

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

DATE: NOVEMBER 15, 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 December 13, 2012.

The next meeting will be **THURSDAY** January 17, 2013 at 6:30 pm in the Balboa Tennis Club clubhouse at Morley Field, 2221 Morley Field Drive. There will be no meeting in December. Happy Holidays to all and see you next year!

1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

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

- Robert Bauer
- George Franck
- Steve Hon
- Katherine Hon
- Ed Orozco
- Louise Russell
- Randy Sappenfield
- Michael Thornhill
- Sharon Turner

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

- Patrick Edwards
- Vince Rivera
- Jody Surowiec
- Bill Vivian
- Hilda Yoder

Member Paul, Lynn and Robert also joined us. Welcome! And thank you, Robert for becoming a member!

2. AGENDA REVIEW AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no changes to the agenda. Paul announced that he has achieved historical designation for his beautifully restored Craftsman home on Louisiana Street. His house was built in 1920 by La Mesa Homes for Daniel and Anna Boone (yes, the first owner was related to the well-known Daniel Boone). Congratulations, Paul!

We were saddened to learn that Karon Covington passed away on November 3, 2012 in Los Angeles, surrounded by family. She had moved there to be near her daughter. She and Don Covington, who died in 2002, were stalwart advocates of North Park history and established the solid foundation of projects that we have built upon as the North Park Historical Society. They and other members of the community association's History Committee initiated the Dryden Historic District (designated in 2011), the North Park history book (published in 2007), and the historical building permit records now on our website's "Projects" page at NorthParkHistory.org. As Secretary of the History Committee, Karon kept meticulous meeting notes and was an excellent writer. Her well-organized files continue to be useful as we carry on the work of helping to preserve North Park's cultural and architectural history.

3. MINUTES ACCEPTANCE

The draft minutes from the October 18, 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. We have received income from new and renewing memberships and sales of five North Park history books. We printed the one-page color brochures for the Morley Field walking tour for \$116. Thank you again to Gabriela Marks of Marks Architects for designing the piece and coordinating its production!

ACTIVITIES PORTION OF MEETING

5. BOOK PROJECT

NPHS has been approached by Arcadia Publishing Company to prepare an Images of America book for North Park. The NPHS Board received an electronic version of the proposal to Arcadia prepared by Valerie, Randy, Michael, Ed, Steve and Katherine. The proposal includes 15 example pictures and captions, a draft list of chapters, and other information required by Arcadia. George moved and Ed seconded that the proposal be approved by the Board and sent to Arcadia. The motion passed unanimously.

We are planning to tell the full span of North Park's story in the Arcadia book from early subdivision mapping in the 1870s to the present (without repeating very many of the photos already presented in our first book, *North Park: A San Diego Urban Village, 1896-1946* by the late Donald Covington). We are especially interested if our members and friends have personal historical photos that we can scan and use in the book at no charge. You would be acknowledged in the caption for providing the photo(s). We would need to know the story behind the photo(s) as well. We have to pay for any photos we use from the San Diego History Center (formerly the San Diego Historical Society), so neighborhood pictures of important structures, people, and events from other sources who would not charge will help us create a meaningful book cost-effectively as an all-volunteer local non-profit organization.

Assuming the proposal is accepted, potential sources of photos mentioned at the meeting were the Lafayette Hotel; churches and schools such as St. Patrick's, St. Augustine's, Jefferson, and McKinley; and businesses such as A&B Sporting Goods on University Avenue and the barbershops on 30th Street near Lincoln Avenue and University Avenue at Ray Street.

Update: On November 30, 2012, we received an email from Jared Nelson, our contact at Arcadia, saying: *"I am pleased to inform you that your proposal, San Diego's North Park, has been approved. We are delighted that we can anticipate adding your book to Arcadia's list of titles in our Images of America series, and we look forward to working with you in the coming months."* Jared also mentioned in follow-up phone calls that ours was one of the best and most complete proposals he has seen. He sent us contract documents, which the NPHS Board reviewed and approved by email vote on December 1, 2012. We have also received the Layout Planner and Author Guidelines from Arcadia. We have agreed to an 18-month schedule with interim deadlines, including submittal of 10 test scans, captions, a table of contents draft, and a chapter introduction draft by June 11, 2013. All book materials will be due no later than May 2014.

We will start work in January 2013. New Book Group members George, Valerie, Randy, Michael, Ed, Sharon, Steve and Katherine have received the materials from Arcadia. Everyone is welcome to participate in this prestigious project! **If you want to help with research, writing, outreach, review, or in other ways, please contact Katherine at 619-294-8990 or email her at info@northparkhistory.org.** Our initial draft of the planned chapters is below. We are in particular need of pictures from the 1940s through the 1980s.

Acknowledgements

Introduction

1. Early Years: 1870—1906
2. Community Beginnings: 1907—1919
3. Building "A City of Our Own": 1920—1945
4. Post-World War II Prosperity: 1946—1965
5. Community Changes: 1966—1980
6. Revitalization and Redevelopment: 1980s—Present

6. TOYLAND PARADE

Update: The Toyland Parade was December 1. The weather cooperated and we had a good time. Thank you to Sharon and Louise for carrying our banner, to Michael the Motorman with the Mustache for delighting children; and to Bill for driving his convertible with riders Ed (1940s real estate agent), Arlene, and her adorable little engineer. Steve was his perennial 1920's shopkeeper, and Katherine wore a live 1950's poodle skirt featuring Truman the Standard Poodle. Kristen and Patrick spread 1960's peace and joy in their actual wedding clothes (no kidding!) plus a peace flag we're pretty sure Patrick did NOT carry at their wedding. Very special thanks go to Victor for being the Water Tower this year. Victor did a great water tower dance and loved the cheers from the crowd for what many say is their favorite entry. We have told the water tower's creator, Vince, that it needs his help to be strengthened before it can make another appearance. Thanks, Valerie and Steve, for excellent photos!



[Photo by Valerie Hayken](#)



[Photo by Valerie Hayken](#)



[Photo by Valerie Hayken](#)



[Photo by Valerie Hayken](#)



[Photo by Valerie Hayken](#)



Photo by Steve Hon

7. WALKING TOUR PLANNING

Steve plans to conduct a Morley Field Walking Tour after the holidays. We can't charge for this tour because it is in Balboa Park, so we could do focused outreach to gather a small invited group.

The guidebook for George's Villa Terrace/Hamilton bungalow courts tour needs a little more work. George will coordinate with Vince and Valerie to get it finished so he can begin conducting this tour in a very interesting part of North Park. Did you know that Hamilton Street was originally California Street in the University Heights subdivision?

8. MCAS MUSEUM TOUR

Steve noted that if any of our members and friends are interested, he can arrange a tour of the Flying Leatherneck Museum at MCAS for a group of us next year with a docent who is a friend of his.

9. WATER TOWER PROJECT UPDATE

Historian Alex Bevil will make a presentation on March 14, 2013 at Grace Lutheran Church on Park Boulevard about the Water Tower based on the historical designation application that he prepared for the North Park and University Heights historical societies.

NEXT MEETING

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