

**Minutes of a Regular Meeting of the Capitola Historical Museum Board of Trustees
on April 7, 2022** ***DRAFT***

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

President Kisling called the Regular Meeting of the Capitola Historical Museum Board of Trustees to order at 6:31 p.m. on Thursday, April 7, 2022, in the Capitola City Hall Community Room, 420 Capitola Avenue, Capitola, CA and Online via Zoom.

PRESENT: In Person: Board Members Brian Legakis, Emmy Mitchell-Lynn, David Peyton, Dean Walker and President Niels Kisling
Via Zoom: Board Members Pamela Greeninger and Gordon van Zuiden and Youth Representative Joshua Henshaw
ABSENT: None
STAFF: Museum Curator Deborah Osterberg
GUESTS: None

2. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Board Member Legakis commented on the COVID-19 Pandemic and the impacts it has had. He believes that what we have experienced will be important historical information. Perhaps not now, but in the future he thinks someone may want to have an exhibit about this time in our history and believes it would be a good idea to collect any memorabilia people might have from the Pandemic for such an exhibit.

President Kisling said that Curator Osterberg has mentioned to him that it would be nice to play the Capitola videos when the museum is open. He thinks purchasing a Smart TV would be the way to go, because you can bring up You Tube and access the memory project videos and others. It was the consensus of the board that Curator Osterberg look into purchasing a TV for that purpose.

(Note: Board Member van Zuiden arrived at the meeting via Zoom at this time.)

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. Consider Minutes of March 3, 2022

President Kisling asked if everyone had a chance to review the draft Minutes and asked if there were any corrections. Seeing none, the following action was taken:

ACTION: Board Member Legakis moved, seconded by Board Member Walker, to approve the Minutes of March 3, 2022, as submitted. The motion carried unanimously.

4. REPORTS OF OFFICERS AND CURATOR

A. President's Report

President Kisling said at the Museum's Grand Opening he met a person who has a collection of photographs of Capitola and Santa Cruz who is interested in donating some of his collection to the Capitola Museum. He hopes to reconnect with him to discuss this further.

B. Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Walker reviewed the Treasurer's Report for Fiscal Year to Date (July 1, 2021 to March 31, 2022) and responded to questions of board members. There was discussion regarding overages in expenses and what has attributed to being over budget in those accounts. Curator Osterberg noted that the Thiermann painting was actually \$1,650, not \$1,675 as stated in the report. Treasurer Walker reminded the board that the Museum's budget was reduced for FY 2021-22 due to COVID. There was also discussion regarding additional storage which increased expenses under "Rental contracts." He reported that revenues are up considerably from last year.

There was board discussion regarding the Donation Fund Accounts and possible uses for funds in the Museum Collection Deposit Payable fund which totaled \$44,840.37 on September 30, 2021, per the last available donation account information from the Finance Department. Board Member Legakis asked if we are getting interest on the money in that fund? Treasurer Walker said he was previously informed that this type of account could grow by a City-directed combination of bank account interest, purchased certificates of deposit, and a fund investment.

4. B. Treasurer's Report (Continued)

Curator Osterberg discussed another expense she spoke to Larry Laurent about. They will prepare another contract with Ann Thiermann for the time she spent researching for the painting project. President Kisling wondered if we could schedule this expense for the next fiscal year budget. Curator Osterberg said they planned to do it in this year's budget. The board discussed excess revenues that could possibly be used for the expense or use of funds from the Museum Collection Donation Fund.

C. Curator's Report

Curator Osterberg summarized the written report that was sent to the board via email as follows:

- Effective March 7, masks at the museum were no longer required, but highly recommended. COVID-19 capacity limit in the museum ended as well. Social distancing is still advised.
- The new exhibition "Perspectives - Capitola in the Eye of the Beholder" soft opening occurred on March 4 and minor corrections were made during the month.
- On March 16 she made a Zoom Capitola History presentation for the City Academy. A number of people expressed interest in volunteering at the museum.
- On March 19 she conducted a Capitola History presentation via Zoom for the Museum Volunteer Training.
- On March 30 she met with Laurie Hill and Mary Beth Cahalen (Member of the Art & Cultural Commission) to discuss plans for a Labor Day weekend Celebration of Volunteerism and Commemoration of the History of the Begonia Festival. Curator Osterberg discussed their plans for the event. They are working on a specific title for the event. She told them she would be happy to do an exhibit at the Library and Museum. A duplicate 1978 Begonia Festival poster was given to the museum and the plan is to either raffle it or put it in a silent auction as part of the event with the proceeds going to the museum.
- Approximately 50 people were in attendance on April 2 for the Museum's Grand Opening of the 2022 Exhibition and the unveiling of Ann Thiermann's painting of Capitola.
- She accepted another invitation to do a Capitola History presentation for the Aptos S.I.R.S. (Sons in Retirement) group on August 16.
- The QR codes President Kisling produced for four of the exhibition cases are working well.
- She worked with Kathy D'Angelo in making the video tour of the 2022 exhibition for use at the volunteer training session and additional use on You Tube.
- The City Clerk prepared certificates of appreciation for the 5 models who assisted Ann Thiermann in creating the Capitola painting.
- She met with David Watson on identifying minerals possibly used by indigenous people for use in the exhibit.
- Curator Osterberg said she rejected a donation of a 2000 framed color panoramic photograph of Capitola which was approximately 8 feet in length.
- Updated the Museum's website with wording "The Capitola Historical Museum acknowledges that it stands upon the ancestral homeland of the Aptos Casjataca (Kai-ya-stah-ka) and Uypi peoples."
- Met with Aric Sleeper of *Santa Cruz Waves* magazine about an article entitled, "The First People of Capitola." She is providing photos to go with the article.
- Submitted articles about the Museum's new exhibition which were published in the *Capitola-Soquel Times* and the March issue of the City's newsletter, *Capitola Waves*.
- Got the volunteer parking pass for this year.
- She provided the Graves family the 2021 exhibition plaque from "Capitola - Then and Now" which featured tribute to former Mayor and Council Member Ronald Graves.

