Angels Camp Museum Commission Minutes
June 21, 2018

Commissioners present: Bob Hillis, Ron Rivera, Anne Forrest, Bob Petithomme, Marilyn Smith
Commissioners absent: Tad Folendorf
Others in attendance: Karen Strand, Foundation President, Kim Arth, Museum Director
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 Bob H and seconded by Anne and the agenda was approved. Joe said that he hadn’t received the agenda and Ron said he would update the distribution list to include Joe and Veronica Metildi.

Approval of April 19, 2018 Minutes: Motion to approve the corrected minutes from the April 19, 2018 meeting was made by Ron and seconded by Bob H. and the minutes were approved by a 4 to 0 vote with Bob P. abstaining due to his absence at the last meeting.

Reports:

Education Committee: Bob Hillis said he had nothing to report.

Collections Committee: Bob Petithomme said he had nothing to report.

Museum Foundation Update Karen Strand Foundation President: Karen said the roadside sign will be on highway 4 in Douglas Flat across from the winery and it is currently under construction and is expected to be installed within a month. The reason for the sign to show people who are going to Murphys or concerts that another option available is the museum. It is going to installed on the Hay wagon on Lori Bloathner’s property and because it will be elevated it will make it easier to see when driving by. She said some of the ongoing projects were the pergola, the back stairs exit, and botany signs. Kim said the pergola was delivered on Monday and because of Tad’s help, he somehow managed to get a fork lift they were able to get all the boxes off the truck. Kim said some of the pergola was damaged but it really only needs touch up paint so she is going to contact the vendor to get the paint and ask for a price reduction for the damage. She had intended to use convict help but she said from a liability stand-point she is going to ask the contractor installing the back stairs if he could put the pergola up. Joe asked if the pergola was free-standing and Kim said it was attached to the building. Karen said she had done research on the horse statue for the carriage house and said she found several with the prices around $2,000. She said that the Utica Mansion tour was set for September 8th and those wanting tickets should call her at 795-1408. She tells everyone that wants to sign up that they can pay by credit card or check.

Museum Updates: Kim said that since everyone was sent a copy of her update she would just add a few things that have happened since the update was sent out. Kim said the last 3 wagon signs were being worked on now and that brings the total to 35 wagon signs. She said that the summer art classes are going to be on July 13th and July 27th. She also said the living history days had been set for November through April on the 2nd Saturday of each month. Kim said that at our October 14th lecture we are going to have Lee Stetson, a John Muir re-nactor. He cut his usual fee in half for us and the foundation will fund the cost of his appearance. Kim said she talked to Jim Miller and he suggest we have a lecture on veterans in November. She said the horseshoe display is completed with the efforts of Jim, Chuck, and Suzie. There is also an illustration of what the various areas of the horseshoe are for. She said they are also thinking about getting a speaker to talk about horseshoes.
New Business

Budget fiscal year 2018-2019, letter to City Council Hours of Operation: Kim with the current short fall in the city’s budget she has been asked to reduce one part-time position and she mentioned that with the current staff they were able to fix the gutters and improve the gold panning footprint. Kim said with the proposed cutbacks this would no longer be possible. She said also that any needed repairs beyond normal needs would have to go to the City Council for funding. Kim said that 5 years ago there were 9 on the staff but within the first year that number was cut by 3. She said that she has been asked if the museum foundation could cover the grounds maintenance costs. Karen said that money collected by donations were set aside for various projects. She also said that within 501c bylaws money is not to be used for ongoing maintenance of the museum. One of the reasons the foundation was set up was to ensure donations don’t become part of the city funds. It was said that when people donate to the museum it is to be utilized to improve the displays of the museum.

Joe said that one example of how the city is impacted is the HVAC implementation which was handled by donations. He said that this added an additional $9,000 to the museum budget. A brief discussion on the city budget mentioned that the .05% tax increase that is on the November ballot along with an improved economy might help but Joe reminded everyone that this is an ongoing problem of funding. Joe said would the people of the city be happy if the city dissolved and the various services of the city would have to be handled by the county. Anne asked if there was a sign at the front of the museum advertising gold panning because a lot of people along 49 are looking for that experience. Anne said that some advertising up front might increase this revenue stream. Kim said the staff decrease would take place in July. Joe said that there is a budget workshop on June 29th. The city budget meeting is now set for July 17th. We discussed having members of the board attend this session, and Joe said it is open to the public. Karen has developed a letter to the City Council explaining the foundation and Kim asked if Karen could send it to the members of the commission.

Kim said that she discussed the financial problems with the staff and it was decided that the museum would now be closed on both Tuesday and Wednesday

Commissioner Reports

Activities this past month
Marilyn said she had finished the first drawer in archiving and had handled 462 articles and this took 8 months working 2 hours a day twice a week. She said that she about 480 articles to go. She said that she realized when she was doing it that there were probably duplicates but felt it best to finish this phase and then go back later and review them. Kim asked Marilyn if since the museum was going to be closed on Wednesday’s could she work on Thursday and Marilyn said she thought she could.

Bob Hillis and Bob Petithomme both said they had nothing to report.

Anne said she had written her letter to the city council to determine if she could stay on the commission until she left, and she is going to the July 3rd council meeting to find out if this is doable. Anne also said she attended a May city council meeting and since Ron didn’t make it she talked to the city council and the need for commissioner, docents, and other volunteers. Kim said that Brian Connelly has also submitted a letter to the city council and we may have him on the commission next month. Kim said he is currently a docent and is knowledgeable in blacksmithing and wood working so he would make a great addition to the commission. Anne told everybody that the Wild West Fest is set for the 3rd Saturday in October.

Ron said he had gone to the first city council meeting in June and presented the same information that he and Anne had put together. He also said he had worked on the agenda and worked with the museum foundation.
Adjournment: A motion to adjourn was made by Bob P. and seconded by Bob H. The meeting was adjourned at 9:40AM

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