

**NORTH PARK HISTORICAL SOCIETY
FEBRUARY 2012 MEETING NOTES**

DATE: FEBRUARY 16, 2012

TIME: 6:30 PM

The first part of this meeting was a Business Meeting of the North Park Historical Society (NPHS) Board of Directors, and the second part was the activities discussion for the organization. These notes include updates as of March 4, 2012.

1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

The following members of the NPHS Board of Directors were present:

Patrick Edwards
George Franck
Steve Hon
Katherine Hon
Ed Orozco
Louise Russell
Randy Sappenfield
Jody Surowiec
Michael Thornhill
Sharon Turner

The following members of the NPHS Board of Directors were absent:

Robert Bauer
Vince Rivera
Bill Vivian
Hilda Yoder

Member Paul and visitors Rhea and Valerie joined us. Welcome!

2. AGENDA REVIEW AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Katherine shared an announcement of an open house at the beautiful historic Craftsman home at the corner of 28th Street and Myrtle. This house is special to our group as it is the former home of Don and Karon Covington, where many meetings of our predecessor group, the History Committee of the community association occurred.



3. MINUTES ACCEPTANCE

The draft minutes from the January 19, 2012 NPHS meeting were accepted and have been posted on the website.

BUSINESS PORTION OF MEETING

4. TREASURER'S REPORT

The financials were sent to the Board in advance of the meeting. Sharon reported that we sold three more history books. Expenses arose from fees for exhibiting at the Congress of History in March and Old House Fair in June, and from printing the water tower poster for the display at the North Park Library.

5. BOARD MEMBERSHIP

We have a vacancy on the Board due to the resignation of Paul Wade. Board members who could not be at the meeting noted in emails that anyone nominated should be active in our projects and have attended meetings. As we are a board of volunteers and have no staff, participation in our activities is very important. Patrick, who is on a number of other boards, suggested an "organizational" board member who might represent another organization we would like to coordinate with more closely, for example, SOHO or the North Park Maintenance Assessment District (MAD) Advisory Committee. George commented that he is very active in SOHO, and Steve noted he is currently the Secretary of the MAD. So we do have close ties with those organizations already. The group agreed that since our minimum number of Board members is five and we still have fourteen Board members, there is not a pressing need to fill the vacancy right away. The Board directed Katherine to send an announcement about the vacancy to our contact list to encourage members to participate in our projects and be considered for the Board.

ACTIVITIES PORTION OF MEETING

6. WATER TOWER DESIGNATION PROJECT

Alex Bevil continues to prepare the designation application for federal and state historic landmark status. George helped arrange a field visit inside the fence, which enabled us to take photos from some interesting viewpoints. We could ask Tom Shess if he might be interested in featuring the water tower in a Then and Now article in San Diego Home and Garden Magazine.

7. LIBRARY PRESENTATION PROJECT

The illustrated essays McKinley fifth graders wrote about the water tower were on display throughout February at the North Park Library with the poster that Vince prepared. Hilda, Jody, Louise, Randy and Ed provided excellent comments on the PowerPoint presentation on "North Park Now and Then" that is geared toward educating students about what history is and why preservation is important. Katherine will give the presentation and Randy will help.

Update: The 5th graders from McKinley were engaged and attentive at the presentation. They want to do similar illustrated essays for the Georgia Street Bridge, which is being studied now for its seismic condition. They all agreed the bridge and the water tower need to be preserved. We appreciate NPHS member Pat Taylor facilitating this outreach effort. The other 5th grade class at McKinley has requested the opportunity to hear the same presentation. We have arranged the date of March 22 at 10 am at the North Park Library to do an encore!



8. CAR SHOW

We continue to plan with the Balboa Tennis Club, who will host the car show in the parking lot along the tennis courts at Morley Field. Steve will present the concept to North Park Planning for their support. Bob will do a site plan as soon as the parking lot repaving and restriping that is happening now is finished.

9. WEBSITE UPDATE

After reviewing our website and how it is being maintained, our consultant Jim Tinsky recommended that we pursue changing to a WordPress platform. He noted that Frontpage (the software we are using to add items to the website and change text), is not being supported and will eventually be obsolete. Content managed systems on WordPress platforms are the way of the future for websites, and it will be much easier to manage and update our website once the creation process is done. Jim set up a place on the internet where we can build a prototype website using WordPress templates. A draft site map for the prototype is on the next page of these meeting notes. Main tabs are across the top and information/materials that would be on that webpage or linked to that webpage are in the column below each main tab. By building a prototype in a separate place on the internet, no changes will have to be made to our current website, and when we are completely satisfied with the new version we can substitute it on our GoDaddy hosted location. We also will be able to have A7D help provide some design enhancements once the prototype is ready.

