

MEMORANDUM
OFFICE OF THE
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF PLACER

TO: Honorable Board of Supervisors

FROM: Jim Holmes, Supervisor, District 3

DATE: October 7, 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 with the renovation and development of the Gold Country Medical History Museum. The project is focusing on additional funding to bring the museum to maturity and enable special events and showings, and educational programs for youth. The funds designated towards this project will help offset the costs to re-roof the building and construct the property's front retaining wall.

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 9145, Auburn, CA 95604

17 September 2008

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

Dear Jim,

It was a pleasure to be able to show you the Gold Country Medical History Museum on August 29th. We're proud of the progress we've made, and the fact that the museum will soon be open. The Native Sons have planned a historical plaque dedication ceremony for the museum building to be held October 4th. We hope to officially open the museum at that time or shortly thereafter. There's still a lot to do, including making a gazillion little identification signs for all the items on display!

Our curator, Kent Perryman, has been photographing and cataloging our artifact collections, and is actively soliciting qualified docents, especially retired physicians or other medical career people. Kent and I have scheduled the first school field trip to the museum for early Spring, 2009; the class teacher visited the museum at the Heritage Trail sneak peek open house and was enthused!

The museum will be in its infancy when we open in October, but we think being open will help us raise additional funding for artifacts, displays, special programs, and promotions. In addition, we must continue raising funds to complete the restroom, stock the gift shop, re-roof the building, and construct the property's front retaining wall.

It's going to take time to gather a good collection of 1800's artifacts and ephemera, and even early 1900's items are hard to find. We are also looking for American Indian and other ethnic medical information and items. Hopefully, being open will spur public interest in donating family medical items, photos, and letters from early days, encourage the donation or loan of personal collections, and make people aware that as a non-profit the museum will always need cash. It will take this sort of public support to bring the museum to maturity and enable rotating displays, special events and showings, and educational programs for youth.

Speaking of support, I want to thank you and your divisions and their staffs for their tremendous support and assistance. We appreciate the ongoing enthusiasm and encouragement from museums division administrator Melanie Barton, the cooperation of your facilities and property divisions in numerous matters over time, and the use of the trustees for 2005's building renovations. We are especially grateful to the Board of Supervisors for its generous revenue sharing to assist the development of the museum.

With respect and gratitude,


Ross Carpenter, President

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