

**NORTH PARK HISTORICAL SOCIETY
APRIL 2015 MEETING NOTES**

DATE: APRIL 16, 2015

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 7, 2015.

The next meeting will be **THURSDAY** May 21, 2015 at 6:30 pm in the second floor Fellowship Room at Grace Lutheran Church, 3967 Park Boulevard. To celebrate National Preservation Month and the Centennial of the Exposition, Linda Canada will present the fascinating story of Japanese presence in Balboa Park that started with an ornate tea house built for the 1915 Panama-California Exposition. It is **FREE** and open to all, so please come and bring your friends!

1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

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

Katherine Hon	Hilda Yoder
Steve Hon	Paul Spears
Michael Thornhill	George Franck
Randy Sappenfield	Jody Surowiec

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

Bill Vivian	Sharon Turner
Louise Russell	Robert Bauer

Members Claudia and Turner also joined us. Welcome!

2. AGENDA REVIEW AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Steve announced that the City Historical Resources Board will be giving NPHS a 2015 Excellence in Historic Preservation Award for our preparation of the *Images of America: San Diego's North Park* book published by Arcadia last September. The awards ceremony will be May 28th at 1:00 pm in the Copper Room at the San Diego Civic Concourse, 202 C Street. Please see the flyer on page 5 of these notes for details and the list of all award recipients.

3. MINUTES ACCEPTANCE

The minutes from the March 19, 2015 NPHS meeting 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. In the period from March 20 to April 13, 2015, the following numbers of original North Park history books were sold: 8 to Paras Newsstand, and 1 to Steve and Katherine's neighbor (we are always marketing!). NPHS sold 6 Arcadia books to residents of Grossmont Gardens Assisted Living Facility, several of whom had contributed photos. Arcadia sent NPHS our first royalty check for nearly \$500. The total income in this time period was \$757. Expenses were also income, being a reversal of \$150, which resulted from North Park Main Street waiving our booth fee and sending our check back to us, in exchange for a historical article about the commercial core written by Katherine.

ACTIVITIES PORTION OF MEETING

5. WATER TOWER RELATED ACTIVITIES

The objectives of our activities related to the Water Tower include:

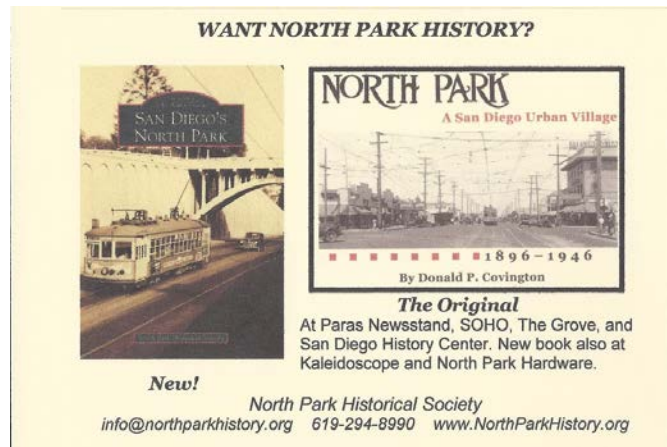
1. Designation as a local civil engineering historical landmark by the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) San Diego Section. **SUCCESS!**

2. Designation as a local significant historic resource by City Historical Resources Board (HRB). **SUCCESS!** At the HRB hearing on April 23, 2015, the HRB unanimously approved designation on consent (meaning without discussion). Another plaque!
3. Educational public art monument installed nearby. **IN PROCESS.** The County Community Enhancement Grant application including a request for funds to have public art consultant Gail Goldman help us has been submitted to the County. The North Park Planning Committee and Council District 3 Todd Gloria's office have provided letters of support to include with the presentation materials to the County Board of Supervisors in June. Steve has also requested a letter of support from El Cajon Boulevard BID.
4. Thorough engineering condition assessment. **IN PROCESS. BIG UPDATE!!** NPHS has learned that the City has included the Water Tower in a report on the condition of their infrastructure and facilities. The report will be public around the end of May. We understand that it includes an assessment of the Water Tower's coating and seismic protection needs. The City engineering staff have told Council District 3 that enterprise funds (money from water bills) can be devoted to seismic protection measures that would ensure the Water Tower does not become a public health and safety liability.
5. Re-coating (or other corrosion protection) within 10-20 years (Water Tower Centennial!) **IN PROCESS.** We understand that the corrosion protection needs for the Water Tower are included in the infrastructure condition report discussed above. Recoating would necessitate removing the existing layers of coatings (which contain lead, so a lead abatement program would have to be conducted as part of that work). But there may be various ways the needed protection can be accomplished as alternatives to recoating. We look forward to release of the condition report.
6. Maintenance as needed for long-term preservation.

