Nest Pasadena Nents' Association of Est. 1962



Photograph Courtesy of Pasadena Historical Society

March 1979

WEST PASADENA RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Wednesday, 25 April 1979 7:30 P.M.

La Casita del Arroyo 177 So. Arroyo Blvd., Pasadena, California

GUEST SPEAKER: DONALD F. MC INTYRE
City Manager, City of Pasadena

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NEWSLETTER EDITORS

Annette Serrurier

Claire Bogaard

A NOTE FROM THE EDITORS

The purpose of this newsletter is to inform the residents of the West Pasadena and San Rafael areas about issues of possible concern. It is the hope of W.P.R.A. to publish this newsletter four times a year. The editors wish to keep the newsletter informal and welcome any news articles, suggestions, comments, and help. Do call us.

Annette Serrurier (799-2556) Claire Bogaard (799-9819)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

At the Board of Direcors Meeting of January 25, 1979, Mrs. Walter Berry (Bonnie) resigned from the West Pasadena Residents' Association Board of Directors because she has moved to another district in Pasadena. She has been replaced by Mrs. Margaret McNutt. Mr. Gerald Secundy has also been appointed to the Board of W.P.R.A. to fill a vacancy.

MARCH IS W.P.R.A. MEMBERSHIP DRIVE MONTH

Attached to this newsletter is a return envelope addressed to:

West Pasadena Residents' Association Post Office Box 2252 Pasadena, CA 91105

Please fill in the necessary information on the return envelope and mail to W.P.R.A. Dues will remain at \$5 for a family membership and \$25 for a contributing membership. W.P.R.A. conducts a Membership Drive every few years. Money collected is used to cover the cost of mailings and the printing of the newsletters. The Membership Drive also serves as an opportunity for W.P.R.A. to update the membership lists.

WHERE TO CALL IN CITY HALL IN CASE OF.

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1.	Abandoned or junk vehicles	577-4633
2.	Vehicles parked on lawns or vacant lots	577-4149
3.	Trash and debris on lawns or vacant lots	577-4087
4.	Poorly maintained houses and yards	577-4633
5.	Overcrowded dwellings	577-4633
6.	Boarded-up houses	577-4633
7.	Businesses operated in a home	577-4149
8.	Too many garage or yard sales	577-4152
9.	Health problems in a home or yard	577-4390
10.	Animal problems	792-7151
11.	Overgrown street trees or vegetation	577-4158
	Cracked sidewalks	577-4158
13.	Streets that need sweeping	577-4158
14.	Problems with garbage pick-up	577-4158
15.	Errors on utility bills	577-2440
16.	Landlord/tenant disagreements	794-7194
17.	Need for a low-interest home loan	796-1813
18.	Need for assistance in Spanish	792-3148
	POLICE DEPARTMENT	577-4241
20.	FIRE DEPT. and PARAMEDICS	792-4161

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Neighborhood Watch Program: We are all concerned with crime, particularly burglaries, in our neighborhood. It may be of some comfort to you to know that the Pasadena Police Department is also alarmed and has an on-going program to help reduce our homes as potential burglary targets. Their methods consist of (1) improving physical security of each house, (2) increasing the probability that the criminal will be caught by encouraging citizens to be suspicious of unusual circumstances in their neighborhood, (3) improving the lines of communication between the home owner and the police and (4) increasing the likelihood that stolen property will be returned by proper identification of items.

Both the Police Department and W.P.R.A. encourage each neighborhood block to contact Agent Curtis, who will help you formalize a program for your specific area. His telephone number is 577-4550.

Post Office Box: W.P.R.A. now has a permanent address. If you have compliments, complaints or comments or just want to know the answer to something, please write to the West Pasadena Residents' Association, P.O. Box 2252, Pasadena, CA 91105. This is the Fair Oaks station. Also please inform us if your address changes!

OLD BUSINESS

On Tuesday, November 14, 1978, neighbors on the east side of Orange Grove on Del Mar, Palmetto Drive, Bellevue Street, Gordon Terrace and Waverly met with the Board of Directors to discuss zoning problems of that area. At that public hearing, a directive was issued which calls for meetings of City staff with the neighbors to discuss a possible roll-back of zoning on some of the streets which would limit in the future the development of townhouses and condominiums. Dick Miura will be overseeing that project and can be reached at the City Hall at 577-4159.

