Angels Camp Museum Commission Minutes
March 15, 2018

Commissioners present: Bob Hillis, Bob Petithomme, Ron Rivera, Anne Forrest, Tad Folendorf
Commissioners absent: Marilyn Smith
Others in attendance: Kim Arth, Angels Camp Museum Director, Karen Strand, Foundation President
Public in attendance: Joe Oliveira-city council representative to the museum
Call to order at 8:30 AM by Ron Rivera
Pledge of Allegiance.
Public comment: There was no public comment.
Approval of Agenda: Motion to approve the agenda was made by Anne and seconded by Tad and the agenda was approved.
Approval of February 15, 2018 Minutes: Motion to approve the minutes from the February 15, 2018 meeting was made by Bob H. and seconded by Anne and the minutes were approved.

Reports:

Education Committee: Bob Hillis said because both Jim Miller and Kim been very busy the committee did nothing. He said that he needs another member for the Education committee. Kim said that the audio cassettes have been digitized and a new external hard drive contains all the audios. They have been repaired in many places and enhanced in some cases eliminating background noise. The work was done by Kris Osward at a cost of $570. That worked out to about $10 per tape. All the work that Kris did is well documented, and that information is on the hard drive. Kim said the work will be backed up to the cloud to insure we can get it if something happens to the external drive. Kim said we might be able to share this information with others. Anne asked if we needed permission and Kim said she will make sure there is no problem before any distribution. Kim said they even had a copy of the Ranching lecture.

Collections Committee:
Committee members: Bob Petithomme, Tad Folendorf, Bob Hillis, and Marilyn Smith.

Bob Petithomme’s notes from Jan 18, 2018 collections committee meeting with Kim to review potential museum donations.

Item 1. Brett Harte high school diplomas from 1911 & 1915 from Bandon Org. History museum were accepted.

Item 2. 1938 Altaville grammar school photo with names pointing to all pupils. The donor was David Bird and the photo was accepted.

Item 3. Kuchel prints from 1855, 1856 and 1857 donated by Marilyn Smith and they were accepted.

Item 4. Gold scales collection donated by Jim Castle. The gold scale collection was accepted. Jim is taking time to inventory the items and he will get back to the committee.

Item 5. Antique side saddle and the donor is Billie Westernoff. The saddle was accepted.

Item 6. Three finger baseball glove donated by Jim Castle. Baseball was very popular during the gold rush. He baseball glove was accepted.

Museum Foundation Update Karen Strand Foundation President: Karen said the Utica mansion event will be held on September 8th. She said that the foundation is going to put up a sign on Lori Bloather’s property on Highway 4. This sign will be seen by people going up the hill and when they return. Karen said that the HVAC was completed, and she would allow Kim to talk about this.

Museum Updates: Kim said the HVAC project has been completed and told the group that she verified that the warranty didn’t start until the project was completed on March 8th. She said we haven’t gotten the final billing for the project but when we do the account HVAC account will be closed. Kim said that any remaining money in the electrical project will be rolled into the pergola account. Kim said the $26K cost of the project was funded entirely by community donations. A reception is going to be held for all sign
sponsors as well as all HVAC sponsors. She said she hopes to have a reception for all the donors on April 22nd. The final 4 signs are being created now and all wagons now have signs. Kim said the next lecture on April 8th will be by Sylvia Roberts and the lecture will be on black miners in the gold rush.

Kim said that the museum had a good winter which helped to make up for the low attendance in September caused by the fires and smoke. She said that the staff because of their enthusiasm enhance the visits. The biggest comment is that many guests are surprised about the size of the museum since it doesn’t really show that from the street. She said that they may move the propane to the pole barn to help with the conditions inside. There was a discussion of a path that guests take by mistake and they end up coming back up. Kim said the staff put barrels of flowers to keep people on the correct path. Kim said the school tours are continuing to grow and she has worked with the California County of Education office. Through this contact she is able to reach out to many schools. She received an application from Sharon Gloskowski about the clerk job, but the position wasn’t what Sharon was looking for. Kim said she had a great background in museum activity and Ron said he would contact her about becoming a docent or maybe even have her join the commission.

Kim’s update notes:

In 2014, regional museums created a coalition of gold country museums called the Historic Museum Alliance in order to share ideas and develop partnerships. Angels Camp Museum is a founding member of the coalition and participates in its biannual meetings. Five counties of museums will gather on April 11, 2018 at the Mariposa Museum and History Center.

 TripAdvisor 5-star Review by Gail B. from Gilbert, AZ in January 2018 reads "Learned a lot about mining for gold! You wouldn't believe how large the museum is. Looks are deceiving when you see the museum at street level. The great surprise is there are 2 very large buildings displaying old wagons and carriages, as well as a building dedicated to the tools used to mine for gold and the gems one could be sure to locate."

The museum continues to invite the front desk staff at WorldMark for a visit of the museum to help them better understand all that the museum has to offer so that they can relay that to their resort guests.

58 people attended the March 4th lecture "The Chinese in Amador and Calaveras Counties from the Gold Rush Onwards" by Elaine Zorbas

Museum Foundation is planning an Utica Mansion Open House and Dinner - Save the Date - evening of September 8, 2018. Enjoy an outdoor dinner and be one of the few who have access to this historic private residence. Built in 1882 in the Federalist architecture style, the Utica Mansion was originally built by Robert Leeper, owner of the Utica Mine.

Many thanks to: John Scofield for donating 46 books to the museum's resource library; and Monica Wood for donating $295 towards the Carriage House pergola project.

Museum Foundation donated one family membership (value $50) to The Resource Connection's "19th Annual Children's Fair" and one family membership (value $50) to the Friends of the Library of Calaveras County's "21st Annual Trivia Bee". The Angels Camp Museum is proud to support our local community.

UPCOMING EVENTS
April 8, 2018 - Lecture "From Slavery to the Smithsonian" by Sylvia Roberts
April 14, 2018 - Living History Day. History comes alive on the second Saturdays of each month as docents demonstrate their craft in the artisan’s exhibits, including carpentry, print shop and weaving.

April 17, 2018 - Guided tour for 49 6th graders from JLS Middle School, Palo Alto, CA
April 18, 2018 - Guided tour for 50 9-12th graders from Pine Hill Adventist Academy in Auburn, CA
April 24, 2018 - Guided tour for 35 seniors coming from Ashland, Oregon on Rogue Local Tour bus.

**Commissioner and docent recruitment activity:** Ron said he hadn’t contacted anyone because of other activities. Kim said we now have 4 new docents, Brian Connery, Karen Strand, Kathy Dodge, and Susan Ray.

**5 Year plan details:** Ron said he sent out a note asking each member to review the projects they had suggested and develop more details for the top 4 projects on the 5-year plan. I have put together the notes from the discussion in a separate note. Kim brought up the point that the city is in no position to make any investments and any new facilities that may be in the long-range plan should be deferred until such time as it seems feasible to go forward with any large change.

**New Business**

- None

**Commissioner Reports**

Activities this past month
Bob Hillis said he worked the living history day last Saturday.
Tad and Ron had nothing to report.
Anne said she contacted Pete Kelly about repairing the frog but hadn’t heard back from him. She said that the Taste of Calaveras was to be held on April 7th at Ironstone. She also said that they still need volunteers to help out. Anne also said she had read the SF Chronicle travel section last weekend and it talked about all the areas around our area except said nothing about Angels Camp and San Andreas.

Adjournment: A motion to adjourn was made by Bob P. and seconded by Bob H. The meeting was adjourned at 10:25AM

**Next Meeting April 19, 2018 at 8:30AM in Museum Conference Room**