

ECHS ARCHIVING PROJECT BOARD MEETING

March 4, 2019

Career Center, El Cerrito High School

The meeting was called to order by President, Jackie Fonken at 7:13 p.m.

In attendance were: Jackie Fonken, Kathie Weinstein, Roddy Lee, Dianne Chambers, Pat Durham, Donna Houser, Lynn Maack, Lee Matteucci, Marilyn O'Brian, Larry Quirico, Kent Sanctuary, Joann Steck-Bayat, Bonnie Taylor and David Bilyeu

Minutes of the previous meeting:

Motion was made by Kathie and seconded by David, to approve the minutes of the January 14 meeting as posted online, approved by all present, and passed with no one opposed.

Financial report was read by Dianne;

Balance in Archiving checking \$3,938.78

Balance in Scholarship Fund \$13,599.12

Deposits:

Deposits to scholarship fund from Friends of ECHS Archiving Project

Checking: \$7285.40

(\$7285.40) was all from sale of tiles

\$58.93 SAF direct appeal went into scholarship account.

Scholarship disbursements since Scholarships were first awarded total \$28,000

Bills:

Bills paid last month reflected in balance:

\$183.00 to "The Glenn" for framing principal's photo; and \$50.43 to Roddy for sending out thank you notes to those who donated to the tile project.

A motion was made by Bonnie and seconded by Kathie, to accept the financial report as presented and pay the bills presented. This motion passed with no one opposed.

REPORTS:

Snacks: Thanks to Bonnie for snacks and Lynn for the water.

Ideas: David suggested we consider changing exhibits in the museum more frequently, or have a rotating temporary display. He feels this would provide more variety and encourage repeat visits. We discussed possible subjects to feature: a year

or decade, history of music, highlight past teachers, remember past MLK observances, feature alumni or teachers, or highlight families with several generations who attended ECHS. Jackie asked team who would set it up. A suggestion was that it could be put in the area that now displays pottery, or better yet, have the rotating exhibit near the entrance.

Joann suggested a work flow to create an exhibit: Choose a subject, research, find artifacts, collect, create labels and set up. Everyone agreed we need to start slowly, with a small section, and see how much work it creates. Most of the storage we have is printed materials or sports memorabilia. Not a lot of artifacts or mementos. It could be a challenge to find things to exhibit. Perhaps put out a call to the school and alumni after a subject is selected.

In conclusion it was suggested we start with the 1940s as our first venture. Joann will write an article for the newsletter to see if we can find someone, other than our group, to help and to try to collect donations of items relating to the Classes of the 1940's.

Roddy said while he was in Hawaii he visited a high school that would select a famous alumni and then have a student do the research and prepare a presentation.

Museum: Joann shared more about the challenges getting the picture of the principal framed and the nameplate engraved for the frame. She is unhappy with Berkeley Stamp and would like to find another vendor. Pat suggested contacting Scott Irwin, who has a business in Richmond that does that sort of thing.

David shared that he gave Joann a large container of history material that will be stored in the cupboards in the museum.

Joann and Lynn commented that the Museum was still presentable and did not need to be cleaned at this time.

Instagram: Alejandra was unable to attend. She is buying a house and preparing to move. She would like to have information on scholarships.

Scholarships: Donna shared that they have an email with questions for the scholarship applicants ready to send out. She said April is when they advertise for applicants and May is when they interview and determine the winners. She said some years they get a lot of applicants and other years not as many. Some years it can be a challenge. There was discussions about perhaps increasing the amount to be given away to each winner. Marilyn said \$1000 in the 1990s was a good amount, but not as significant now. Someone suggested we ease it up. Requirements for applicants are

GPS 2.0 and up. They want to provide fair recognition of students who aren't at the top academically. Application has questions and requires an essay and biography. It's a hard decision to decide who to select. It helps when they have the personal interviews and actually meet the students.

Donna made a motion and Joann seconded to have two winners and increase the amount to \$1500. Approved with one person opposed.

Donna asked if everyone who is now on the selection committee would like to remain? The response was a unanimous yes. Jackie hopes to be able to continue printing related materials for the scholarships at the district print shop. Marilyn shared that the daughter of Edna Bull has created a \$1000 scholarship in her memory. The money will be going into the Archiving Scholarship fund.

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Something related to this was discussed about Daniel (aka Danny) Bernstine.

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Tile Committee Report: Roddy shared that thank you letters have been sent to the donors. He said he spent quite a bit of time getting it done. It is printed on green paper. He had to resize every photo as he wanted them to be 4x6. Fortunately since he has Photoshop was able to do it. He sent an email to a few that ???wanted??? photos? The pictures were not what he wanted and hopes to get better photos. May have his brother Roger help take better photos. The letters went out a week ago. He hopes to also have a list of donors on the website.

Communications: Roddy is having problems with the website. The district has pulled all websites from the local high schools. The result is Roddy isn't sure how he can gain access. He is also concerned because the new website has left out Archiving, alumni, and sports. There is concern that all the work he has done will be lost and hopes it can find it in the cloud. David and Lee both suggested Roddy contact Lipscome who works in IT with the district and should be able to help.

Roddy is working on the next issue of the online newsletter. He is including a list of the tile donors, and has surveyed them to be sure they don't mind their name appearing in the newsletter. The deadline for their response is mid-March. The newsletter will be published the day after the deadline. An announcement about scholarship applications will be included in the next newsletter.

Joann Sykes Grant: Marilyn reported on a student presentation that she saw about a simulation of a labor movement in Europe. She said it was very good and the teacher had won a \$500 Grant to conduct this student activity.

Kent's CBS Project: Kent shared that an email to CBS for the "CBS Sunday Morning" project is almost ready to send out. He asked for clarification on a couple questions about dates and timelines. The email will include a few photos to highlight parts of the presentation. A copy of the email will be sent to the group in the next couple days.

Kent also asked if the current problems for PG&E will affect the location of the Shadi Holiday Display. Joann and Donna said it could but they haven't heard anything at this point. It was suggested that someone make sure there is some kind of formal letter authorizing the use of the land on Moeser Lane, especially in case the person who authorized our access leaves PG&E.

Course on "History of ECHS": Jackie questioned whether or not we need to create a printed booklet about the history of the school. We all agreed kids don't seem to read books anymore and want to do everything online. A suggestion was to create a "game" or scavenger hunt for the course, with questions for the students to answer. Possible questions: How many principals has the school had in its history? Marilyn offered to teach or present the subject but has found problems getting interest. There was no further discussion about a booklet.

Additional Thoughts:

- Pat shared that our school is unique and one of the best kept secrets, and we need to be more vocal about it. In the past ECHS has had over \$1,000,000 donated for scholarships per year, from entities i.e. Bank of America, Chevron, NAACP, parents, etc. It was mentioned that in the last couple years the total has been less.

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Need to verify and find source

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- Pat has friends who want to take a tour of the school, perhaps around June. It was suggested that the best day would be a Friday, after the school day is finished. The tour would be covered by Insurance because the ECHS Archiving Project is under SAF and insurance is provided through them.
- Larry shared about the Hall of Fame. He should have more information next time.

Good of the Order:

- A short discussion about how to get alumni interested in joining our group.
- Donna and Joann have a new grandchild and Roddy is looking forward to his second one in May.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Next Meeting: Monday, April 29th starting at 7:00 p.m. at the High School either in the Career Center or if it's not available in the School Library. Donna will be unable to attend the next meeting so Jackie discussed the possibility that if the committee doesn't mind, the date may be changed.

Respectfully Submitted,
Kent Sanctuary for Diane Sericati
Corresponding Secretary

Sent from my iPad