

**NORTH PARK HISTORICAL SOCIETY
JULY 2023 MEETING NOTES**

DATE: JULY 20, 2023

TIME: 6:00 PM

These notes summarize information that was presented at the July 20, 2023 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 July 25, 2023. The following Board members attended: Jody, George, Paul, Bob, Randy, Michael, Claudia, Katherine and Steve. Guest Jeff and members Lynn and Allison also attended. Welcome!

Meetings scheduled for the third **THURSDAYS of the month starting at 6:00 p.m.** in a meeting room at Grace Lutheran Church **WILL BE** open to the public. Our next meeting will be **August 17 at 6:00 pm.** If you are interested in attending this meeting, please email Katherine at khon@honconsultinginc.com or leave a phone message on her land line at 619-294-8990.

1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

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

2. AGENDA REVIEW AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

The June 2023 issue of the Pacific Beach Historical Society newsletter presented historical photos and information about the intersection of Mission and Garnet.

3. MINUTES ACCEPTANCE

The notes for the June 15, 2023 meeting have been posted on the website.

BUSINESS PORTION OF MEETING

4. TREASURER'S REPORT

The financials for this meeting are for June 14 to July 19, 2023 and were sent to Board members on July 19, 2023. In this time period, the total income was \$266.20. Seven members renewed (thank you, Paul, Beth, Linda, Ed O., Barons Market, Thomas B. and Claudia B.), and we received \$83.80 in donations (thank you, Paul and Steve!). We sold two Arcadia books at the North Park Book Fair. Expenses in this time period consisted of \$840.45 for 48 branded ballcaps from AKA, \$1,512.70 for a branded 10x10 canopy with back panel from A7D, and \$0.72 in Square fees for a credit card sale of an Arcadia book at the North Park Book Fair. Total expenses were \$2,353.87.

Jody and Katherine continue to coordinate on the list of members so that our email distributions are to current members only. A number of people have not responded to reminders or paid dues in several years. Jody will notify them: "If you are no longer interested in being a member of NPHS, please let us know and we will remove you from our email distribution list." If that applies to you, please email Katherine at khon@honconsultinginc.com or leave a phone message on her land line at 619-294-8990.

ACTIVITIES PORTION OF MEETING

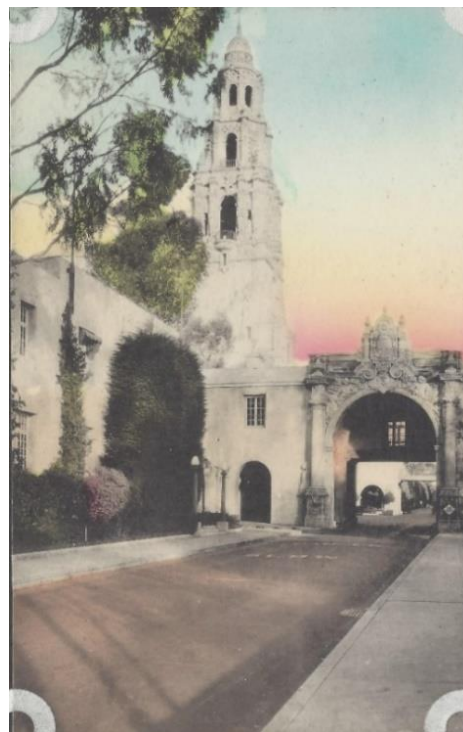
5. WALKING TOURS

Pauly's Addition Walking Tour On Saturday, July 22, George and Claudia each led a group of about 10 people starting at 10:30 am. We asked for donations instead of charging a set price for the tour, and received \$76 in the Water Tower donation "jar." The announcement flyer was approved by nine board members and there were no edits or objections, so the flyer was emailed to NPHS members on July 7 and posted on Facebook on July 9. A total of 16 people made reservations in advance. All but two of those attended and three additional people came that morning, for a total of 17 on the tour. Our branded canopy looked great and we got lots of attention from people who came to Morley Field for other reasons. Three NPHS members renewed at the event and two new member households joined.



