



**HISTORICAL COMMITTEE
Heritage Park Train Depot
Meeting of Tuesday, July 30, 2019**

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER – Vice Chairperson Larry Oblea called the meeting to order at 5:33 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

Present: Francis Carbajal, Sally Gaitan, Larry Oblea, Tony Reyes, Mark Scoggins

Absent: Merrie Hathaway, Adrienne Matte, Linda Vallejo

Council Liaison: Councilmember John Mora

Staff: Joyce Ryan, Library Services Division Director

Guest: None

3. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS – Nothing to report.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Larry Oblea, and seconded by Sally Gaitan, to approve the Minutes of April 9, 2019. The motion was carried with a vote of 5 for, 0 against, and 0 abstain.

5. CITY COUNCIL LIAISON REPORT

Councilmember Mora reported on the following:

- Councilmember Mora clarified that the pink ribbon banners are owned by the City. The City is looking into replacing the pink ribbons since the ribbons have become torn and discolored.
- There are some safety concerns regarding the implementation of the Gold Line and transients which will be addressed by Councilmember Mora at his next Gold Line meeting on August 1st, 2019.
- The Census will be taking place in 2020 and that the Census will no longer contain a citizenship question. It is important to participate, as the census will help to bring more money into the state.
- Concerts in the Park and the block parties have been a big success. The next block party is scheduled for September 14th.
- Verizon building on Gridley Road will be newly remodeled.

6. HERITAGE ARTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE LIAISON REPORT

Sally Gaitan reported on the following:

- Art Grants of approximately \$40,000 have been distributed for students; the Library will be receiving a portion of the grant.
- Sonic Burger has bought the property by Target off of Carmentia Road.
- Florence Ave. Bridge will not be completed until February or March of 2020.
- Greenstone Ave. and Santa Fe Springs Road will be repaved.
- City Hall parking lot will be redesigned, and new directional signs will be added to City Hall courtyard to help patrons distinguish the buildings.
- The eucalyptus trees and hedges in the City Hall parking lot will be removed and a fence matching the Library will be added.
- Habitat for Humanity is working with the City to provide temporary and permanent housing for homeless veterans and their families at Carmenita and Lakeland and are seeking volunteers to help.
- The Post Office is now working with the state about the price increase of the lease and is not leaving the City.
- California Highway Patrol will be moving from their location on Orr and Day Road to the grounds of the Metropolitan State Hospital. There is a possibility of the City purchasing the old CHP office for the Fire Department.
- Budget is approved and there is a surplus. Money has been donated by Janice Hahn and Ian Calderon for the City's parks.
- HiroNori, the new ramen restaurant, has opened up.
- Planet Fitness is waiting for new signage on Washington and Norwalk Blvd.
- Rite Aid is closed and the property is vacant. The City had wanted to bring BevMo to fulfill the empty property, but BevMo decided not to come in and the property is still vacant.
- Heritage Arts Committee is in the process of finalizing guidelines to have art displayed in the City Hall Lobby during Art Fest to showcase some of the artists featured.

Larry Oblea added the following to the report:

- The Committee is working with Public Works to restore the boxcar, the train, and cabooses at Heritage Park. This project is determined to take a few years to complete. Ed Ramirez from the Heritage Arts Committee mentioned that a candidate for the Eagle Scouts is looking for a project and that Ed Ramirez might utilize him to help restore the train as an Eagle Project.
- The Orange Harvest is in negotiations with the Hathaway Family to have the mural at Heritage Park be deaccessioned and moved into the Hathaway Museum.
- The Committee is looking into a basic investigation to see what is wrong with the Snake Fountain and how much it will cost to repair. Depending on the price to repair, the Snake Fountain might be another art piece that will be deaccessioned.
- Committee member Francis Carbajal has asked Councilmember Mora to talk to Public Works to expedite the process on repairing the Sculpture Garden. John Mora explained that the Hilton Hotel project is underway, and Hilton may be taking over the maintenance of the Sculpture Garden which is a part of their agreement. Currently, there has been a standstill with the development of the hotel due to oil being found in the soil.
- The Band Wheel also needs to be repaired.

