

**NORTH PARK HISTORICAL SOCIETY
JULY 2008 MEETING NOTES***

DATE: July 22, 2008

TIME: 6:15 PM

The next meeting will be on **THURSDAY August 21, 2008 at 7:00 pm, at the Masonic Lodge, 3795 Utah Street (Utah and North Park Way)**

NOTE: To help members remember their commitments; action items are noted in *bold italics* in these meeting notes. *Contains updated information as of date of preparation (August 13, 2008)

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
Stephen Hon
Katherine Hon
Ed Orozco
Jody Surowiec
Michael Thornhill
Sharon Turner
Bill Vivian
Hilda Yoder

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

Vince Rivera
Elizabeth Studebaker
Paul Wade

We also welcomed Randy Sappenfield.

2. AGENDA REVIEW AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Steve reviewed the agenda; there were no changes suggested. *Steve will develop the next agenda. Katherine will distribute it to the committee and to Beth for posting on the NPCA website.*

3. MINUTES ACCEPTANCE

The minutes from the June 24, 2008 NPHS meeting were approved. Draft minutes of our meetings will continue to be sent to the NPCA webmaster for posting on the NPCA website as soon as they are prepared. The minutes will be posted on the NPHS website after they are approved at the subsequent NPHS meeting.

BUSINESS PORTION OF MEETING

4. DISCUSSION AND VOTE ON BY-LAWS

Katherine summarized the incorporation of Board member comments into the current version of the by-laws. Hilda moved and Michael seconded approval of the by-laws. The motion passed unanimously. All Board members present signed the by-laws. *Update: The three absent Board members signed the by-laws the following week. A copy of the signed by-laws was included with the 501c3 application to the IRS.*

5. TAX-EXEMPT PAPERWORK FILING

The 501c3 application and explanatory attachment text have been reviewed by the Board. The few comments received have been incorporated. Sharon moved and Hilda seconded to accept the 501c3 application and send it to the IRS. The motion passed unanimously. Our goal is to send the paperwork to the IRS in August. Steve noted he has a list of attorneys who may be able to advise us on non-profit issues if we have any problems with the application. *Update: Steve mailed the package via Certified mail to the IRS (located in Covington, Kentucky, interestingly enough) on August 4. The package was stamped received on August 6, 2008.*

5a. FINANCIALS

Katherine distributed copies of the QuickBooks profit & loss statement and balance sheet for the month. We discussed the items categorized. The report was acceptable to the Board. When the check to the US Treasury for the 501c3 application and the check to the State have cleared, we will change the bank account from an account for an unincorporated association to an account for a corporation. (We did not have approved Articles of Incorporation or an EIN number when we set up the bank account initially).

6. MEETING TIME AND PLACE

The Masonic Lodge has approved our request to meet in their 2nd floor conference room at no cost! The President of the Masonic Lodge will send a letter accepting their sponsorship of our meetings for 2 hours each month. They will also consider allowing us to use the ballroom for an event at \$90 per hour. The Lodge manager has to be onsite when we have our monthly meetings, so we need to change our day and time to accommodate his schedule. After the group discussed possible days and times, George moved and Michael seconded that we change our meeting day to the third Thursday of each month, and the time to 7:00 pm. The motion passed unanimously. Our next meeting will be August 21 at 7:00 pm at the Masonic Lodge!

This closes the business portion of the meeting.

ACTIVITIES PORTION OF MEETING

7. BOOK UPDATE

Sunbelt ordered 40 more books for their supply. Payment for these books will occur when the books are actually sold (plus a 90-day delay for the Sunbelt sales).

8. WALKING TOURS

The residential walking tour of the Dryden District will be August 23, at 9:00 am. The price is \$10 per person, which includes a copy of the guidebook. If we get more than 15 people to sign up, we will have another guide ready to take the next group of 15. We reviewed the flyer and made some edits. Liz is looking into a waiver and will send Katherine the form they use for clean-ups. ***Katherine will contact Jack Illes and ask if we can set up a table in his driveway*** for registering people (his house is at the Portal where we will meet). Hilda and Ed can come to help. We will have a weeding party at the Portal on August 16 if the area looks like it needs sprucing up. ***Steve will send an e-mail if we need to weed.***

