

Present: David Weinstein, Dianne Brenner, Pat Shaw, John Falconer, Tom Panas

****Indicates Action Items**

- 1.) **Treasurer's Report:** Pat Shaw reported revenue from dues of \$60 and expenses of \$143.88. The Restricted Funds balance is \$5,500 and the Unrestricted Funds balance is \$14,789.83. The bank balance as of November 30, 2021 is \$20,289.83. ****Pat S. agreed that future Treasurer's reports will include the amounts that donors have given, along with their names, so that **Dave can send a personal note to donors as well as life members.****
- 2.) **Board Member Comments – not on Agenda:**
 - a. Dave apologized for getting behind on some of his tasks. These include looking for new candidates for Board membership (to be elected at the Annual Meeting in January) as well as a topic and speaker(s) for the meeting and sending letters of acknowledgement to new members.
- 3.) **Public Comments:** None.
- 4.) **Events:**
 - a. **Annual Meeting in January:**
 - i. We discussed topic ideas for the Annual Meeting.
 1. Repeat the talk by Coach Quirico that was first presented 6 – 7 years ago. Is this something that Pat D. could pursue?
 2. A presentation by the Archiving Project at the High School;
 3. A program about some World War II-era posters from the various donation drives from that era. ****Dave will contact Joann Steck-Bayat regarding the idea of a presentation about the high school.****
 4. The long-planned (and delayed) program on Earl "Flat Top" Smith was another suggestion.
- 5.) **Board:** Dave asked if anyone could suggest people we could invite to run for the Board. Dianne and John both suggested a couple of names. ****Pat Durham is also contacting potential candidates.****
- 6.) **Rodini House:** Dave reported that the house has been moved to a new location on the property, and the creek has been protected. ****Dianne agreed to pursue contacts with City staff and City Council members,**** to express the Society's interest in helping program the future use of the house. The Society wants to take a supportive position, offering to help them decide how to best use the house in the future. Ideas included: interpretive historic displays, art shows, garden club activities. We need to ask about

public access to the building as well as to the garden. The site has some relevance to the early Italian American community in El Cerrito, and we could advocate for a plaque referencing same.

- 7.) **Sparks & Forge:** Dave hopes to get another issue of Sparks out before the end of the year. He may write an update about the Rodini House and asked for other possible topics.
 - a. (NOTE: Dianne has envelopes for mailing the Forge.)
- 8.) **Trint/Transcription:** John reported on another transcription service – a feature of MS Office 365. It offers 5 hours/month free. ****John will find out the cost for usage beyond the first 5 hours.**** Then John and Dave will discuss. Tom reports he has used Rev.com successfully. Dave is paying \$75/month for Trint.
- 9.) **Research:** Tom agreed to talk with this MFA student who has asked for access to the Society archives for a research project he is doing.
- 10.) **Copyrights:** ****Tom will try to get to this project soon.****
- 11.) **More Active Members:** We need to cultivate more active participation by members. Dave will put a note in Forge saying we are looking for a volunteer archivist.
- 12.) **Adjourn.**