6. FESTIVAL OF THE ARTS MAY 16

NPHS will exhibit at the North Park Festival of Arts, which will be Saturday, May 16, from 11:00 am to 6:00 pm. North Park Main Street had an extra table and canopy so they are going to set us up! Katherine showed the consolidated book flyers she made (at right), and the group chose the cream colored paper for them. Our assigned space is D14 at 31st Street on the south side of University Avenue.

The current sign-up sheet is shown on the next page. Thanks to everyone who has committed to help. ***Please consider coming by to be in the booth around 2:00, as sign-ups are light then.***



7. NPHS HISTORY PRESENTATION MAY 21

May is National Preservation Month, so NPHS usually has history presentations at the May meeting. At this year's meeting on May 21, one of our members, Linda Canada, is going to share an excellent presentation she made at the Congress of History conference. She will tell the fascinating story of Japanese presence in Balboa Park that started with an ornate tea house built for the 1915 Panama-California Exposition.

8. OLD HOUSE FAIR JUNE 20

The Old House Fair in South Park will be Saturday, June 20, 2015 from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. The booth fee of \$75.00 and the application form has been sent. Please consider helping at this event too. A sign-up sheet for the Old House Fair will be sent around next month.

**FESTIVAL OF THE ARTS
SATURDAY, MAY 16, 2015
NPHS BOOTH SIGN UP**

TIME PERIOD	NAME
9:30 am to 10:00 am (set up)	1) Steve 2) Sharon 3) Katherine 4) Robert
10:00 am to 12:00 pm	1) Steve 2) Katherine 3)
12:00 pm to 2:00 pm	1) Claudia 2) Turner 3)
2:00 pm to 4:00 pm	1) Hilda 2) 3)
4:00 pm to 6:00 pm	1) Steve 2) Katherine 3) George
6:00 pm to 6:30 pm (take down)	1) Steve 2) Katherine 3) George 4)

9. DRYDEN WALKING TOUR JULY 11

The group set the date of Saturday, July 11 at 9:30 am for a Dryden Historic District tour. Katherine checked with Mission Hills Heritage and there are no conflicts. Save the date if you want to be a helper and experience this popular tour for free.

10. CAR SHOW PLANNING SEPTEMBER 12

The 6th Annual North Park Car Show will be September 12, 10:00 am to 2:00 pm in the same great setting of the parking lot along the tennis courts in Morley Field. As for the last several years, it is our privilege to be hosted by Balboa Tennis Club. The registration flyer has been distributed electronically (**Update:** we already have three car sign-ups!). If you know anyone who would like a digital or paper copy of the registration flyer, please contact Katherine at info@northparkhistory.org. Michael requested 10 paper copies to distribute to his car contacts. (**Update:** These were delivered, and thank you, Michael!)

Vince has agreed to prepare a poster again, which is sure to be wonderful. Thank you, Vince!

We are looking for \$100 sponsors, who will receive a year's membership in NPHS and their logo on the poster and our undying gratitude. Randy is officially our first sponsor to commit - thank you, Randy!

Steve will ask North Park Trophy if they will donate trophies again this year, and everyone agreed they would enjoy having Lauren Prescott with County Supervisor Ron Roberts' office announce the awards again. Steve will contact her.

This year we will have San Diego Police security to enforce the early morning parking lot closure. We have also asked the San Diego Police Historical Association to exhibit as many historical vehicles as they would like to bring.

11. PLANNING ISSUES

George shared the letter he drafted for the developer of the Crazee Burger building, encouraging them to retain the brick facade and other mid-20th century characteristics of the building. The letter was reviewed by attendees at the meeting. George moved and Jody seconded that we send the letter to the developer, Foundation for Form. The motion was approved unanimously. Katherine will put the letter on NPHS letterhead and distribute. **Update:** The letter has been mailed and distributed. See page 6 of these notes.

George has reviewed the revised Historic Element for the Community Plan Update and found it to be much improved. A number of buildings and bungalow courts are listed as potentially significant. Steve said that the childhood North Park homes of world-famous athletes Ted Williams (baseball) and Maureen Connolly (tennis) should be added to the list. Hilda moved and George seconded that a letter to City Planning Department staff be prepared with this suggestion. Kelley Stanco with the HRB and Vicki Granowitz with North Park Planning Committee should be copied on the letter. The motion was approved unanimously. Steve will draft a letter to be sent to the City for Board review. Update: Steve prepared the letter, incorporated input from the NPHS Board, and sent it to City staff. City staff incorporated the suggestion into the Historic Element.

