

**NORTH PARK HISTORICAL SOCIETY
JANUARY 2024 MEETING SUMMARY**

DATE: JANUARY 18, 2024

TIME: 6:00 PM

These notes summarize information that was presented at the January 18, 2024 Business Meeting of the North Park Historical Society (NPHS) Board of Directors, and the activities discussion for the organization. These notes include updates as of January 26, 2024. Board Members Steve, Katherine, Paul, Bob, Jody, Randy, and George attended. In addition, our newest Board Member, Allison, attended. Member Stuart also joined us.

All future public meetings scheduled for the **third THURSDAYS of the month starting at 6:00 p.m. WILL BE** held in a meeting room at Grace Lutheran Church. In addition, we continue to provide information to all who contact us with questions about North Park history and document those communications in our monthly meeting notes. **Our next meeting will be February 15.**

1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

We hope all our members and friends are staying safe and healthy.

2. AGENDA REVIEW AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

The latest Pacific Beach Historical Society newsletters were shown. They will continue to be collected for viewing.

3. MINUTES ACCEPTANCE

The meeting notes from the November 16, 2023 meeting have been posted on the website. NPHS does not meet in December, and no meeting summary was prepared.

BUSINESS PORTION OF MEETING

4. TREASURER’S REPORT AND 2023 ANNUAL REPORT

The financials for the entire year of 2023 were included in the Annual Report sent to Board Members on January 5, 2024. A file with the **SUMMARY OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN 2023** will be distributed to all our members in a separate email.

The financials for this meeting are for January 1 to January 17, 2024 and were sent to Board members on January 17, 2024. In this time period, three members renewed (thank you, Robert, Claudia, and Ed C.), two gave an additional donation (thank you, Robert and Ed C.), and one navy ballcap was sold (thank you, Steve!) for total income of \$240. There were no expenses in this time period.

The following state and federal organizational reports for the 2023 fiscal year were/will be filed on the dates indicated below:

- 199N State income tax report was filed online on January 1, 2024.
- State sales tax of \$31 was reported and paid to the State online on January 5, 2024. The expense (plus a \$1 fee) will appear in the financials for February 2024.
- 990N federal income tax report will be filed online as soon as the irs.gov website allows.
- California Registry of Charitable Trusts Registration Renewal form RRF-1 will be filed online after the federal 990N form is filed.
- Statement of Information with the Secretary of State was filed online on March 4, 2022. The next Statement of Information will be due by May 31, 2024.

ACTIVITIES PORTION OF MEETING

5. WALKING TOURS

Morley Field Walking Tour In 2023, Steve led multiple walking tours of the Morley Field Recreational Area for members of the Continuing Education program in the San Diego Community College District's "Rediscovering San Diego" class. The Board agreed we should try an advertised tour for the general public, perhaps on a Saturday in early summer. We can put up our canopy in the park, and have several helpers stay there to answer questions while the tour group(s) proceed. We can advertise via a flyer placed on Facebook and via email to our members, similar to the Pauly's Addition tour we did last year. Also, Steve will ask the Balboa Tennis Club to put a notice in their newsletter, and Jody will ask if we can put the flyer up at the pool. We will not charge admission, but ask for donations. The possible dates of June 22, June 29, July 13, and July 20 are fine for Claudia, who could be another guide. Potential helpers, check your calendars and let Katherine know if those dates are good. We will narrow down the date over the next few months.

Pauly's Addition Walking Tour The team has developed the route, photo notebook and guide notes for the southern part of Pauly's Addition. We conducted several test tours and an advertised tour in 2023. We have scheduled two tours for members of the Continuing Education program in the San Diego Community College District's "Rediscovering San Diego" class for April 16 and 18, 2024. The tours are mid-week, on Tuesday and Thursday, starting about 10 am. We will probably have to divide each class into two groups of 10 to 15 each, depending on attendance. We will firm up who can be guides and who can be helpers after the February meeting.