The historic LA SOLANA INN at 150 South Grand Avenue in Pasadena continues to be in the news. The latest proposal for the property has come from Brent Bergh & Associates, a South Pasadena firm, hoping to develop "townhouses" on the site. Originally, Mr. Bergh requested a variance to build four additional buildings or a total of eight residential townhouses. Mr. Bergh described his project to Board Members and neighbors of the West Pasadena Residents Association in late January. The neighbors in the project area expressed concerns about the density of the units proposed. The Board of West Pasadena Residents Association voted to continue support for the present zoning of the lot which is R-1 12,000. This would not allow Mr. Bergh's proposed development. At the Zoning Committee hearing of the City of Pasadena in early February, Mr. Bergh requested a continuance so that he could spend time modifying his plans for the La Solana Inn property. At the March Zoning Committee hearing, Mr. Bergh's variance request was denied. The fate of the La Solana Inn property remains unknown.

The VISTA DEL ARROYO site, recently declared eligible for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places, continues as an important City issue. Judge Richard Chambers is moving forward with his bid to use the main Vista hotel building for the site of a United States Court of Appeals. Judge Chambers is well known for his fine restoration of historic buildings in San Francisco and Portland. At the General Meeting of the West Pasadena Residents Association in late

October, the members present approved "in concept" the use of the main building by the U.S. Court of Appeals. Meanwhile, Judge Chambers is working with a local firm, Jacobs Architects, to plan the restoration of the building and grounds, and also the renovation of the hotel interior.

A group of citizens representing non-profit organizations in the Pasadena area has been meeting to discuss the possibility of using the bungalows for offices for the non-profit groups. Representatives of W.P.R.A. have been attending these meetings. The W.P.R.A. Vista del Arroyo Committee chaired by George McQuilkin is keeping a close watch on these developments. Should anyone wish more information or wish to express an opinion, drop a note or call George at 793-7733.

THE ARROYO SECO

The Planning Commission and the Board of Directors of the City of Pasadena have established an "Interim Arroyo Seco District" in the general area bounded by Oak Grove Drive (Devil's Gate Dam), Linda Vista Avenue, San Rafael Avenue, south city limit and Arroyo Boulevard. The interim study district will continue for approximately six months. The study is being coordinated by Donald Nollar of the City Community Development Department. Members of the Planning Com-Parks and Recreation Commission. Cultural Heritage, the City Attorney's Office, and other staff members will be cooperating in this study. The objective will be to establish land use controls and to consider the organizational structure of planning and maintenance. A review will be made of all the transactions under which the Arroyo land was acquired over the years and the legal restrictions which limit the City's use of this land. The City Attorney indicates that hundreds of separate parcels are involved. Public hearings will be held in the process of completing this study. W.P.R.A. will be following this review process and encourages its members to watch for notices of public hearings which members may wish to attend.

Plantings of Nevin's barbarry, mountain mahogany, gooseberries and beds of native wild flowers are the first signs of the Lower Arroyo Seco Restoration Project. Scientists from Cal State L.A. and local residents are joining in a long range effort to return native plants and vegetation to the Lower Arroyo Seco.

If you are interested in going on interpretative walks, helping out with the plantings, or simply contributing money (the work is presently being financed solely by contributions), call David Jones at 681-7946.

ARROYO WALK

Local history, native plants and Indian sites will all be part of a walk in the Arroyo on Saturday, March 31, 1979 and will be co-sponsored by W.P.R.A. and Friends of the Arroyo. The intent is to learn more about the Arroyo and to see as much of it as possible.

The walk will start at 10:30 a.m. at the parking area on Arroyo Boulevard just south of the San Rafael Bridge. There will be a break for picnic lunch in the Brookside Park area near the plunge from 12:00 until 12:30 p.m. After lunch, the groups will proceed to Devil's Gate Dam. Children are invited. Be sure to bring a picnic lunch. Return transportation will be provided. If you are not prepared to attempt the entire walk, join for either the morning or afternoon sessions.

For more information, Call: George McQuilkin at 793-7733 or Claire Bogaard at 799-9819.

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