

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

DATE: **October 16, 2008**

TIME: **7:00 PM**

The next meeting will be on **THURSDAY November 20, 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 (November 3, 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 (Vice President and Acting Secretary)
Vince Rivera
Jody Surowiec
Michael Thornhill
Bill Vivian
Paul Wade

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

Steve Hon
Katherine Hon
Ed Orozco
Elizabeth Studebaker
Sharon Turner
Hilda Yoder

NPHS member Randy Sappenfield also participated in the meeting.

2. AGENDA REVIEW AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

The October Agenda was accepted as proposed. ***Steve will develop the next agenda. Katherine will distribute it to the committee and to Beth for posting on the NPCA web site.***

3. MINUTES ACCEPTANCE

No changes to the draft minutes from the September 18, 2008 NPHS Meeting were suggested. Draft minutes of our meetings will continue to be sent to the NPCA webmaster for posting on the NPCA web site as soon as they are prepared. The minutes will be posted on the NPHS web site after they are approved at the subsequent NPHS meeting.

BUSINESS PORTION OF MEETING

4. TREASURER'S REPORT

The written Treasurer's Report for October 2008 had been e-mailed to Board Members and was available at the meeting for review. There was no discussion or action.

5. IRS 501C3 APPLICATION SUBMITTAL

Update: The 501(c)(3) application has been approved by the IRS, per a letter dated October 14, 2008. Our effective date of exemption is May 7, 2008, which is the date of our incorporation. The NPHS is officially exempt from Federal income tax under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, and contributions to our organization are deductible under section 170 of the Code. The NPHS is also qualified to receive tax deductible bequests and gifts, etc. This is an important milestone for our organization! Also, having the Federal tax exemption letter enabled us to use the simple California tax exemption request form 3500A. Katherine sent this form to the California Franchise Tax Board on October 25, 2008.

This closes the business portion of the meeting.

ACTIVITIES PORTION OF MEETING

6. CALENDAR PROJECT

Paul presented the revised calendar and noted that he had updated the web site to provide access to order the Calendar. Work on next year's edition will begin in February 2009, but members were encouraged to take fall and winter seasonal pictures of their neighborhoods.

Paul will research Press Release Formats, select one and write a press release for the 2009 NPHS Calendar. *Katherine was asked to follow up on placing an ad for the calendar in the North Park News. Katherine wants to coordinate with Liz, as Liz has better connections to the newspaper.*

7. WALKING TOURS

The 09/27/08 Commercial District Tour was well received, but evaluation sheets were not requested of participants. *Members asked Liz and Steve to propose dates for the next two tours for discussion at the November meeting.*

9. ONCE UPON A TIME ARTICLE

No one at the meeting was working on an article.

10. WONDERLAND PRODUCTION

Potential filming in the North Park Community was to have started in October. Ed was asked to follow up with Noah of KPBS on future filming in North Park. Several members said that there was a recent program on KPBS about the Burlingame neighborhood. See the Wonderland web site at www.wonderlandsd.com

Update: Ed, Liz, Steve and Katherine prepared a binder for Noah with information about businesses and historical sites. Ed, Steve and Katherine gave Noah the binder, a copy of the North Park history book, and the commercial and residential tour guidebooks at a meeting on October 24, 2008 at Ed's house. Our "discussions" were filmed, including looking at pictures in the book with Noah. We will see if we end up on the cutting room floor! Noah had already filmed at the Velodrome and Café Calabria, and was going to film at the Linkery. The show on North Park is planned to air later in November. Watch KPBS for it! Noah said that he will make DVDs of the show available to us for \$10, and that historical societies he has worked with typically sell the DVDs for \$20. The perfect price!

11. HISTORIC DISTRICTS DISCUSSION - MILLS ACT

George, Steve and Katherine met with City staff on September 30, 2008. Staff support the NPHS application but they want to see more documentation about the historical significance of this particular neighborhood, because the boundaries do not correspond neatly with a single historical subdivision, or "tract" (Pershing Avenue and the west side of 28th Street are in the Park Villas tract, and the east side of 28th Street is in the West End tract). Also, the City wants a justification for Edward F. Bryans to be considered a master builder. George and Katherine will work with Daniel Marks to respond to staff requests for additional information. City staff want to send a recommendation to the Historical Resources Board before June, 2009. This means we need to submit the additional information in December.

12. REVIEWS FOR THE HRB

George has been reviewing applications for permits to demolish or alter buildings more than 45 years old to help City staff in determining if full historical reports should be conducted. The volume of permits has increased in the last month, but with no demolitions proposed and with most projects focusing on single-family renovation and expansion.

13. UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS EVENT

George and Ed sold one book and eight walking tour brochures. They handed out about 18 cards containing information on ordering the calendar; no one took an NPHS application.

14. NPHS T SHIRTS

Shirts were distributed to members who had not already received theirs. The shirts look great! Thanks again to Bill for his initiative on this project!

15. TOYLAND PARADE

Bill requested an estimate for the side panel for his vehicle that will be used by NPHS participants in the parade. The cost needs to be approved by the Board at the November meeting. Members interested in participating in the parade should attend the November NPHS meeting. *Liz and Steve should ensure that the NPHS application has been submitted and approved.*

Jody encouraged attendance at the October 24th Masquerade Ball, a fund-raising event for the Toyland Parade. A second Parade fundraising event at Paesanos Restaurant will be scheduled soon.

16. OTHER BUSINESS

Four additional items were discussed:

- a. **Web Site** – Paul has changed or updated several elements of the web site, including the addition of the calendar ordering process. He will ask Katherine to provide:
 - i. PDF Files of the current Dryden District and Central Area Walking Tour Brochures to replace the current, outdated versions. The Board needs to discuss this. Maybe putting a few pages on the web site would be best, as we still want to sell the guidebooks (and the commercial guidebook is actually coordinated by North Park Main Street).
 - ii. a list of Board of Directors to put on the web site
- b. **ACTION:** a NPHS **Christmas/Holiday Party** was scheduled for Thursday, December 18, 2008 (Vivian/Wade/unanimous). NOTE: Following the meeting Paul confirmed his invitation to have this Potluck-event at his house (3619 Utah Street).
- c. **“Cocktails at Historic Places”** Paul will e-mail Members about this monthly event.

17. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be on **THURSDAY** November 20, 2008 at 7:00 pm, at the Masonic Lodge, 2nd floor conference room, 3795 Utah Street. The manager has asked that we make sure to be finished with our meeting before 8:30.