Katherine will send the file with the Historic Element to anyone requesting it. Email info@northparkhistory.org or call 619-294-8990 to ask for it.

Regarding the shoe repair neon sign, which is a designated historical resource and has been removed from the former Chito's Shoe Repair store next to the Beauty Supply Warehouse, the latest news from North Park Main Street is that the building owner had the sign removed to have it fixed, but it will be re-installed in a different place. We hope to see our little elf again soon.



Michael announced that the Model Railroad Museum is showcasing their garden exhibit, which was just completed on the outside of the Railroad Museum (south side). It is free to view this G-scale (1/23 actual size) of the streetcar system in Balboa Park in 1915.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be **THURSDAY** May 21, 2015 at 6:30 pm in the second floor Fellowship Room at Grace Lutheran Church, 3967 Park Boulevard, corner of Park and Lincoln Avenue. Please come to hear a very special (and FREE!) presentation. Rumors are there will be cookies!

Prepared by

Katherine Hon
Secretary, North Park Historical Society

THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO HISTORICAL RESOURCES BOARD
CORDIALLY INVITES YOU TO THE

ANNUAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION AWARDS

— May 28, 2015 at 1:00pm —

THE FOLLOWING RECIPIENTS WILL BE HONORED FOR THEIR CONTRIBUTION TO
THE PRESERVATION OF SAN DIEGO'S HISTORY AND HERITAGE:

ARCHITECTURAL REHABILITATION

George & Kathagene McCormack House, #1106

Robert and Nancy Levine ● Tony Garcia, A²
Studios ● Tony Parker General Builders, Inc.

ARCHITECTURAL REHABILITATION

California Tower, #1

Museum of Man ● Architectural Resources
Group ● A.B. Court & Associates ● LSW
Engineers ● City of San Diego Development
Services Department, Building and Safety Division

ARCHITECTURAL REHABILITATION

Old Police Headquarters

Terramar Retail Centers ● Carrier Johnson ●
Legacy Building Services ● Heritage Architecture
and Planning ● Curry Price Court ● Dodd and
Associates

COMMUNITY HISTORY

San Diego's North Park

North Park Historical Society

COMMUNITY HISTORY

La Playa Trail Association

EDUCATION

Dr. Raymond Brandes

INDIVIDUAL

Larry Pierson

PRESERVATION ADVANCEMENT

Mission Hills Historic District Expansion

Deborah Quillin ● Jill Limber ● Pat Olafson ●
Mary Dilligan ● Rosemary Watson ● Legacy 106 Inc

PRESERVATION ADVANCEMENT

Cathy Winterrowd

The Awards Ceremony Will Be Held At
San Diego Civic Concourse
202 C Street ● San Diego CA 92101
Copper Room



North Park Historical Society
2226 Dwight Street
San Diego, CA 92104
(619) 294-8990

Mike Burnett & Craig Abenila
Foundation for Form
830 25th Street, Studio 200
San Diego, CA 92102

May 7, 2015

Subject: **4201-4211 30th Street, North Park (CRAZEE BURGER Development Project)**

Dear Messrs. Burnett & Abenila:

The North Park Historical Society (NPHS) Board of Directors believes that the brick commercial building on the northeast corner of Howard and 30th Streets is historic. We encourage you to retain the brick façade, incorporating it into your project in much the same way as you did with your project at the former North Park Post Office.

This NPHS position is based on our understanding of the Historic U.S. Highway 80 corridor designation and a review of an historical evaluation on the site recently completed by K.A. Crawford and Maria Burke Lia. While the older buildings were modified when the building complex was completed prior to the end of World War II, the brick siding and curved glass block detailing are certainly within the U.S. Highway 80 period of significance. The use of brick in North Park peaked in the mid-20th century with the construction of the historically-designated Imig Manor (now Lafayette Hotel), as well as two buildings directly across 30th Street: a c.1930 storefront at 2995 El Cajon Blvd. (Thrift Trader) and a 1957 church administration building.

NPHS believes that the current buildings on the site are within the period of significance of the neighborhood and are representative of the building characteristics during the mid-20th century period on The Boulevard. We encourage you to preserve the building façade at 4201-4211 30th Street.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Stephen Hon".

Stephen Hon, President

electronic ccs: Councilmember Todd Gloria, Council District #3
Kelley Stanco, HRB Liaison
Beryl Forman, The Boulevard BID
Ernestine Bonn, University Heights Historical Society
Vicki Granowitz, NPPC
Peter Hill, NPPC
Jaye MacAskill, SOHO