7. EXECUTIVE SECRETARY REPORT

Joyce Ryan reported on the following:

- a. ***Approval of Historical Committee Financial Report– Period FY 2018-2019 ending June 30, 2019*** – The current balance for the Historical Committee is \$1,107.57. Profits are from a number of sales from the Carriage Barn, Children's Day, and post card sales. Motion to approve the Historical Committee Financial Report was made by Larry Oblea and seconded by Sally Gaitan. The motion was carried unanimously.
- b. ***Children's Day*** – Mrs. Ryan thanked committee members Mark Scoggins and Sally Gaitan for volunteering at the Children's Day event as well as thanking Councilmember John Mora for supporting the committee by stopping by the event and buying historical photographs. The Carriage Barn had over 200 visits for the event. Committee members are suggesting signage for events being held at Heritage Park on Telegraph Road to direct visitors to the park.
- c. ***Historical Postcards Printing*** – Historical Postcards are priced at \$1.00 each plus tax and are being sold at the Carriage Barn and the Library.
- d. ***Lantern Tour*** – The Lantern Tour will be held on October 11, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. at the Heritage Park. Committee member Mark Scoggins, Mrs. Ryan and Program Coordinator Pauline Aguayo have already began preparations for the event. The Historical Committee will have a welcome table and will be selling merchandise. Committee Member Sally Gaitan's friend Sabrina will be donating her time to help with the Lantern Tour. The next Lantern Tour planning meeting will be August 16th and is open for committee members who are interested in volunteering for the event.
- e. ***Dia de los Muertos*** – Dia de los Muertos event will be held at the Heritage Park on October 19, 2019 from 5:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m. Mrs. Ryan had proposed to sell memorial paper plaques for patrons to write a small message in remembrance of their family that passed. The plaques will be tied up on a frame inside the doors of the Carriage Barn to create a collective ofrenda of those who visit the event. The plaques will cost a dollar each and will go towards the 501C3 fund to help improve Heritage Park. Sally Gaitan and her husband volunteered to help with the event.

8. DIVISION PROGRAM/PROJECT UPDATES

- The Library received a Mental Health Initiative Grant that was given by the state library in the amount of \$4,000. The grant will go towards collection development materials for books on topics of mental health and for online and on-the-ground training. These trainings will help teach staff de-escalation methods in interactions with patrons who have mental illness.
- Los Angeles County Arts Commissions Grant was given to the Library for the performance of Trio America, a string trio that performs music from the Americas. This event is free and will be held on Friday, August 9th at the Library.
- Summer Reading program theme is "A Universe of Stories" that helps celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Moon Landing. The Library has had many programs such as the Hidden Figures book reading, an inflatable planetarium, and partnered with Downey's Columbia Space Center to have a presenter.

- The Library received a grant through the California State Library for \$26,000 for STEAM programing. With the grant the Library will have programs such as robotics for kids, supplies for a mobile maker space for teens, and a tech petting zoo that incorporates VR technology. There will also be a STEAM program for kids from grades 3rd through 6th called STEAM Punks and during the school year there will be a STEAM story time.
- The Friends of the Library has donated a total of \$300 in gift cards for the Adult Summer Reading Bingo.

9. OLD BUSINESS – Nothing to report.

10. NEW BUSINESS

- ***Nomination and Election of Officers*** – Mrs. Ryan opened the floor for committee members to nominate candidates for Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, and Liaison to the Heritage Arts Committee for the 2019-2020 term.

Committee member Sally Gaitan was nominated for election and was the only nominee. Ballots were distributed to the committee. By unanimous vote, Sally Gaitan was appointed as Chairperson to the Historical Committee for the 2019-2020 term.

Mrs. Ryan opened the floor for committee members to nominate candidates for Vice Chairperson of the 2019-2020 term.

Committee member Francis Carbajal was nominated for election and was the only nominee. Ballots were distributed to the committee. By unanimous vote, Francis Carbajal was appointed as Vice Chairperson to the Historical Committee for the 2019-2020 term.

Mrs. Ryan opened the floor for committee members to nominate candidates for Liaison to the Heritage Arts Committee of the 2019-2020 term.

Committee member Sally Gaitan was nominated for election and was the only nominee. Ballots were distributed to the committee. By unanimous vote, Sally Gaitan was appointed as Liaison to the Heritage Arts Committee for the 2019-2020 term.

11. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT

- ***Historical DVD*** – Reshoots will be done on some footage.

12. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- GoFundMe account for exhibit maintenance

13. MEMBER COMMENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Larry Oblea wants the committee to reach out and find new members. Sally Gaitan suggested that the Historical Committee should put out flyers or have a committee member be at the Lantern Tour to help recruit new members.

- Sally Gaitan is interested in having someone teach the children how to make tortillas for Children's Day. Francis Carbajal will speak to the Women's Club in regards to their involvement in Children's Day.

14. ADJOURNMENT

Chairperson Sally Gaitan adjourned the meeting at 6:32 p.m.

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 8, 2019 at 5:30 p.m. at the Heritage Park Carriage Barn.



Joyce Ryan,
Executive Secretary to the Historical Committee/
Library Services Division Director