D. Report on Volunteers

President Kisling said he has trained a new volunteer and that she is interested in continuing to volunteer. He advised the weekend shifts are now all filled. He also sent the video presentation used at the volunteer orientation to all the volunteers via email.

Board Member Peyton said he, too, is training another volunteer. He was happy to report we had 479 visitors in March. He discussed the Zoom volunteer orientation, saying he was disappointed in the small turnout. There was a total of nine people, including Board Members Legakis and Walker. Linda Smith added some important information, and he thanked her for her contribution to the orientation. Board Member Peyton thanked the board members for their help on this event. He said we are still waiting for some of the former volunteers to return. Board Member Peyton said it was great to have Dave Bianacalana volunteering again, especially during the Grand Opening.

4. D. Report of Volunteers (Continued)

Board Member Peyton then discussed the three major events to be held in Capitola this year: the Rod and Custom Car Show on June 11-12, Capitola Art & Wine Festival on September 10-11, and the Capitola Beach Festival the last weekend in September. We would like to capture the visitors to those events by having a table in front of the museum and could use additional volunteers for these events.

Curator Osterberg said she has some volunteer projects, including scanning photos, inventorying books and other items a volunteer could assist her with. In addition, when she has walking tours she would like someone to join her to help out.

Board Member Legakis commented that Curator Osterberg had mentioned she wanted to plan a native plant garden in front of the Museum as a way to introduce our guests to local flora, as well as to enhance our entrance.

Curator Osterberg said she wants to redo the volunteer brochure to hand out to people who are interested in volunteering. Board Member Legakis discussed the need to recognize volunteers. There was board discussion on ways to do that. Board Member Peyton commented on the City's volunteer appreciation dinner which was held annually before COVID. Curator Osterberg will check with the City to see if there are any plans for such an event. Board Member Legakis also commented on the fundraiser the Museum participated in at Shadowbrook Restaurant, which was very nice.

5. BUSINESS

A. Report on Museum Advocacy Day Event held March 4

Curator Osterberg commented on the Museum Advocacy Day Event and believed it turned out very well. There was also a great presentation about the various Santa Cruz County museums, which included income sources, loss of income due to closures during COVID, etc. It was great information about the contributions museums make to the community.

B. Report on Museum Reception held April 2 and Unveiling of Thiermann Painting

Curator Osterberg said the reception went very well and Ann Thiermann's presentation was excellent. Board Member Legakis commented on the event and said it was a tremendous success. There was discussion regarding the parking lot situation and Board Member Peyton said a PA system would have helped. It was suggested that the next time we have an outdoor event, we should place refreshments outside as well, since having them in the Community Room didn't work out as well as expected. Board Member Peyton also wished to thank Joshua for all his assistance at the event. There was a suggestion to have a sign up sheet.

C. Report on Spring *Capitola Sunset* Newsletter/Donations

Curator Osterberg believes we have received about \$500 in donations from the newsletter. She said a number of the envelopes were returned, and she will be updating the mailing list accordingly.

D. Proposal from Soquel High School teacher Barney Levy to have Classes Visit the Museum

Curator Osterberg informed the board that she has made arrangements for Mr. Levy's classes to visit the Museum in small groups on Thursday, May 5, from 1 to 4:00 p.m., and on Friday, May 6, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. This is still in the planning stages and she will keep the board informed. The emphasis will be on the 1950s to 1970s era. She is thinking about including a special outdoor table and may need additional volunteers to help out. The students will have a question sheet from their teacher to answer. She also said we may need to work with the Police and Public Works Departments to reserve parking spaces behind the Museum on those dates. She is not sure how many students would be attending.

D. Plan for History Fair Event at the MAH on Saturday, May 14, from Noon to 6 pm

Curator Osterberg said we will need to provide a table exhibit and volunteers for the event. She is open to any suggestions or ideas the board might have for our table and will keep the board apprised of this event. She has placed the event flyer at the museum.

6. INFORMATION ITEMS

President Kisling informed the board that we have lost Wayne Hansen. He and his wife opened the first Bandstand in Capitola Village. Wayne was a big part of Capitola History and he wanted to remember him in our minutes.

7. ADJOURNMENT

On a motion of Board Member Mitchell-Lynn, seconded by Board Member Walker, the Capitola Historical Museum Board of Trustees unanimously adjourned at 6:42 p.m. to its next regular meeting to be held on Thursday, May 5, 2022, at 5:30 p.m., in the Community Room at Capitola City Hall, 420 Capitola Avenue, Capitola, and simultaneously on Zoom.

Respectfully submitted by Pamela Greeninger, Secretary