

# NORTH PARK HISTORICAL SOCIETY JUNE 2026 MEETING SUMMARY

**DATE: JUNE 18, 2026**

**TIME: 6:00 PM**

These notes summarize information that was presented at the June 18, 2026 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 June 21, 2026. Board Members Steve, Katherine, Jody, Allison, Paul, and George attended. Member Ed O. also joined us. Welcome!

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 July 16.**

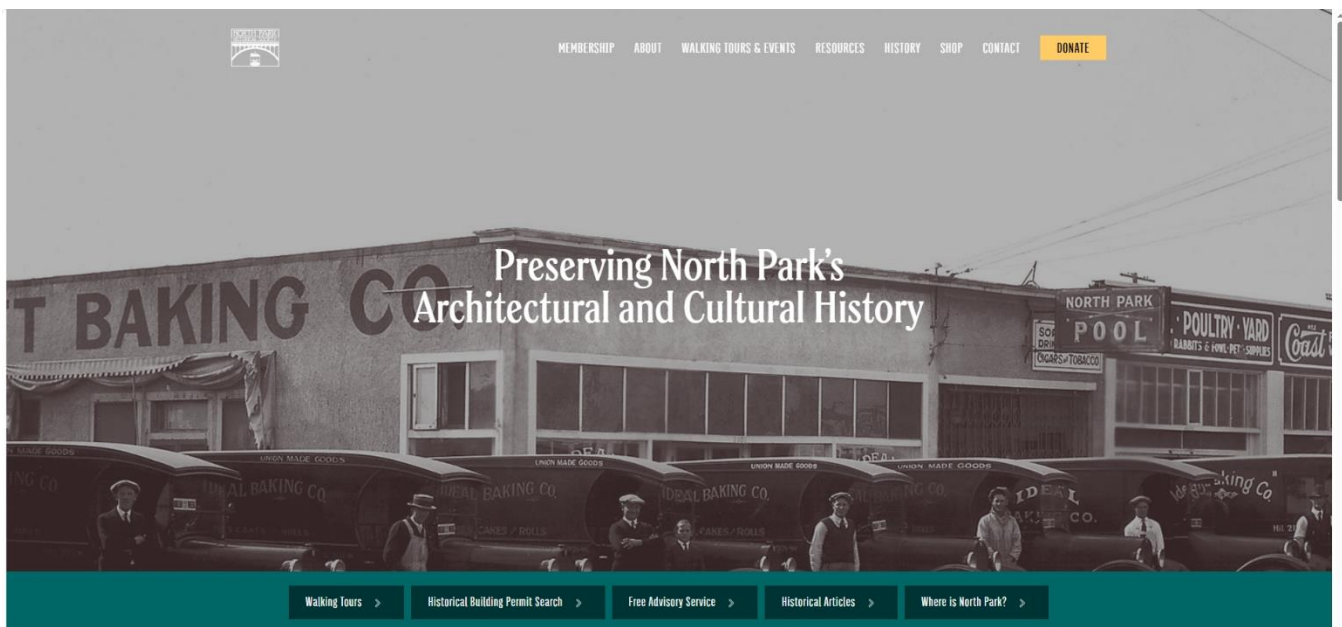
## 1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

We hope all our members and friends are having a good 2026!

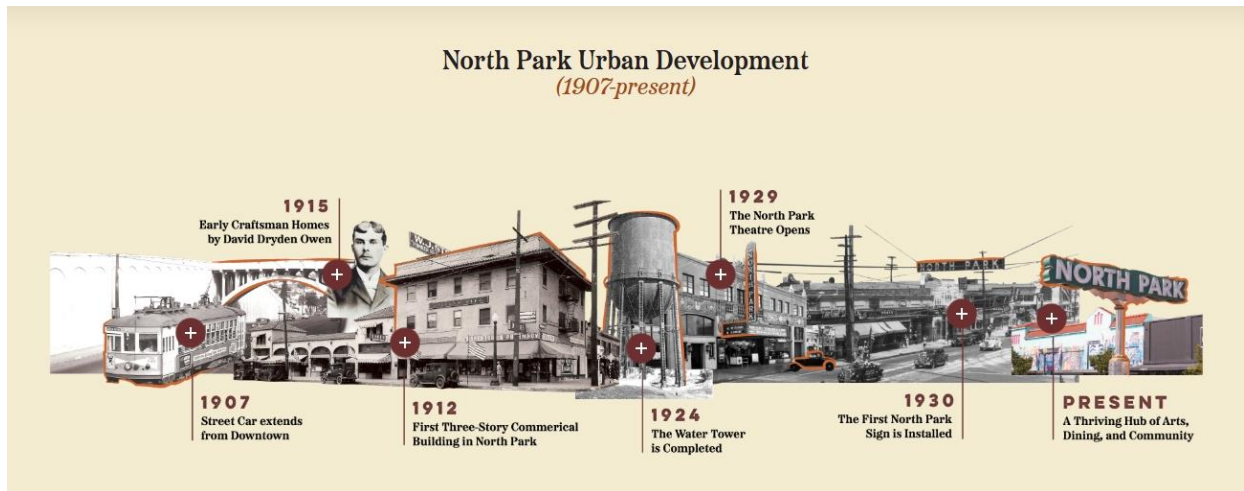
## 2. AGENDA REVIEW AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

