

TULARE COUNTY MUSEUM BOARD MEETING

April 18, 2019 – 2:00 p.m.

The Museum Board members met on April 18, 2019. The meeting was called to order at 2:00 p.m. Present were Kevin Caskey, Amy King, Neil Pilegard, and Joanne Ledbetter. Darla Wegener was absent. Also present were Katrina Fernandez, an analyst with Tulare County and Dan Kelley from the Visalia Veterans Committee.

The minutes were approved as written. (Motion – Joanne, 2nd - Neil)

Correspondence: The Museum and Historical Society received a nice email from the Library thanking us for being present at the Library Book Festival last Saturday.

Public Comments: None to report at this time.

MUSEUM CURATOR INPUT:

⇒**School Visits:** School Visits in March – 11 schools, 521 kids, 52 adults, 573 total.

⇒**Total Museum Visits (Not including the school visits):** Total Museum (not including school visits) Visitors for the month of March – 772 adults, 656 kids, 1428 total **in March of 2018 there were 741 adults, 545 kids, 1286 total.

⇒Donations:

- Shelia Caskey Holder has offered a vase that belonged to Annie Mitchell, it was given to her by her uncle and then she gave it to Sheila. The board voted unanimously to accept this item.
- Marilyn MacKnight has offered a cape that belonged to Frankie Broyles who lived in Lindsay and was an orange tree farmer. The board voted unanimously to accept this item.
- Mike Steele has offered 3 Yokuts pestles from the Tulare Lake bottom. The board voted unanimously to accept these items.
- Edie Burckhardt has offered a folding chair that was part of the Surprise School furniture in the 1950s. The board voted unanimously to accept this item.
- Dennis Talbot has a picture and text on the topic of Pearl Harbor. The board voted unanimously to accept these items.
- The Sons of Italy Hall (Nick Notarnicola) has offered several items from their building that portray their heritage. Amy will be attending the Sons of Italy meeting on Monday, April 22 and the board would like her to bring the items in that they are offering to donate. Kevin offered to attend the meeting also on behalf of the Museum Board. These items will be discussed at the next meeting.

⇒Maintenance and exhibit update:

- Louis Whitendale and Ron Wyatt worked on the VERR model train and added a new train to move around the tracks
- Arbor Day went well, we had several groups of students learn about the local Native Americans and grind acorn outside with Amy.
- Women's History Month Tea event – Saturday, March 30 @ 2:00 p.m. went very well. It was well attended and everyone was pleased with the program.
- The rock and mineral exhibit is back on display in Surprise School with the help of Don Vieira.
- The Aviation display is also back on display after taking everything out to paint the inside of the display case.
- Bob Grieb and Stan Hawkins have patched, primed, and painted the Surprise School and it looks beautiful! They plan to work on the windmill next!

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

⇒**Budget:** Neil reported that the museum is on target for the budget year.

⇒**Farm Equipment Project:** Amy reported that the presentation to the Board of Supervisors went well and was well received. It is great that they see us working on the projects in partnership with the schools and historical society. There were several people present that day to support the presentation.

⇒**Museum Mission, Vision, Values (updated):** The board discussed the updated mission, vision, and values and agreed that it was in line with the progress the museum is looking to make in the future. Amy will bring specific goals and objectives with the strategic plan to the next meeting for everyone to discuss.

NEW BUSINESS:

⇒**Marines Recruiting Sign:** Dan Kelley spoke about the sign in the museum's collection and its believed provenance. He brought pictures in to indicate that the sign was previously placed at the WWII mural. It was later stolen and he believes the sign in the museum's collection to be the same sign. He indicated that he has plans of using the sign to advertise events for the veterans, which is the reason for wanting the sign to be given to the veterans. Amy spoke about the de-accession policy that is in place for the museum and that ethically the board needed to look that over and abide by those policies that were set forth. She made it clear that the museum needed to be trusted by the community to protect and preserve the artifacts and that would be taken into consideration when deciding what to do with the sign. An official decision will be made at the next board meeting.

⇒**Museum Board Vacancy:** Amy asked Kathy Allison to fill the spot and she responded saying that she was unable to commit enough of her time to be valuable on the board and that maybe at a later date she could participate. Kevin also had asked someone that did not agree. It will be brought up again at the next Historical Society meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

⇒ The Book Festival at the Tulare County Library Visalia branch was on April 13, Amy and Joel were there with a table to give information on the Museum and Tulare County Historical Society.

⇒ Main Street Jamboree is coming up on Saturday, May 11!

CURATOR REPORT:

⇒Amy is continuing to work with Katrina on creating a rough draft of the Museum Strategic Plan to bring to the board at the next meeting.

⇒ Amy would like to recognize the volunteers Bob, Stan, and Jim and thank them for all of their work. Kevin suggested a membership to the Historical Society and Joanne suggested a certificate. We will do both and plan a time to present them with the recognition.

The meeting is adjourned at 3:00 p.m. **Next meeting** scheduled for **May 16, 2019 at 2:00 p.m.**