

**NORTH PARK COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION  
HISTORY COMMITTEE  
OCTOBER MEETING NOTES**

**DATE:**       **October 20, 2005**

**TIME:**       **6 PM**

**GENERAL REMARKS**

Thanks to Michael for letting us invade his charming home, and to his wife Janie for delicious munchies, including awesome deviled eggs. Sorry you didn't get any, Michael!

Remember that action items are noted in the text of these meeting notes in bold italics to help us remember our commitments.

**1.       WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Steve welcomed the attendees. We are happy to see Ginger again.

**2.       AGENDA REVIEW AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Steve reviewed the agenda. *Steve will develop the next agenda and e-mail it to Beth for posting on the Website. Katherine will distribute it to the committee.*

**3.       MINUTES ACCEPTANCE**

The minutes from the September 2005 meeting were accepted with no comments. *Steve will review the draft minutes from this meeting and e-mail them to Beth when approved. Katherine will distribute the minutes to the committee when they are approved.*

**4.       DRYDEN DISTRICT**

Daniel Marks has finished the draft state forms (DPR forms) for about 30 of the homes in the potential district. He has also finished incomplete drafts of the rest of the forms, which Katherine, Rob, and others will work on to complete. Ginger is interested in helping. We will meet with Daniel in the next few weeks.

George talked with Diane Kane at the City today. Diane has not been able to look at the information submitted by Mission Hills 14 months ago. There are several other districts in other areas that were rejected by the Historic Sites Board, and Diane has to do some work on those too. Daniel doesn't think that Tom Shess has the petition. We need to look at the Assessor Records for the individual houses and need to have permission to do so.

Ruth gave George information on historic resources in Los Angeles.

**6.       BOOK PROJECT**

No report. Karon has been busy with her house being sold. The materials have been packed.

**7.       ONCE UPON A TIME**

Katherine and Ruth interviewed Dale Pyle, Michael's 95-year old friend who lives on 28<sup>th</sup> Street and helped start the Balboa Park Railroad Museum. Katherine plans to do an article about him. Ruth suggested checking an article she wrote about homes along 28<sup>th</sup> Street to supplement the article about Dale Pyle. Steve prepared the last article, which was a re-issuing of Lorraine Halac's past article on the North Park Theater. Katherine was asked to submit information about Harry Kelly, her subject of two Once Upon a Time articles, for the San Diego Police Museum website on the "top cops" page.

Steve mentioned the idea from Katie Hoderith about "History Detectives" for questions and for answers. *Steve will put an article in the newsletter soliciting questions.* If we don't hear from anyone, Joan suggested we submit our own questions.

## **8. ORAL HISTORIES**

Ruth and Katherine interviewed Dale Pyle, who is 95 years old and has lived on 28<sup>th</sup> Street since the 1960's. This was done Sept. 28. However, the tape recorder did not pick up Dale's soft voice very well. Rob and Ruth interviewed Bertha Klann, and this tape came out fine. Rob can give the tape with Bertha's interview to Dennis Sharp at the San Diego Historical Society. Rob will get Bertha to sign a release form.

## **9. FOLLOW UP OF INVENTORY OF HISTORICAL BUILDINGS WALKING TOUR**

Steve met with the new director of Main Street, Jeannie Tidy. She is really interested in a project of looking at buildings in North Park Business District, and seeing if it can be designated as a Federal Historical District, with an emphasis on the 50's, when North Park was a center for shopping. The application would have to be made through the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO), who is Wayne Donaldson, and if recommended, could go to federal. Diane Kane thinks the area may lack some of the integrity that may be needed. Some of the buildings may have been modified too much. The National District would not require design guidelines, which the local designation would require. The F Street Bookstore has removed all its Modern Streamline features. The same thing happened to the awning store. Also the Arizona Street shopping center Spanish Revival features have been removed. Roger noted there was a lot of conversion and demolition in the 50's.

Rob noted that they need a grant to produce the plaques for the buildings. Rob is going to investigate with the San Diego Foundation, but their minimum is \$25,000 for a grant. One of the first steps is professional photos of the buildings. Ginger did an informal estimate for doing the photographs, and will meet with Jeannie at Main Street.

Next we need to do some research on the buildings, doing research in the City directories. We could go as a group to the San Diego Historical Society Research Library on a Saturday morning. George has 12 free passes to the Historical Society Library. Or we could meet at the California Room in the downtown library.

There are 14 buildings on our list. Ruth, Paul, Kristine, Steve and Katherine are all interested in doing the research. ***Ruth, Katherine and Steve will do the initial research on historical owners on the list.***

#### **9. WEBSITE**

The NPCA Board has reimbursed Paul for the domain names. We can start developing our own individual web site for the History Committee. What would we want to put on our website? Some ideas are: map of Dryden District with information linked to houses, collections of e-mailed memories, Once Upon a Time articles, the brochures on the CD, the Centennial booklet, walking tours, photos, updates on our projects. ***Ruth will bring the CD to the next meeting. Katherine will bring the Centennial brochure.***

#### **10. MEETING LOCATION**

With Rob at Main Street, it may be worthwhile to pursue meeting there again. If we started at 6 pm, we would not be interrupted by the barricades. We can't have wine there. We will officially move our meeting to 6 pm but stick with Thursdays. Rob suggested parking on Illinois to Lincoln.

#### **11. NEW BUSINESS**

Karon has some other photos. George said Main Street was delighted to get the photos she gave them.