

Plymouth Volunteer Fire Brigade Building

Thanks to Jon Colburn

Here is an idea (Ideas are just that until they find Champions to make it a reality)

Use the site of the old Plymouth firehouse (across from City Hall) to resurrect the feeling of excitement, safety and community generated by a community fire department. However, this fire department would be strictly ceremonial and also a site to incubate an ultimate City Museum.

Design the building front facade to resemble a wooden fire department building. The construction could be as inexpensive as a pole building with an asphalt or concrete floor. The centerpiece would be the Plymouth Hook & Ladder engine that has been restored by Mule Creek.



Get the project adopted by CDF and Amador County Fire.

Hold Gourmet "Fireman's Breakfasts" prepared by local restaurants and caterers. Could have more than one breakfast per year.

The glass walls allow for a static

museum that does not require staff. However, it could also have part time staff and/or Docents so that people may tour.

Not all items displayed would have to be fire related. The building could also display mining equipment, etc.

Contact other Plymouth Fire Departments for any period apparatus or Equipment that the museum might feature.

Use the ramp down from Landrum Street as an exclusive "Fire Lane" so that the Hook & Ladder can pull into the back of the building and pull out the front.

Research the history of fires in Plymouth, CA and put it on story boards.

Possibly use the fire Tower on the old Fiddletown Fire building as a model for a Tower for Plymouth. Fiddletown has a siren in that tower that they might donate to Plymouth (Fiddletown does not use it). It

is an incredible siren that stirs the heart. It winds up slowly to a fantastic crescendo that is nothing but exciting.

The siren could have a timer on it so that there is a short noon burst every day but Sunday. Then at 5:00PM a longer burst. Then on Friday nights at 5:00PM a longer burst and the engine falls out (possibly with a Chiefs Car following) and heads down Main Street. Possibly even does some good with the water. Leave the engine out for an hour or so and Docents could answer questions and encourage people going to dinner to buy a bottle of Plymouth Fire Brigade wine for dinner and help out the cause.

Start a Plymouth Volunteer Fire Department that costs \$1,000 to get into. That can be paid over 4 years in equal payments. At \$5,000 you are a Captain. At \$10,000 you are a Chief (there can be more than one Captain and Chiefs). Every member gets a Plymouth Volunteer Fire Brigade badge.



Have a winery come out with a "Wine Maker's Special Bottling" for the Plymouth Volunteer Fire Brigade and offer it in Amador Restaurants for \$100 per bottle or \$1,000 per case (buy a case and you get a badge). You could even have a competition to decide which winery will make the Brigade's wine each year.

Put a fire hydrant in each corner of the Parking lot and have events where there is "Dancing Water" (think

colored lighting also. Possibly a "Light Show" effect, hippy days) and/or water fights or other hose competition.

The rectangular Parking Lot can occasionally be closed to parking for festivals and competitions, etc. A great place for dances, etc.

The Parking Lot would have a Fire Theme, possibly along with a mining theme. Possibly a working Hydraulic Mining Monitor could be set up.





Set the parking lot back far enough so that there are benches and grass and a raised flower bed in front of the parking lot.

The whole thing could roll into an annual "Plymouth Fire Festival" and if it grows, move the festival to the Fairgrounds.











Columbia MAIN STREET FIRE HOUSE 1911

From the early 1850's until 1861 there were a series of wooden structures on this lot. They were used for a variety of purposes, including a home and a fruit stand. In 1861 the engine company leased the small one story building that then occupied the lot and used it as a fire house.

In 1910 the building was torn down. In 1911 the present structure was built. In 1952 the State purchased the Fire House for one dollar and added the garage to the back of the building in 1957.

