

**NORTH PARK HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
JULY 2010 MEETING NOTES**

**DATE: July 15, 2010**

**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.

**1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**

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

George Franck  
Katherine Hon  
Steve Hon  
Ed Orozco  
Louise Russell  
Randy Sappenfield  
Liz Studebaker  
Jody Surowiec  
Sharon Turner  
Bill Vivian  
Hilda Yoder

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

Patrick Edwards  
Vince Rivera  
Michael Thornhill  
Paul Wade

Member Bob Bauer also joined us. Guest Jerry Kwasek came at 7:00 pm to make a presentation about the Shirley Ann Place Historical District.

**2. AGENDA REVIEW AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The July Agenda was accepted as proposed.

**3. MINUTES ACCEPTANCE**

The draft minutes from the June 17, 2010 NPHS meeting were accepted.

**BUSINESS PORTION OF MEETING**

**4. TREASURER'S REPORT**

Sharon sent the financials to the Board in advance of the meeting.

**County Grant under Community Enhancement Program:** Steve announced that NPHS will receive \$1,500 from the County of San Diego Community Enhancement Grant program through the office of Supervisor Ron Roberts. The funds will be dedicated to purchasing the rights to photographs from the San Diego History Center for the North Park history book sequel, and for digitizing slides for the book and presentations.

## ACTIVITIES PORTION OF MEETING

### 5. CAR SHOW

The Car Show will be in the parking lot behind the North Park Theatre. The event is scheduled for **Saturday, September 11 from about 10 am to 1 pm**. We have 22 entries as of August 5. West Coast Tavern will offer some discounts and open early. The event can be covered under North Park Main Street's insurance. Vince is working on a poster. We have a sponsor request letter with three levels: Georgia Street Bridge (\$100), North Park Water Tower (\$250), and North Park Theatre (\$500). The following will be contacted: Motor Sport (Liz); Urban Solace, Lafayette, and Collision (Katherine); True North Tavern (Steve); West Coast Auto (Bill); Classic Machine (Bob); El Cajon BID (George). Katherine and Bill are working on a flyer for Bill to distribute at the last Bird Park concert on August 7th.



Here are a few of the fine cars that will be on display at the North Park Car Show

*1957 Cadillac Convertible and 1947 Chrysler Town & Country property of C. Michael Grasso and Steve Warren.  
Photos courtesy of Randy Sappenfield.*

### 6. BOOK PROJECTS

**New Book, 1946-Present:** The Book Group is invited to a tour of St. Augustine on July 29 at 6:30 pm. Steve, Katherine, Ed, Jeff, Louise, George, Sharon, Vince, and Hilda plan to go. *Update: Father Keller gave an excellent tour. We all learned a lot. He is preparing the section on St. Augustine for the North Park history book sequel. Thanks, Louise, for recording the event!*



**Reprinting the History Book, 1896-1946:** We have received 250 more of the perfect bound ("coffee table") version from the printer. Ed took 5 boxes to store, as the Hon's garage is getting full. Thank you, Ed!

## **7. SHIRLEY ANN PLACE**

Jerry Kwasek presented information about the Shirley Ann Place Historical District. The City of San Diego prepared the nomination for this single street district, which was designated in 2001. In 2005, the neighbors asked City Council for funds for sidewalk improvements and monument markers at their boundaries. The monuments were not constructed with the sidewalk improvements. Issues with the potential marker(s) include uncertain costs, lack of an acceptable design, the City's position that the project is no longer valid, and questions regarding the appropriate location. Only the eastern half of the district is in the North Park Project Advisory Committee (PAC) area. The PAC recommended the Shirley Ann Place ask NPHS for direction, support, and help with marker design. George noted that the current historical survey has recommended the district be expanded to Texas and Louisiana streets. Bill asked if a plaque could be put in the sidewalk. Bob suggested the PAC could establish a maximum funded cost. George moved NPHS support the concept of a marker, Liz seconded, and the motion carried. George will draft a letter for Steve's signature. It should be noted that Shirley Ann Place is actually in the University Heights Historical Society "jurisdiction," so we will coordinate our response with Ernie Bonn.

