

Cultural Heritage & Sustainability Committee  
March 1, 2021 (on-line via Zoom)

Committee members: Lucy Fisher (co-chair), David Takashima (co-chair), Jeremy Chan, Benh Nakajo, Rosalyn Tonai, Lori Yamauchi

Board members: Sandy Mori

Staff: Steve Nakajo, Nina Bazan-Sakamoto

Guests: Susie Kagami, Gary Barbaree, Karen Kai, Kevin O'Donnell, Eric Kobuchi, Elena Nielson, Sheridan Tatsuno

- I. Call to order at 6:02pm
- II. Approval of February 1, 2021 minutes  
Moved by Lucy and seconded by Lori to approve minutes; approved unanimously.
- III. Staff report  
Steve introduced Susie Kagami, new consultant for development and fundraising. Steve: possible budget cuts for FY 21-22 due to COVID effects; the cultural districts are organizing to request funding from Board of Supervisors. Peace Plaza committee met with Marian Koss, new Rec/Park project manager. Discussion ensued to avoid situation that occurred with previous DPW architect who was not culturally authentic or community inclusive. Meeting with interim DPW director to occur.
- IV. David: State cultural district under CA Arts Commission- no response to David's inquiries probably due to staff working from home.
- V. Rosalyn conducted an overview of NJAHS via powerpoint. Mission is to present exhibitions and public programs and preserve and educate re: the Japanese experience in U.S. NJAHS moved to current Post Street location in 1999. A second site was built in 2013 at Presidio (MIS Historic Learning Center). NJAHS conducts walking tours, publications, and co-sponsors community and national events. Current partners are University of SF which hosts metadata of digitized collections (maps, photos), The Presidio Trust and GG National Recreation Area. Fundraising is from individuals, CA state and federal grants.

Postponed to next meeting: Gary will discuss the National JA Library at April meeting.

David initiated brief discussion about moving start time of committee to 5:00 or 5:30pm. Starting next month, the April 5 meeting will start at 5:30.

VI. Public comments – none offered.

VII. Announcements:

Steve cautioned that collaboration among the four JTown libraries (NJAHS, National JA Library, The Center and Nichi Bei Kai) will be complicated and time-consuming, including infrastructure support and succession planning. He suggested meeting with Paul Ozaki to discuss The Center's holdings and postpone discussion of Nichi Bei Kai.

Steve reiterated request to update/inventory a registry of traditional Japanese cultural practice and performance.

VIII. Meeting adjourned at 7:30pm.