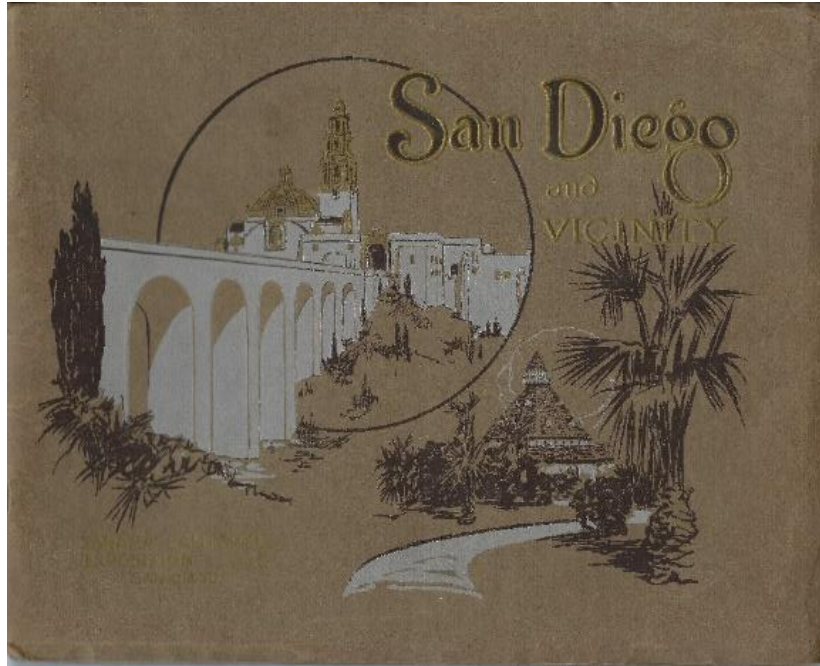
Commercial Area Walking Tour North Park Main Street requested a walking tour of the commercial core of North Park for their Board of Directors. On Wednesday, January 24, at 4:00 pm, George guided an enthusiastic group of eight, and Jody, Allison, Steve and Katherine assisted. Mark West, Executive Director of North Park Main Street (front row, with glasses), took the selfi photo below and emailed us, *"I hope that everyone enjoyed themselves as much as I did last night. It is obvious to me that the NP Historical Society is a wealth of knowledge and that we need to work together closely as the District is going to see a multitude of new projects in 2024 and beyond. Preserving our historical integrity of North Park is part of our mission and I will remain committed to it."*



You can identify North Park Historical Society members by our cool ballcaps!

6. SLIDE AND PHOTO SCANNING PROJECT

We are in the process of scanning slides and notebooks with photos and notes from the Covington Family and other sources. Stuart, who is a professional photographer, is interested in helping with scanning of oversized materials and slides. He and Katherine will coordinate. The scanned photos from the 1915 Exposition booklet given to us by friend of NPHS were very popular on our Facebook page, so here are a few more.



The cover of the booklet



Botanical Building, currently undergoing restoration

7. SIGNS FOR DRYDEN DISTRICT

Since 2021, NPHS has been contacting various City staff about putting up demarcation signs for the North Park Dryden Historic District. In 2023, Council District 3 staff coordinated with the City Transportation Department, who sent us information about the signage and its specific locations, which the Board approved at the August 2023 meeting. On November 9, 2023, our city contact emailed that they sent the work order in August 2023 and the street division department usually installs these kinds of signs within 90 days or less. Katherine requested an update in an email she sent to our city contact on January 9, 2024.

8. COMMUNITY COORDINATION AND ACTIVITIES

In January 2024, we responded to requests for information (and received interesting information) and participated in community activities as summarized below.

1. George conversed with a member of a group applying for State and National designation of a historic district in the Talmadge area. George and Steve drafted a letter of support which was approved by seven Board members, and no Board members objected, so the letter was finalized and sent to the California State Office of Historic Preservation on January 7, 2024. The receiving staff replied, "Thank you for your letter of support. It has been added to the nomination file and will be shared with the commissioners in advance of the hearing." The potential district is large, with more than 400 homes deemed contributing, and about 600 homes total.

2. Steve and Katherine joined the sold-out crowd attending an excellent lecture about Master Builder Pear Pearson by Kari Koskinen (Pear's granddaughter) at the San Diego History Center on January 10. Pear Pearson is the brother of John Pearson, who NPHS got designated as a Master Builder in 2016. The lecture was part of the San Diego History Center's "Lunch and Learn" series.



3. Katherine will be participating in SOHO's new Zoom lecture series, "Penning the Past: Insights into San Diego's Historic Neighborhoods and Architecture." Her lecture will be February 10 from 11 am to noon. It will be based on the NPHS book, "Images of America, San Diego's North Park," published by Arcadia Publishing Company in 2014. See the flyer on the last page of these meeting notes, and register at this link on the SOHO website: [Penning the Past - Insights into San Diego's Historic Neighborhoods and Architecture \(sohosandiego.org\)](https://www.sohosandiego.org/penning-the-past)

9. NPHS WATER TOWER USED IN TOYLAND PARADE

Our valued member, Victor, who has portrayed the dancing water tower in the most recent past Toyland Parades, has been storing the water tower "costume" in his garage. We discussed ideas for alternate storage in case he would like to give it back, and ideas for holding an NPHS event where the water tower could make a comeback even if the Toyland Parade never returns. We will ask NPHS member Robert if there are any ideas for how to make it collapsible to be easier to store. We will ask North Park Main Street if they have room or ideas. And we will see if Victor would like to appear at the Morley Field Walking Tour to encourage people to come to our canopy.