10. KLICKA SCHOLARSHIP

Louise is managing the scholarship coordination effort, which is a \$2,000 scholarship for a graduating high school senior residing in the Greater North Park Community Planning area (or zip code 92104). We will clarify on the scholarship application materials that a student living in the community planning area (which includes University Heights east of Park Boulevard), and/or in the 92104 zip code (which extends east of I-805 to 37th Street) can apply. The updated application forms are on the website. Louise noted previous winner Taylor is at UCLA and previous winner Julie is at UCSD.

11. BOOK PROJECT

The group will meet in March to select topics.

12. WALKING TOUR PLANNING

On May 19 we are planning a Burlingame Walking Tour as a way to help publicize the ongoing Burlingame Centennial celebration this year. Our walking tour will be exteriors only, like the tour we did last year. Randy will bring his car. The planning group will meet on March 20 with Ernie Smith of Burlingame to plan. Ernie may have a map we can make into a handout for those who don't want to buy the Burlingame book.

On June 2, the Burlingame Club and homeowner's organization are conducting a Home Tour of six homes built in 1912, the first year of the tract. The Burlingame event in June will allow participants inside the featured homes. We will have a table at their event and sell the North Park and Burlingame books.

This year is also the centennial for the Dryden District. The first year of the period of significance is 1912. We should do at least one walking tour of the Dryden District this year. Sometime in the spring or summer would be good.

Update: George proposed Saturday, April 14 for our first Dryden tour this year. We have started circulating flyers.

DRAFT SITE MAP

Search

About Us	Events and News	Historical Information	Projects	Products	Calendar of Activities
Mission	Car Show: current summary, registration form, sponsorship form, flyer, past summaries and photos	-Where is North Park? -A Brief History of North Park -Timeline, Tracts	Historical designations in progress: Water Tower	North Park: A San Diego Urban Village, 1896-1946	Calendar pages showing meetings, events, presentations, related groups events
Board Members	Walking tours: current dates, registration forms, past summaries and photos	Articles: grouped by type, searchable	Klicka Scholarship: current application form, background info, past winners and photos	Burlingame: The Tract of Character	
Membership: form	Exhibition Events: Congress of History, North Park Festival of the Arts, Old House Fair, University Heights	Landmarks: Georgia Street Bridge, Water Tower, etc	Virtual Library: building permit info being uploaded to a database with pro bono help from KTU+A	Our Valued Retailers: Vintage Religion, The Grove, San Diego History Center, SOHO	
Background: past projects before we were NPHS	Toyland Parade: current announcement, past summaries/photos	Brochures	New Book: The Sequel	Walking tour guidebooks	
Links to other groups	Meetings: agendas, meeting notes	El Cajon Blvd map and list	Student outreach: flyers, summaries of presentations	Tee shirts	
	Awards!! -2012 applications -Past received	Building permit tablet scans (pdf files)	Oral histories	Related products	
	News about Town: articles in North Park News and Uptown News, SOHO news, preservation concerns	Community Scrapbook where we could post photos and stories from people	North Park Dryden Historic District		

Contact us

Acknowledgements

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13. OTHER BUSINESS

Katherine prepared an application for a SOHO People in Preservation Award under the category of Organizational Achievement for designation of the North Park Dryden Historic District. She also prepared an application for a City of San Diego Historical Resources Board Community History Award for the Dryden District.



The Congress of History conference was on March 2 and 3 at the University of San Diego. Steve and Katherine staffed the NPHS table. We sold two North Park history books and two Burlingame books. We gained a new member. We passed out lots of flyers for our upcoming Spring Tours and the Burlingame home tour. We also had many enjoyable chats with folks who grew up in North Park and stopped to look at the pictures on our posters.

Ed and Sharon volunteered to store several boxes of the coil-bound North Park history book to make room in Steve and Katherine's garage for the newly printed perfect bound North Park history books.

Michael was interviewed at the Model Railroad Museum by KUSI. He has the interview on a DVD.

Shall we designate the May meeting for History Show and Tell? Everyone will think about it if they would like to make a presentation.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be **THURSDAY** March 15, 2012 at 6:30 pm in the second floor conference room of the Masonic Lodge, corner of Utah Street and North Park Way.