

Japantown Task Force
Cultural Heritage & Sustainability Committee
Notes of May 3, 2021 (on-line via Zoom)

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

Board members: Sandy Mori

Staff: Steve Nakajo, Susie Kagami, Max Nihei

Guests: Karl Matsushita, Hiroshi Shimizu, Seino Shinichi, Ben Kobashigawa, Stephen Fugita, Rita Takahashi, Emily Nichols, Karen Kai, Derek Tahara

- I. Call to order at 5:34PM
As there was no quorum present, Karl Matsushita presented an overview of the Japanese American National Library. The slides, narration transcription and added notes will be made available on the JTF website. Access to library documents is via a keyword-search in the data base; in-person library visit is by appointment.
- II. Call to order at 6:35pm. Quorum was present.
- III. Approval of April 5, 2021 minutes.
Moved by Rosalyn and seconded by Lori to approve minutes; approved unanimously.
- IV. Staff report:
Steve reported eight cultural districts met with Mayor Breed for financial support (\$3M) in next budget to be voted on June 22. Co-creative hub, Master Plan concept discussed. JTF submitted CHHESS report to MOHCD; only 2 other districts have done so thus far.
- V. Unfinished business:
Gary updated on Mellon grant: Paul Osaki reported The Center submitted an informal proposal; RFP sent out 5.3.21. The four JT collections organizations will continue to discuss possibilities for collaboration/submission amongst themselves.

Nichi Bei Kai is being pursued to present their organization to this committee.
- VI. Public comments:

Karen Kai announced that the 1830 Sutter Issei Women's building was given historic landmark status. She reported she had spoken with Seizo Oka who disliked being described as a "keibei sansei" and would like that to be corrected in Paul Osaki's notes about the Seizo Oka collection.

Sandy: NJAHS acknowledged for 40th for their anniversary at recent Asian-American Heritage gathering in Peace Plaza.

VII. Announcements:

Roz: NJHS will present how to access their archives on-line on May 22.

Lucy: asked if others knew of a singer/folk songwriter named Julian Saporiti of the No-No Boy group. Several have: Gary, and Roz and Jeremy have seen him live.

Additional information is the Densho/Smithsonian podcast; the rapper G Yamazawa, and Kishi Bashi - <https://www.apmreports.org/episode/2018/03/26/order-9066-music-on-heart-mountain>

VIII. Adjournment:

Meeting adjourned at 7:35pm.

Next CHSC meeting via Zoom on Monday, June 7, 2021.