**BIG ANNOUNCEMENT:** Our completely redesigned website is live, beautiful, and full of information! Check it out at the same url as always: [www.northparkhistory.org](http://www.northparkhistory.org)  
Local North Park graphic design firm A7D did a wonderful job creating an engaging and easy-to-navigate site. Many thanks to all our members – your dues and donations supported this effort! See the end of these notes for a compilation of the nice compliments we have received.

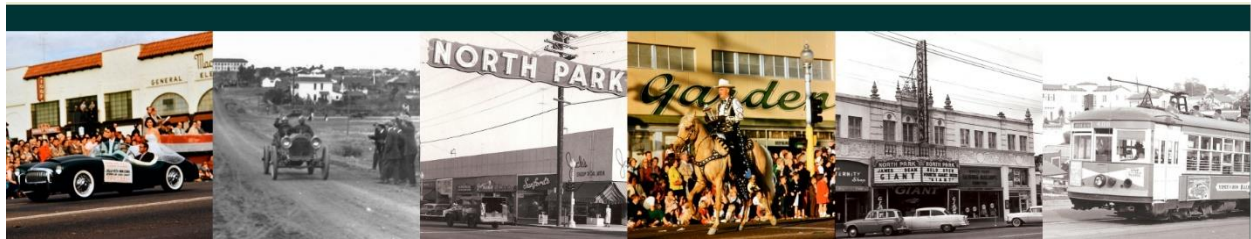
Steve announced that he attended the North Park Planning Committee meeting to announce our website launch. He also distributed the University Heights Historical Society press release about the National Register of Historic Places Multiple Property Documentation Form for the San Diego Bungalow Courts Multiple Property Listing project.



Navigation on our redesigned website is easy and automatically adjusts to be sized appropriately on mobile phones or computer screens.



The unique timeline on the home page has more history tidbits at each plus sign



There are photos everywhere!

### 3. MINUTES ACCEPTANCE

The meeting notes from the May 21, 2026 meeting have been posted on the website.

## BUSINESS PORTION OF MEETING

### 4. TREASURER'S REPORT

The financials for this meeting are for May 20 to June 16, 2026 and were sent to Board members on June 17, 2026. In this time period, four members renewed (thank you, Sheryl, Bob & Joan, Emma, and Chelsea!) for a total income of \$80.00. Expenses in this time period consisted of \$1,297.67 for annual renewal of our liability insurance, and final payment of \$3,450.00 to A7D for redesign and launch of our website, for total expenses of \$4,747.67.

## ACTIVITIES PORTION OF MEETING

### 5. NEXT MORLEY FIELD & PAULY'S ADDITION WALKING TOUR JULY 18

We will put up our canopy by the pool in Morley Field and conduct two different free walking tours: one of the recreation area and one of the nearby historic Pauly's Addition residential neighborhood. Both tours will start on Saturday, July 18 at 10:00 am. Steve will guide the Morley Field tour and George will lead the Pauly's Addition tour. Claudia and Allison can be book holders, with other volunteers helping as shepherds. Katherine and Sharon will stay behind at our table to share history information with passersby. The five people who signed up to be notified about this tour will be contacted. Allison has updated the website, and we will prepare a flyer to be distributed via email and our Instagram and Facebook pages.

## 6. BURLINGAME WALKING TOUR AND PRESENTATION IN OCTOBER

Our Burlingame tour guide last year, Steve Fobes, is willing to conduct another tour, and possibly present a lecture on additional research he has prepared. We are coordinating with Steve to get a date for the tour and possibly a presentation in mid-October. George suggested we ask Steve if a presentation would be better at a location in Burlingame or at our usual meeting room at Grace Lutheran Church.

