

Japantown Task Force

Cultural Heritage & Sustainability Committee

Minutes of April 5, 2021 meeting

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

Board members: Sandy Mori, Richard Hashimoto, Gary Barbaree

Staff: Steve Nakajo, Susie Kagami

Guests: Donna Graves, Derek Tahara, Peter Weber, Emily Nichols, Paul Osaki

I. Call to order at 5:32pm

As there was no quorum present, Paul Osaki presented an overview of Seizo Oka's collection at the JCCCNC. See attached summary sent by Mr. Osaki prior to his oral presentation.

Discussion included Donna Graves' report that the Mellon Foundation announced a special initiative for community-based archives and offered to help interested groups review this proposal to determine whether to pursue it. The Mellon Foundation grant: <https://mellon.org/programs/public-knowledge/call-for-proposals-community-based-archives/>

II. Call to order at 6:20pm. Quorum was present.

III. Approval of March 1, 2021 minutes

Moved by Lori and seconded by Rosalyn to approve minutes; approved unanimously.

IV. Staff reports:

Steve announcements: Mayor Breed is coming to JT Malls to announce a COVID business relief grant; encouraged attendance at April 15 housing and land workshop; hired Max Nihei as small business coordinator; described new art projects in Japan Center Mall.

Nina sent her report to the committee; questions should be addressed to her.

V. Recommendation to approve Gary Barbaree as CHSC member.

Moved by Rosalyn and seconded by Lori to recommend that Gary become a member of CHSC. This was approved unanimously; recommendation will be referred to the JTF Board for approval.

- VI. Lucy announced that the agenda for May will include a presentation by the Japanese American National Library (JANL); June will include results from a query of the Japanese American Religious Federation (JARF). Gary asked about Nichi Bei Kai's collection; Steve offered to contact that organization.
- VII. Public comments: none
- VIII. Announcements:

Roz: NJAHS was nominated to be the recipient of the Japanese American organization for the APA Heritage Celebration.

Discussion about Mellon Foundation grant: Lori reported about an up-coming deadline for Mellon Foundation grant. Roz offered to contact Donna to work with her and Gary to start a review of the grant.

Lori shared the special Nichi Bei issue of the Cherry Blossom festival guide for 2021. This year the guide expands beyond northern California. Roz announced future programs sponsored by NJAHS.

- IX. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 7:15pm.

Next CHSC meeting via Zoom on Monday, May 3, 2021 at 5:30pm.