

Memorial Hall Update #11

We have exciting news about our restoration project for Crockett's Memorial Hall (Legion Hall). The Crockett Community Services District has signed a contract with Interactive Resources of Point Richmond for the architectural work that is needed before our World War I memorial hall can be returned to public service. Architects Tom Butt and Kimberly Butt are very experienced in historic building restoration projects and have a proven ability to locate funding. In their scope of work, they will first investigate the building's eligibility for the State Register of Historic Resources and use of the historic building code. Their second task will be the schematic design of the restoration project, including parking and ADA requirements, and a cost estimate for the complete project. The search for grants to fund our construction project will be their third task. If they are successful in finding sufficient money, we plan to begin restoration next year!

A survey has already been completed to assess the building for asbestos materials and lead paint. The report identifies small quantities of each and provides an abatement cost estimate of \$16,000. These materials will need to be removed before the real work begins. In the meantime, we will continue outdoor maintenance of the property. We have been able to buy a small riding mower with a generous grant from the Crockett Community Foundation. Plants are now being grown to bring color to the flower beds, and two oak trees are ready for planting. Several work parties will need to be scheduled soon.

We are dependant on volunteers for whatever gardening and maintenance we can do around Memorial Hall. In addition, the District Board of the Crockett Community Services District will soon appoint a volunteer committee to advise them on design alternatives to best support beneficial uses of this building by our community. We invite you to apply for this new committee. You will be instrumental in writing a vision statement for Memorial Hall and implementing this vision through design decisions. We'll even let you drive our new riding mower; how about that? Please apply immediately by phone (510-787-2992) or e-mail: manager@town.crockett.ca.us. A committee will likely be appointed by the District Board on February 22.

The 2012 *Walk of Honor for Our Veterans* will be held on Saturday, May 19, which is Armed Forces Day. This is our primary fundraiser for restoration of Memorial Hall. Last year we raised \$23,000 for our project, including \$5000 from the Crockett Community Foundation, which has renewed that pledge again this year. We are very grateful to event organizers VietNam Veterans of Diablo Valley and ConocoPhillips, and to the many event sponsors, including the Crockett Community Foundation.

We welcome the interest of everyone who wants to see our historic Memorial Hall returned to public use. Those who want to be kept informed about our project can be added to our email list by sending your email address to Crockett CSD at: manager@town.crockett.ca.us. Past news updates on the project can be found on our website at: www.town.crockett.ca.us.

Dale McDonald and Kent Peterson
Crockett CSD
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