## 7. CITY POLICIES AND HISTORICAL RESOURCES BOARD UPDATES AND SOHO ECONOMIC STUDY

- The following link on the Planning Department webpage has the city's info about the review process and timeline:

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

Package A was approved by City Council on February 24. Package B, which will include potential changes to the Mills Act program, is now the focus of City staff. The SOHO Economic Study has been released and is available online at

[The Big Picture: Preservation Overreach? The Data Says Otherwise](#)

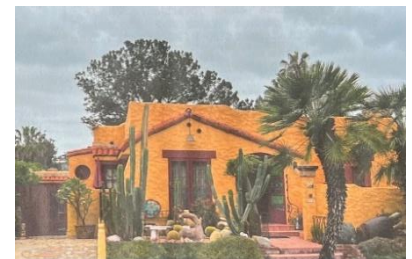
## 8. COMMUNITY COORDINATION AND ACTIVITIES

In June 2026, we responded to requests for information (and received interesting information) and participated in community activities as summarized below.

- New NPHS member Dan asked for some historical research on two houses as a gift to friends, and we found some interesting details about the origins of both, which Dan incorporated into nice folders to present to his friends.



2044 Upas Street



3410 Alabama Street

The building permit for the Tudor Revival house at 2044 Upas Street was pulled by I.M. Johnson in June 1926. Ingimore Johnson became a prolific builder and advertised as a contractor in San Diego through the 1920s. He was born Ingimundur Jonsson in 1867 in Iceland. He came to Canada in 1904, and then to Eastport, Idaho in 1920 via the Canadian Pacific Railway. He was in San Diego by 1922. He advertised as a contractor in San Diego through the 1920s.



Oct. 21, 1927 Evening Tribune

The building permit for the Spanish Revival house at 3410 Alabama Street was pulled by C.W. Hatfield for the Dennstedt Company on February 24, 1927.

C. W. Hatfield, 3825 Arnold, per Dennstedt company, stucco cottage and garage. 3410 Alabama: \$3500.

February 24, 1927 Evening Tribune

The Dennstedt Company is a city designated Master Builder for its work from 1926 to 1988. The first owner of the house was Ray Markle Shearer and his wife, Lillian Michel Shearer. Ray lived in the house until his death in 1942, and city directories document Lillian continued to live there until at least 1980, which is the latest scanned city directory. Lillian's occupations listed in city directories after her husband's death included aircraft worker with CVAC in 1944-45 and electrician in 1953-54. She was a real "Rosie-the-Riveter"!

2. Shane attended our May meeting and requested historic information about his house at 3666 Arnold Avenue. The City Lot Books showed his house and neighboring houses at 3674, 3662, and 3654 Arnold Avenue were built by the Alberta Security Company during 1922. The Alberta Security Company is a City of San Diego designated Master Builder associated with Martin V. Melhorn, who moved to San Diego in 1911 with his wife, Alberta, and their son, William (who is also recognized as a Master Builder). Martin Melhorn started the Alberta Security Company with his wife in 1913, and named it for her. The first residents in the house were Elisha Gates (1898-1979) and his wife, Eulalia Murray Gates (1901-1991). In the 1920 census, Elisha was a sailor on the USS Thatcher stationed in San Diego. He was a lineman for the Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Company when he married Eulalia. In the October 17, 1926 San Diego Union, Elisha advertised for a "Gentleman to finance me in an invention that will revolutionize the street railway system." But he continued to work for the telephone company, so perhaps nothing came of his invention.

They lived in other houses from 1928 to 1935 and returned to 3666 Arnold Avenue until Elisha died in 1979.

**WANTED—Gentleman to finance me in an invention that will revolutionize the street railway system. E. A. Gates, 3666 Arnold St. Hill. 4554-W.**

October 17, 1926 San Diego Union

3. Mr. T. Thomas, Zoning Investigator, City of San Diego Development Services Department-Building and Land Use Enforcement, responded to our email requesting information about the house at 3565-67 Pershing Avenue in the North Park Dryden Historic District, which has been severely damaged by the owner, who removed the original windows and façade without permits or consultation with the city Historical Resources Board. On May 15, Mr. Thomas told us he will "...conduct a thorough inspection. I will inform you of my next enforcement actions based on my findings." On June 17, 2026, he emailed that "The above location was inspected by me and a Combination Inspector. A notice was drafted for all violations, and it will be mailed to the property owner. All work has been stopped, the owner may do small things inside the home, and on the outside, like landscaping and trash removal, as needed." We have asked Mr. Thomas how we can learn what actions will be taken to repair and restore the house, which is a Contributing historic structure in the district.