## **8. CALENDAR AND NOTE CARDS**

We reviewed the rights of photographers. We do not need releases or permission from home owners as long as the pictures of buildings are taken from the public right of way. However, once the calendar is finished and available, it would be respectful to drop off a thank you/congratulations card at the selected houses to note the building is featured and where the calendar can be purchased.

## **9. NORTH PARK HISTORICAL SURVEY UPDATE**

George provided an update on the City's project. The consultant has written a historic context statement that heavily referenced our North Park history book. The draft report divided the history into four periods: Early Settlement of Greater North Park (1893-1906), Development of North Park (1907-1929), Influence of the Great Depression and World War II in North Park (1930-1945), and Post-World War II in North Park (1946-1970). The survey identified 9 potential historical districts and 48 properties that appear to be eligible for local landmark designation. The "Craftsman Residential Historic District (Dryden District)" was discussed as currently under review by the City for local designation. The recommended boundaries were kept basically the same as in the application NPHS filed with the City in 2007, except that the few parcels north of Landis are not included in the recommended boundaries. The recommended period of significance is 1912 through the 1920s. In response to a request for information, NPHS provided a handout to the City at the "open house" meeting (see the next page).

## **10. OTHER BUSINESS**

George drafted a support letter for historical resources along El Cajon Boulevard. Sending the letter to the City of San Diego was approved at the June meeting. The e-mail was sent July 5, 2010.

## **11. NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be on **THURSDAY** August 19, 2010 at 6:30 pm at the Masonic Lodge.

## North Park Historical Society Input to Historical Resources Survey, June 28, 2010

The following is the response from NPBS to the questions from the City's Historical Resources Survey:

1. What historic theme(s) are important to the development of North Park?
  - Pre-development land divisions (1870 to 1900)
  - Streetcar Suburb (1906-1925)
  - Community Center (1920-1940)
  - Suburban Center (1940-1965)
  - Deteriorating Suburban Ring (1970-1995)
  - New Urban Village (1990-2010)
  
2. What do we need to know about the people and events that shaped the history of North Park?
  - People
    - Early real estate entrepreneurs (Nash, Hamilton)
    - Community founders and boosters: Hartleys, Klickas
    - Tract developers (McFadden & Buxton, O'Neill, Blair)
    - Designer/Builders
    - 1950s merchants
    - Gloria McColl and other recent personages
  - Events
    - City (Balboa) Park
    - The California Panama Exposition (1915) and the 1935 Exposition
    - World War I and World War II
    - Mission Valley Shopping Centers and influence on North Park commercial district
  - Infrastructure
    - Water and Sewer
    - The Birth and Death of the Streetcar system
    - Interstate Highway System
  
3. What historically significant individual properties and districts in North Park should we know about?
  - Properties
    - Klicka Lumber and Klicka Studio Bungalow kit house
    - North Park Theater
    - Masonic Lodge
    - Penneys
    - Woolworth
    - Odd Fellows Hall/Clair de Lune
    - Granada Building
    - Homes by City-Recognized Master Builders
    - Homes by nominated master builder Edward F. Bryans
  - Districts
    - Established: Burlingame, Shirley Ann Place
    - Proposed (Application submitted): Dryden
    - Potential: Commercial areas (El Cajon Blvd, University Ave.), Blair's Highlands (south of Upas), Montclair (from the 1950s, east of Boundary Street)
  
4. Other Concerns:
  - a. Densification at the sacrifice of historic buildings and community character.
  - b. Conservation Districts: What are they; how are they different from conventional Historic Districts?
  - c. Can unique architectural building types be designated as non-geographic Historical Districts?
    - These types include:
      - Bungalow Courts
      - Streamline moderne (commercial and residential sites)
      - California Modern (from the late 1940s–1970)