

MEMORANDUM
OFFICE OF THE
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF PLACER

TO: Honorable Board of Supervisors

FROM: Jim Holmes, Supervisor District 3

DATE: April 14&15, 2008

SUBJECT: REVENUE SHARING – Approve appropriation of \$500 in Revenue Sharing monies to the Old Town Auburn Preservation Society (OTAPS) *Gold Country Medical History Museum Renovation Project* as requested by Supervisor Holmes (\$500).

ACTION REQUESTED

Approve appropriation of \$500 in Revenue Sharing monies to the Old Town Auburn Preservation Society (OTAPS) *Gold Country Medical History Museum Renovation Project* as requested by Supervisor Holmes (\$500).

BACKGROUND/COMMUNITY BENEFITS: In approving the following contributions, the Placer County Board of Supervisors finds that each and every approved contribution serves a public purpose by promoting the general welfare of the County and its inhabitants therefore a benefit results to the County.

The Board of Supervisors is being asked once again to approve appropriations to help support the Old Town Auburn Preservation Society for the renovation and development of the Gold Country Medical History Museum. The project is focusing on development of the medical museum and preparation of the properties for public view and access. Several projects remaining to be done include the retaining wall extension, the additional wrought iron fencing, final landscaping and the process of setting up data base systems and recording and cataloging museum artifacts. The funds designated towards this project will help offset the costs to install wrought iron fencing, the cost to acquire special effects equipment and artifacts and other development costs that occur during this final phase of development.

FISCAL IMPACT

Funds are available in the Revenue Sharing budget.

Old Town Auburn Preservation Society

OTAPS • A PUBLIC BENEFIT CORPORATION • EIN 75-3107505

P.O. Box 9273, Auburn, CA 95604

13 March 2008

Jim Holmes, District 3 Supervisor
Placer County Board of Supervisors
175 Fulweiler Ave.
Auburn, CA 95603

Dear Jim,

Enclosed is a copy of our letter to you on 25 May 2007 that was lost in the mail. Writing to you again gives me a chance to update you even further on the progress of the medical history museum. Most of the activities previously mentioned are now complete. The museum interior has been painted, floored, and lit and is looking very good. Electrical systems are in place, and heating and air is done. A security system was installed last month and phone service is present and waiting to be connected. The Native Sons plan to build the carriage house as this year's project. A donation via the Placer Community Foundation enabled landscaping in front of the museum, and Jay-Williams Salon donated improvements to their side yard. Additional landscaping will be accomplished after carriage house construction. The City installed a sidewalk from Court Street across the front of 'Lawyers Row' and connected it to the museum's sidewalk.

Our plans to get the museum open by the end of 2007 didn't happen because everything takes too long, and we also had a big, happy glitch in the form of a great donation. Dr. Bob LaPerriere of the Sacramento medical museum referred a person to us last year who was looking to dispose of several huge turn-of-the-century oak cabinets that had stood in a pharmacy in San Francisco. After many months of communication back and forth and some disappointing auction results in his end, he decided he was better off donating two of them to OTAPS. Getting them out of a storage unit in Belmont and up the bank and steps into the Victorian was a real accomplishment – they are 14 feet long each, with separate bases and tops. The doors are huge and designed to lift up and down by counterweights. The tops cannot be set on the bases until the doors are installed because the doors have to be lifted above the units to be slid into place. The task at hand is to do small repairs and spiffy them up. They have caused us to rethink our overall museum layout plans but will look very impressive when in place and filled with artifacts.

Projects remaining to be done are the restroom and associated plumbing, the retaining wall extension in front of the museum down to the property line, the additional wrought iron fencing on County property and on the extension, and final landscaping by the carriage house and in the side yard. We are beginning the process of setting up data base systems and recording and cataloging museum artifacts and will be establishing an office/staging area in 217 Maple St. for this work. Melanie Barton has been helpful with suggestions and samples. A part-time curator has been identified and is already working on museum layouts and defining display categories. Our special effects person wishes he had an unlimited budget! He has great ideas and talents but will have to go slow. So, as I've stated before, any support you can provide will be prudently applied and greatly appreciated. Also, I'd be happy to give you a tour of the properties any time.

With Regards,



Ross Carpenter, President