4. Member Ed O. said some of his friends have conducted research on their homes, and may want to submit informative articles for our consideration to put on the website. Ed also noted he was just selected to serve for 2 years as Vice President of the Business and Neighborhood Foundation (BANF), which recently became a 501C3 component under North Park Main Street. Ed would like to coordinate with NPHS on conducting a historic walking tour for the North Park Main Street Board of Directors, and we proposed a Wednesday afternoon around 4:00 pm in September, maybe the 9<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup> or 23<sup>rd</sup>. Ed will get back to us if any of those dates work. Ed would also like to coordinate with us on compiling “origin stories,” photos, and business histories of some of the buildings occupied by members of the North Park Main Street Board of Directors to put up in the lobby of the North Park Main Street office. Katherine will work with Ed on that concept.
5. George shared the June 2026 issue of UH News, the monthly newspaper produced by the University Heights Community Association. This month presented the results of their survey of residents, called “Vision for University Heights.” The report concludes with the following requirements to shape future planning priorities:
  - Infrastructure-Led Growth – implement infrastructure improvements before adding more units
  - Parking Integration – reject zero-parking mandates
  - Focus on Real Affordability – shift toward a “Missing Middle” strategy that includes preservation of Naturally Occurring Affordable Housing
  - Height Restrictions – Impose strict 30-foot ceilings on residential side streets and Adams Avenue

The complete survey report is available at [Foundations for the Future: Survey Results Outline Residents' Vision for University Heights — University Heights Community Association](#)

## 9. WEBSITE REDESIGN UPDATE

Comments on our beautiful redesigned website include:

- Member Dan - Just wanted to drop you a note and say how impressed I am with the new web site! I've visited a few times and looked around the different sections. Well done!! I love the whole look, very cohesive and easy to navigate. I like the animations, the placement of the links, it all works really well. I looked at it with a critical eye and honestly I have no notes. It's really, REALLY good, congratulations!
- Board Member Sharon - I finally took the time to look through the whole web site - ABSOLUTELY FABULOUS!!! You all did a wonderful job. I know you are proud of it. So much info, so many pictures, great organization - I could go on and on. Congratulations to all.
- Steve's friend Lyn - Impressive. It's easy to navigate, and the ink colors are pleasing to the eyes (at least these eyes). I like how a line appears beneath a word when the reader places the cursor beneath it--immediately telling the reader that his/her selection has been recognized) Don't recall seeing the logo before (streetcar with bridge overhead)--clever. Given the very large role that the Klicka company had in the building of North Park, I'm surprised I haven't seen that name before....maybe I have and just wasn't paying attention. Unusual name. You're lucky to have younger Board members who are tech savvy. They're a lifeline, I'm sure. San Diego is lucky to have a group such as yours dedicated to preserving so much of North Park's history. Thanks for sharing.
- Member Lu - Very cool. Well done!

- Member Sheryl - **Congratulations!** Building a website is a feat and it's wonderful you had the resources of A7D right here in NP to help get this launched. It looks great at first pass and I'll dig through more carefully when I have some time. I presume they also helped to build things into the site to provide better SEO.
- Member Bob L. - Looks great!
- Member Ed O. - The new website looks amazing! Good job!
- Member Emma - Looks so awesome!!!
- Alana with Save Our Heritage Organisation - Congratulations! I know it represents a lot of work and it turned out fantastic! Great resources too.
- Kristin from University Heights Historical Society - your new website is just wonderful— beautifully designed and full of fascinating history of North Park. Congratulations!
- Jim Tinsky, our previous website designer - Very nicely done sir.

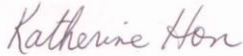
#### **10. PAYMENT FOR NPHS MEMBERSHIP**

As a standing item in the meeting notes, we can accept membership dues and donations via Venmo @ northparkhistory, and if a number code is requested, use 1274.

#### **11. 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 2026**, and we are still providing information to all who contact us with questions about North Park history. Our next meeting will be on **July 16**.

Prepared by



Katherine Hon  
Secretary, North Park Historical Society