

# WONA BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Monday, Nov. 20, 2017

Where: Cypress Senior Center

When: 7:00 - 9:00 PM

FACILITATOR: DAPHNA

RECORDER: DAVLYN

## PERSON RESPONSIBLE

### 1. INTRODUCTION

DAPHNA

- Introduced the WONA Board members
- Thanked the Owner, Chef Jamie Whitmier, for her extraordinary cannolis. Holy Cannolis provided the snack items of cannoli, and fruit platters. Contact: 408.561.2223 – [jamie@holycannolisj.com](mailto:jamie@holycannolisj.com) for catering services.
- Federal Realty Santana Row Update: The hotel that was planned, is not going to be built. Santana West building is on hold for an undetermined time.
- Ken Pyle reported on the status of Participatory Budgeting encouraging Membership to link to San Jose City's site *D1Decides.com* and become a member. Participating District members will be deciding how to spend City dollars on the District. Become a member of the D1 Steering Committee to determine what district area priorities and criteria for suggested projects will be selected to update or improve through the City funds being offered. Deadline is January.
- Membership is encouraged to place the San Jose City's new application on their phones or tablets. **My San Jose!** can be downloaded from the San Jose City Hall's website. This link allows San Jose citizens to report an incident they believe is important to send to the City for action or improvement such as streets that may need to be resurfaced, or street lights that are out, or with suggestions and recommendations that can be sent to the appropriate City Hall person or department for action or consideration.

### 2. TREASURER'S REPORT

BARBARA

**BANK ACCOUNT:** \$2176.25 (San Jose City Grant funds & dues deposited.)

### 3. SECRETARY'S REPORT

DAVLYN

9/18/17 General Meeting Minutes: APPROVED

#### 4. GENERAL MEETING PROGRAM: STAN

Stan Soles introduced the meeting's speaker: **Mary Jo Ignaffo**, author of the historical biography book, Captive of the Labyrinth, Sarah Winchester.

The facts of her life were unknown in this area and had not been found after her death in 1890 for years until Ms Ignaffo recently found Sarah's documents at Stanford where her letters, diaries, legal papers and the daily diaries of the ranch foreman of the Winchester Ranch, including other family papers and notes by Sarah were kept in her attorney's files. The attorney was also a CEO on the Stanford Board.

Sarah Winchester's life had been a mystery until this factual biography was written. Her "mysterious" life of being a believer of séances and talking to the dead, her building the Winchester Ranch believing that it should always be built and worked on or she would die is all fiction. Primarily made up by local newspapers making up facts that were not true to cover the life of such an historical person with a "mystery house" in San Jose. The successive owners of the Winchester Ranch embellished the stories to sell tickets for tours of the house. Needless to say, the current owners of the Winchester Mystery House maintain their "embellishments" as the truth about Sarah to this day. The National Historical Preservation Society received Ms. Ignaffo's book and document copies for notification and correction of their formerly received "historical" documentation from the current owners of the Ranch house and land. They are not doing any correction of the Winchester Mystery House status. Apparently, once made an historical site, it is there forever, no matter how incorrect the information received.

Sarah's historical family roots begin in 1640 and her family's history is well documented. Her life while in the North Bay Area was one of investing in various areas with homes in at least four major areas. All of the homes except the Winchester Ranch "Mystery House" are no longer standing, but in their place whole city centers (Los Altos, Menlo Park, etc.) are located throughout the Bay Area.

She spent the money earned from the Winchester Remington rifle industry not to assuage guilt over the use of the rifles, but to build a hospital and provide funds for many charities.

Ms. Ignaffo ended her talk listing the top 10 mythical “facts” that are credited to Sarah Winchester and how they are simply assertions created from of the time in which they were written, not in the time Sarah Winchester lived.

**5. HENRY CROSSWALK UPDATE:                    DAPHNA**

- This project started by WONA 3 years ago and has been delayed again to an undetermined time now due to a shortage of city funds. Expect it to be completed no sooner than next Spring or Fall.
- Anyone wanting to know more about this issue should contact Lily at the Traffic Center or Council member Chappie Jones at his office in City Hall. [Chappie.Jones@sanjoseca.gov](mailto:Chappie.Jones@sanjoseca.gov)

**ADJOURN: 8:30 PM**

**NEXT WONA GENERAL MEETING: January 22, 2017.**