the organization in order to avoid liability.

E-Blasts – Brookelea explained this option and it was agreed to hold off pursuing.

Invitation to Joseph Kerr 50-year Celebration—Jim Entrican:

Jim reported that Kathy Goldsberry asked if the EGHS would be willing to donate money to help fund having a bill board (about \$400) near the school to advertise this event which will be held on April 24th. If anyone would like to donate, please let Jim know.

Robo Calls—Need to purchase more credits—Barbara Claire:

It was agreed to purchase 1,000 credits for \$90.

Renew our other domain name...EGHistory.org—Barbara Claire:

This was purchased previously and it was agreed to renew for \$9.99. Our service for the web site is good until March 2017.

We discussed whether to try and sell tickets online for the Tea from our website. This would require additional software and \$4 a month for a secure server. Jeanette said it would require a lot of paperwork to separate the accounts if we included the Store. It was agreed to table the discussion until later.

Jim reported he received a letter from the Rancho Cordova Historical Society asking if someone from our membership could speak at their February 26th meeting at 5:30 PM to be held at the Rancho Cordova City Hall. Jim said he remembers a speech Tom Russell gave in 2003 about fledgling organizations. He will plan to attend, as well as Lorraine and Brookelea.

Upcoming Events:

- February 16: General meeting, 6:30 PM, at the Carlton, Tom and Cindy Mahon will speak about the Mahon Ranch from 1882.
- March 7 - Open for tours at the Museum from Noon to 4 PM
- March 9 – Board Meeting, 4 PM, Museum
- March 16 – General Meeting, TBA
- March 21 – Red Door event, Old Town Plaza, from 9 AM to 3 PM

The meeting was adjourned by President Brookelea Lutton at 6:15 M.

Submitted by:

Diane Borden, Recording Secretary