

**NORTH PARK HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
MAY 2013 MEETING NOTES**

**DATE:           MAY 16, 2013**

**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 May 22, 2013.

The next meeting will be **THURSDAY** June 20, 2013 at 6:30 pm in the Second Floor Chamber Room at Grace Lutheran Church, 3967 Park Boulevard. **PLEASE NOTE THE NEW MEETING LOCATION FOR OUR REGULAR MEETINGS.**

**1.       WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**

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

George Franck	Louise Russell
Steve Hon	Randy Sappenfield
Katherine Hon	Sharon Turner
Jody Surowiec	Michael Thornhill
Hilda Yoder	

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

Robert Bauer	Ed Orozco
Patrick Edwards	Bill Vivian
Vince Rivera	

Members Paul, Valerie, Janie and visitors Alan and Tim also joined us. Welcome!

**2.       AGENDA REVIEW AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Louise announced that SOHO is opening the Warner Carrillo adobe on June 1 and there will be buggy rides. Fun!

Alan announced he is conducting a free walk in Florida Canyon on Father's Day (June 16).

**3.       MINUTES ACCEPTANCE**

The draft minutes from the April 18, 2013 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. Between mid-April and mid-May 2013 we received income of approximately \$262 from sales of 6 North Park history books, 5 Burlingame books, 3 walking tours, 2 residential guidebooks, plus one new membership. We did not have expenses in this time period.

## **ACTIVITIES PORTION OF MEETING**

### **5. IMPORTANT UPCOMING EVENTS**

**Arcadia Book Project.** The Arcadia Book Working Group will hold its fifth working meeting on May 23, 2013. We will review new captions from Steve, Randy, and Louise, and photographs from Randy and Ed. We will give final review and approval of our first milestone submittal to Arcadia. 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](mailto:info@northparkhistory.org). **The next meeting of the Book Group will be the fourth Thursday, May 23, 6:30 pm at The Cottage, 3775 Utah Street.** Note that although our regular meetings will be held at Grace Lutheran Church, the book meetings will continue to be held at The Cottage.

**North Park Festival of the Arts.** This event is always a good one for us. Katherine created car show registration flyers for potential car exhibitors and little post-card size information flyers to hand out at the Festival. *Update:* We sold 7 North Park history books at the event and talked with many many people who are very interested in the history of our community. Your President Steve and Secretary Katherine sincerely appreciate the help from members and Board members who joined them to staff the booth throughout the day, especially Sharon, Paul, Robert, Ed, Louise, Bob, and Sherry.

**Water Tower.** The water tower was a hot topic at the Festival, with the State historical designation on the news the day before. Five TV news channels announced the successful State designation and our hopes for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. See this link for one of the most complete segments, courtesy of Joe Little of Channel 10 News.

<http://www.10news.com/news/old-water-tower-in-north-park-is-san-diegos-newest-historic-landmark-051713>

Because of this news segment, tattoos of the water tower were also a hot topic, and here is verification that they exist, courtesy of a visitor to our booth.



*Steve, Ed and Robert literally man the NPHS booth*



*Yes, a real Water Tower Tattoo!*

Old House Fair. The date of our next event is June 15, 2013. We will need even more help at the booth for this busy event in South Park, so please consider volunteering to be at the booth for a few hours. Please contact Katherine at 619-294-8990 or info@northparkhistory.org if you can help.

## **7. KLICKA SCHOLARSHIP**

NPHS coordinates the \$2,000 scholarship awarded by the Klicka Foundation to a graduating high school senior who lives in North Park. Louise reported that three high-quality applicants submitted, and she, Jody and Hilda selected the winner. Christine Kehoe will present at the Festival of the Arts. Vince will prepare a certificate. The recipient selected for the Klicka Scholarship this year is Mikayla Rae Stern-Ellis, Valedictorian of her class at San Diego School of Creative and Performing Arts with a cumulative GPA of 4.57. She plans on attending either UC Davis or Tulane or Columbia/Brown. Her career goal is to become a Primatologist living in Borneo and working for Orangutan Foundation International to save orangutans from extinction.

