

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

**1.) Minutes of prior meeting:** There were no comments or corrections.

**2.) Treasurer's Report:** Pat Shaw provided the Treasurer's report for May 22 to June 15, 2020. She reported income of \$65 (dues) and expenses of \$113 (Chamber of Commerce Associate membership. The total Restricted Funds balance is \$5,500, and Unrestricted Funds total \$12,401.53, for a combined bank balance of \$17,901.35

**3.) Public Comment:** ~~There was none.~~

**4.) Events:**

- a. Scheduling for Karen Sorensen's talk on Albany history is pending the release of her "Images of America" book. The book is being shipped from China. Her talk will be a Zoom event, likely taking place this fall
- b. We may use Zoom to present other events.

**5.) Lease for Shadi room at City Hall:** Our original, 10-year lease expires this year. We have received no notice that they will not extend the lease, so that means we automatically have another 5-year lease. We agreed that there is no reason to raise the issue with the City. The Historical Society is also interested in additional space elsewhere that could be used for displays – possibly ultimately in a new library, when it is built.

**6.) Society Procedures Manual:**

- a. The recent special meeting June 5 on the Procedures Manual went well. The plan is that there will be a public section of the manual, which will be posted on the Historical Society's website, and another section that will be limited to in-house use. Dave will be writing the in-house section. \*\* Dave is to remind Tom about the section of the report he is working on.
- b. There was a discussion of the different systems and lists we have for tracking members and people who get emails from the Society. John F. along with Pat and Ed, has merged the various lists we had, eliminated duplicates and the single, master list still has over 800 names on it now. John has sent the list as an attachment to his email and we are requested to read and review it. This data is all backed up to the cloud, now.

**7.) Next Forge:** Dave will write the next issue, topic: Flat Top Smith. The following issue (September) will be on Hambone Kelly's, a famous nightclub that stood at the EC border, where Wells Fargo bank is now. It operated from 1947 to 1951. We could post

an audio link on the website to music by some of the artists who played there. Their cooking was famous, and Kelly tried to make it a cooperative living environment combined with the restaurant and jazz club. \*\* Dave will write the next issue and Chris T. will format it. Dave also wants to include something on the current pandemic – history in the making – and possibly something on the flu pandemic of 1918. Contra Costa County currently has a low infection rate of COVID-19.

**8.) Paying for the Forge:** Chris Treadway is still looking into ways to pare down costs of publishing The Forge, while still making it look a bit more professional. Meanwhile, it will continue as it has been, minimizing the use of color to cut costs. The new email list should make it easy to mail. The Forge publishes quarterly.

**9.) Sparks:** There will be an article on Christine Roede, the Society's former archivist. Perhaps there will also be an article about the Zoom board meetings. We strive for monthly publication of Sparks.

**10.) Website:** Dave has CDs and will review with John to eliminate duplicates, and make sure they are all posted on the website. They have posted videos from EC Trail Trekkers, as well as a map of historic creeks. John is keeping the website operating.

**11.) What to do with donated books:** Davis Todhunter is moving from El Cerrito and has recently donated 15 or more books, all on subjects of local history. There was a discussion of which books to keep and what to do with the rest. Dave also has things to donate to ECHS.

**12.) Gary Noe and former Chung Mei residents:** Gary Noe has asked if ECHS can help him locate some of his old friends, who were residents at the Chung Mei home. Tom said he will help Gary with this.

**13.)** The meeting was adjourned.