Update: Bill hit a snag in preparing for being the guide, so Michael will be the primary guide. George will be our back-up guide. Liz sent the waiver form, and Katherine modified it for our use. The Board reviewed it via e-mail. Jody suggested a slightly larger font size, and Katherine made this change. Jody and Katherine discussed the walking tour flyer conditions over the phone, and we specified that cancellations would be allowed up to 5 days in advance of the tour. Beth made a small file size pdf version of the flyer that is easy to send around via e-mail, and she posted the flyer on the NPCA website (thank you, Beth!). Steve posted the flyer on our www.northparkhistory.org website. The University Heights folks did an announcement in their e-news (thank you, Ernie and Kristin!). Jack agreed it is fine for us to set up in his driveway (thank you, Jack!) As of August 13 we have 4 people signed up (check in hand) and some interest expressed via e-mail. Make sure you tell your friends and send the flyer around to your own contacts so we get a good turn-out.

The commercial tour is set for September 13 at 8:30 am. Michael is the primary guide for this tour. On July 30, Steve, George, Michael, and Patrick will do a dry-run to scope out where it is best to stop to minimize traffic noise issues. The commercial tour will start in the lobby of the North Park Theatre. *Update: The group held a productive dry run.*

9. ONCE UPON A TIME ARTICLE

Bill's article about the Richardson house and barn at 3425 31st Street has been posted on our website www.northparkhistory.org. The NPCA electronic newsletter came out. There were a few errors in the article in that some words had missing letters. We don't know what happened. It appears that NPCA will not be producing any kind of newsletter in the future, so we will need to discuss what to do. Bill got his article accepted on EzineArticles.com, an electronic magazine. Nice work, Bill!

10. HISTORIC DISTRICTS DISCUSSION - MILLS ACT

The HRB staff will report on proposed changes at a meeting of the HRB on July 24 at 4:00 pm in the City Council Committee Room, 202 C Street. The meeting materials were posted on the City's website July 17. We discussed the proposed changes, some of which are OK, and some of which are not. We support changes in the fees and requirements for tailored Mills Act agreements. But we do not support the annual monetary limit on Mills Act applications accepted, or the narrow eligibility requirements. George made this motion for the NPBS position, and Ed seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

George, Steve and Katherine will attend the HRB meeting and speak on behalf of the NPHS. *Update: George, Steve and Katherine attended and provided testimony on the value of the Mills Act program, particularly in regards to our observations in conducting public outreach as part of the Dryden District Historical District application.*

Regarding the Dryden District application, the City HRB staff have conducted a preliminary review. They want to narrow the time period of significance, and need more back up on Edward Bryans to recognize him as a Master Builder. We need to plan how to communicate City staff comments to the property owners in the proposed District, and coordinate with City staff to get them the information they need so the district application can proceed.

11. CALENDAR PROJECT

This is an idea that Paul has about doing a calendar through an internet business called CafePress. Katherine introduced the idea, but Paul will have to fill in the details at the next meeting.

12. NPHS T SHIRTS

Bill showed the shirts that he had produced at ROK Enterprises on University Avenue, in the heart of North Park. The shirts look great! They have the logo in white on the back. Bill showed us the various colors. We could have stitching on the pocket area that says "Board Member" or something similar. Bill already paid for the art and set up, so if we did an order it would just be the price of the shirts. Bill will get an order form and have prices and colors at the next meeting. A minimum order is 12 (just right for our Board members!).

13. FUTURE PROJECTS

George said potential walking tours include University and Hamilton area, where there are some nice bungalow courts; the 30th and Upas area, including the Lynhurst Building; and El Cajon Boulevard from the Lafayette to the SDG&E substation on the east side of I-805.

Steve said the County Supervisors have discretionary funds to make small grants for worthwhile activities. The San Diego Police Historical Association received \$14,000 for museum improvements, and the San Diego Chinese Historical Museum received \$20,000. Once we have our 501c3 status, we may want to pursue grant funds for some projects.

It appears that NPCA is not going to do Renaissance Awards in the future. Jody and Sharon will report back on the decision at the NPCA Board meeting. If we want to pursue doing an historical award, then we need to start planning. Ed, Steve and George are interested in this.

14. OTHER BUSINESS

Regarding the membership form, the group agreed we are ready to be open for memberships. Katherine refined the form to look nicer, be more organized, and present

more information about what we do. *Update: We tested the form on the Board members. It seems to be working well. Katherine will send a pdf to Beth for posting an announcement on the NPCA website.*

Hilda noted that the new Executive Director of the San Diego Historical Society is interested in connecting with local groups.

15. NEXT MEETING

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