A one-time expenditure of \$500 from NPHS was approved by a vote of 5 to 4, to be given to the two runners-up for the Klicka Scholarship (\$250 each). The motion was made by Louise and seconded by Hilda. Those in favor were George, Jody, Louise, Hilda, and Michael. Those opposed were Steve, Sharon, Katherine, and Randy. The benefits discussed by proponents were that even a small gift of funds is meaningful to students, any gift is recognition for students that they can put on their resume, and NPHS receives some publicity for giving. The concerns discussed by those opposed included the fact that this expenditure was not budgeted, no plan was ready for obtaining revenue to offset this expenditure, this is a substantial amount of money for us, and that typically organizations establish scholarship funds as endowments that provide a sustainable source of funds. It was suggested that given the concerns, we should continue the discussion but not do the expenditure this year.

Louise clarified that the motion at this meeting would be only for the one-time gift to these two students, whose qualifications were high and needs were great. She also stated that the money would be restricted in the same way the Klicka Foundation restricts their scholarship, which is that the money is sent to the 4-year school when the student enrolls. Any gifts to future students would require dedicated fundraising and further discussion by the Board.

The two students recognized this year by NPHS for excellence in academic achievement and community service are Lorena Miranda and Tyla Adams. Lorena has a 3.95 GPA at San Diego High Business School, and is 7th in her class. She is Treasurer of the ASB at San Diego High, the Secretary of the Parent, Teacher, Student Association, and a Varsity cheerleader. She noted in her essay that she is determined to work for her accomplishments and never back down; she plans to attend San Diego State University majoring in Hospitality with the goal of having a wedding planning business. Tyla has a 3.55 total GPA at Hoover High School. She is a leading member of Hoover's Link Crew, which mentors incoming freshmen, captain of the Cheer squad, and current ASB Treasurer. She noted in her essay that "success comes from determination, and determination comes from self-belief." She wants to be an advocate for the minorities in her community. She plans to attend the University of Arizona and major in business.

## **10. PRESENTATIONS OF INTEREST**

The remainder of the meeting was devoted to four presentations.

Michael shared an HO scale model of a water tank and a 1937 PCC Type 500 trolley, which are 1/87th the size of actual. He is detailing the trolley to look like the #7 that ran on University Avenue. PCC stands for President's Conference Committee, and this trolley represents a new

design developed at the time. In 1945, three were painted red, white, and blue for patriotic purposes. The model water tank only has four legs. The real North Park version has twelve, so obviously is far superior. The model illustrates the influence railroad water tanks had on municipal water supply facilities.



George discussed the ongoing Community Plan Update process, in particular the Historic Element. The list of objectives he has developed are as follows:

- A. Preserve Historic and Architecturally-Significant Buildings
- B. Preserve the Neighborhood Character of:
  - Single-family neighborhoods &
  - Commercial Centers
- C. Preserve Bungalow Courts throughout North Park
- D. Preserve a small group of c.1900 Victorian Homes
- E. Preserve the PSA Crash Site
- F. Preserve Trolley Barn Park
- G. Preserve Morley Field

Canyons and zoning were mentioned as other important aspects to consider.

Alan presented information about Florida Canyon and development of the demonstration garden he is leading. He noted that the 1,400-acre City Park was originally designated as a reserve wilderness, but many facilities have been built in it, including the zoo, blind center, golf course, and at one time a dump and gun powder magazine storage area. The 150 acres of Florida Canyon is the geographic center of (now) Balboa Park, and he and others are working hard to restore it and keep it a nature reserve.

Katherine showed the PowerPoint presentation "North Park Now and Then" that we presented to McKinley 5th Graders. The presentation helps explain what history is (the story of how things change over time) and uses real examples in North Park to illustrate the concept.

### **NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be **THURSDAY** June 20, 2013 at 6:30 pm at Grace Lutheran Church, 3967 Park Boulevard, corner of Park Boulevard and Lincoln Avenue. Park in the lot behind the church, off of Lincoln Avenue, and enter through the back of the building. We will be on the second floor in the Chamber Room (next to the Fellowship Hall). There are stairs and an elevator.