6. SLIDE AND PHOTO SCANNING PROJECT

We are in the process of scanning slides and notebooks with photos and notes from the Covington Family. A treasure trove of 140 historic postcards of San Diego and the 1935-36 California Pacific International Exposition at Balboa Park published by the Western Publishing & Novelty Company of Los Angeles, and M. Kashower Co. of Los Angeles have been scanned. Four postcards were presented in last month's meeting notes. Below are two more.



7. SIGNS FOR DRYDEN DISTRICT

There are no street signs marking the North Park Dryden Historic District as there are for other districts like Burlingame. Since 2021, NPHS has been contacting various City staff about putting up demarcation signs for the Dryden District. **Great news!** Council District 3 staff came through for us, and reported that “the Transportation Department are in the process of preparing work orders for 4 signs to mark the North Park Dryden Historic District. They anticipate that the work orders will be completed by the end of August, and installation of the signs will be dependent on Street Division’s workload.”

8. COMMUNITY COORDINATION AND ACTIVITIES

In July 2023, we responded to requests for information (and received interesting information) and participated or arranged to participate in community activities as summarized below.

1. North Park Main Street’s new Executive Director, Mark West, has offered NPHS a table at an occasional Farmer’s Market. Now that we have our branded canopy and our ballcaps, the Board considered various dates and decided to appear on Thursday, October 5. The time would be about 2 pm to 7:30 pm. Jody, Claudia, Bob and Allison were among those who offered to come help Steve and Katherine, so we will have lots of friendly faces at our booth. Katherine verified the date with Jason Noble, Market Manager, who replied, “Yes, that’s great! I’ll make a note but please remind me a couple weeks before. Looking forward to it!”
2. North Park Main Street has requested a commercial walking tour for their Board of Directors. George will look in his files for guide leader notes. Katherine will check her electronic files. George found 3 paper copies of the central area walk originally dated 2009 and updated in 2014, 2016 and 2017. Katherine found an electronic file of the October 2014 guide leader notes and sent those to George.
3. The Old Spanish Trail Centennial Celebration Association will be focusing their Centennial Convention at the Alpine Community Center on November 2 through 5, 2023. Information is available on their website at [Old Spanish Trail Centennial Homepage](#)
4. Verbatim Books held their 2023 North Park Book Fair on Saturday, June 24. Katherine hosted a table answering questions about North Park history, the most popular of which was “Why don’t our streets line up?” She sold two Arcadia books for NPHS. The new Square reader worked well. She also sold three of her own North Park history book “History Snippets: PastMatters Stories of North Park.”
5. NPHS sent a letter of support for the designation of NPHS member Tera’s house on 30th Street, which was built by Master Builder Alexander Schreiber. Her designation was approved by the city’s Historical Resources Board on June 22. Congratulations, Tera!
6. Barry Hager with Mission Hills Heritage (MHH) asked for support from NPHS. He explained: *“We are reaching out to you to request that your organization support an effort by Mission Hills Heritage (MHH) to amend the HRB rules to provide a path for National Register and California Register Historical Districts to be listed on the local San Diego Register. As you may know, there is a growing backlog of potential historical districts that have been identified by the City of San Diego that have not been processed*



due to lack of staff or for other reasons. To preserve these districts, MHH and other groups have decided to nominate historic districts to the National or California Registers first, then seek designation locally. However, city staff will not list these districts on the local San Diego Register until certain HRB rules are amended to provide for a clear, simplified procedure for processing National and California historic districts. Consequently, without local listing, none of the individual resources within National Register or California Register Historical Districts are eligible for the Mills Act. To aid city staff in the effort to amend its rules and expedite the process, MHH has prepared the proposed amendments to the appropriate rules as explained in the attached letter. However, we also believe broad community support is integral to getting the HRB and city staff to take action. For this reason, we hope that your organization will support this effort by signing and returning the Statement of Support that is attached to this email.”