10. PAYMENT FOR NPBS MEMBERSHIP

A recent article in the Union Tribune business section mentioned check theft from the mail and subsequent fraud is on the rise. We discussed if we should we give our members alternate ways of paying their annual dues. Steve will continue to look into methods like credit cards on the website, PayPal and Venmo.

11. CITY OF SAN DIEGO PROPOSED CHANGES TO POLICIES

We discussed the January 14, 2024 page one Union-Tribune article, "San Diego May Loosen Rules Protecting Historic Buildings," which has been getting lots of attention. Paul noted all historic groups should write a letter or letters of concern. George said he could draft a letter. Allison sent us the following link on the Planning Department webpage with the city's info about the review process and timeline:

[Preservation and Progress | City of San Diego Official Website](#)

On this webpage you can sign up to receive emailed updates on the process. There also is lots of information, including this statement of the city's intent: "*Preservation and Progress will take a comprehensive look at all of the [policy and regulatory documents](#) that guide the City's Heritage Preservation Program. This includes the Historic Preservation Element of the General Plan, the Designation Procedures and Historical Resources Regulations in the Land Development Code, the Historical Resources Guidelines in the Land Development Manual, City Council Policy, and a number of Historical Resources Board policies and procedures. While these documents have been updated individually over the past several decades, it has been many years since the Heritage Preservation Program was comprehensively updated. The City's commitment in recent years to new housing, equity, sustainability, and resilience goals and policies, as well as new State housing legislation and evolving best practices in heritage preservation nationwide require a fresh look at how the City's Heritage Preservation Program is structured and implemented.*"

12. PLAQUE FOR WATER TOWER

Coordination with City Public Utilities Department staff regarding the feasibility of placing the plaque in a boulder or some kind of low wall next to the two-story building at the Water Tower site is pending completion of the city's construction activities at the site.

13. FUTURE MEETINGS

All future public meetings scheduled for the **third THURSDAYS of the month starting at 6:00 p.m.** in a meeting room at Grace Lutheran Church **WILL OCCUR in 2024**, and we are still providing information to all who contact us with questions about North Park history. Our next meeting will be on **February 15**.

14. NEW BOARD MEMBER

Via email over the weekend after the meeting, Steve nominated Allison to the Board of Directors, and all ten members of the Board voted in favor. Welcome to the Board, Allison!

Prepared by



Katherine Hon
Secretary, North Park Historical Society

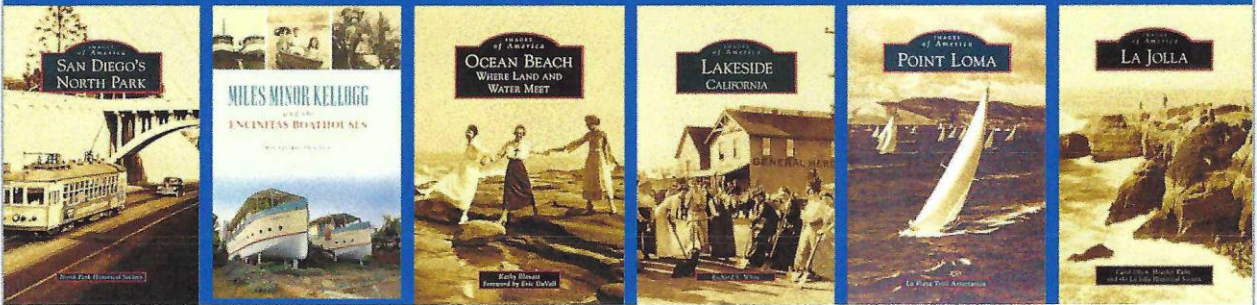


Share This Email

[View as Webpage](#)

Penning the Past

Insights into San Diego's Historic Neighborhoods & Architecture



Registration for Penning the Past: Insights into San Diego's Historic Neighborhoods and Architecture is now open. This dynamic Zoom lecture series, beginning in February 2024, promises an enriching exploration of San Diego's architectural legacy and historical tapestry, brought to life by esteemed local authors.

Join us in learning about the unique character of San Diego's historic neighborhoods through the eyes of impassioned writers and historians, starting with Katherine Hon, co-author of San Diego's North Park, on February 10 from 11am to 12 noon.

This monthly series, presented every second Saturday from February through November, is free for SOHO members, \$10 per lecture for non-members.

[Register Now!](#)

Save Our Heritage Organisation | (619) 297-9327 | [email](#) | SOHOsandiego.org