The Statement of Support reads as follows: “The below signatories fully support the request of Mission Hills Heritage that the City of San Diego Historical Resources Board (HRB) expeditiously amend the HRB Procedures and HRB Policy 4.1 to allow for the timely processing of local designation for historical districts that have been listed in, or have been recognized as eligible for, the National Register of Historic Places or the State Register of Historical Resources. In recognition of the fact that the City is far behind schedule in processing even a limited number of proposed historic districts in certain communities and has no workplan in place to process proposed districts in many other communities, we believe that a pathway should exist for members of the public and organizations to nominate historic districts to the National or California Register, then pursue local designation, in order to unlock the benefits of historic districts and incentivize historic preservation in the City of San Diego. Our proposal to adopt these amendments is made in the spirit of assisting city staff by reducing the growing backlog of potential districts identified citywide that have not yet been processed.”

The NPHS Board reviewed materials sent by MHH via email in advance of the meeting. George moved and Bob and Jody both seconded that Steve sign the Statement of Support for MHH, and the motion was approved unanimously by all attending Board members. Katherine emailed the signed Statement of Support to MHH, and Barry replied, “Thank you so much for this! We will let you know if we are successful with the HRB and City of SD.”

- On Facebook, a commenter asked what was on the block of the current Smart & Final before there was a grocery store and parking lot. Research shows that by 1925 there were about 15 houses on the block from the east side of Mississippi Street to the west side of Louisiana Street between the south side of University Avenue and the north side of Wightman Street. The houses all were eliminated in 1963 and the new grocery store, a Food Basket, opened on November 14, 1963. See the news clipping from the San Diego Union on right.



8. Rediscovering San Diego” has invited us to present a lecture about “North Park Now and Then” on October 10 and October 12 in a classroom.

9. NEW CANOPY WITH LOGO

We coordinated with local North Park design company A7D for a branded 10-foot by 10-foot canopy with a detachable backwall. We picked up the new canopy on July 7, and it looked great at its inaugural appearance in Morley Field where we gathered for the Pauly’s Addition walking tour on July 22.

10. BALLCAPS WITH LOGO

Steve and Katherine met with AKA, the North Park printing company who made our tote bags, about making branded ballcaps for NPHS. Upon approval of the Board, Steve placed the order for 48 ballcaps on June 16, and picked up the ballcaps on July 14. Via email discussion, the Board approved providing one free ballcap per household current on member dues. Ballcaps will be offered for sale at \$20 plus tax.



At the July 20 meeting, Allison, Steve, Randy, Paul, Michael, Lynn and Bob (who generously paid for it) chose navy ballcaps; Katherine and Claudia chose khaki ballcaps; Allison bought one khaki ballcap; and George, Jody and Turner chose black “retro trucker” ballcaps. At the July 22 Pauly’s Addition walking tour, current members Tera, Bleu, Claudia B., Eva, and Christine chose navy ballcaps, and Thomas B., Donna, and new member Mr. Schretzmann chose khaki. We also sold a khaki ballcap to one non-member (thank you, Alvin!). As of July 23, we have distributed all 12 of the navy ballcaps and 7 khaki ballcaps. We have 5 khaki and 21 black ballcaps left.

11. 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 the City’s completion of construction of improvements to the water system going on at the site.

12. FUTURE MEETINGS

After three years, we have re-started public meetings, which will be scheduled for the third THURSDAYS of the month starting at 6:00 p.m. in a meeting room at Grace Lutheran Church. **Our next meeting will be on August 17.** Please email Katherine at khon@honconsultinginc.com or leave a voice message on her land line at 619-294-8990 if you want to attend.

Prepared by

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Katherine Hon".

Katherine Hon
Secretary, North Park Historical Society