

## Victory Heights Community Council Meeting Minutes

June 18, 2019

Vicki Stiles from the Shoreline Historical Museum (yes, it's a thing, check it out at [www.shorelinehistoricalmuseum.com](http://www.shorelinehistoricalmuseum.com)) gave a nearly one hour presentation about the history of Victory Heights going back to the mid-19<sup>th</sup> Century. Why does Shoreline know so much about us? Despite only incorporating in the 1990s, originally "Greater Shoreline" encompassed all the north end of King County north of the Seattle city limits (which stopped at NE 85<sup>th</sup> Street until the 1940s). A survey map from 1859 shows how the area was mainly bogs and trees, with a "Military Road" that ran along what is now Northgate Way on its way up to Bothell, but mostly was a dirt path. In the early 20<sup>th</sup> Century an actual "highway" was built that follows Lake City Way but then went east at NE 94<sup>th</sup> Street and down what is now Ravenna Avenue NE. It became a real state highway after WWI and follows its present-day route and was named "Victory Way" to reflect the patriotic times. A real estate developer named Goodwin decided to sell land in the bluff overlooking the highway, and called it Victory Heights. Lots were subdivided and sold as either convenient locations, or as potential farms to go into then boom-or-bust chicken business. One of the original structures still standing is a model home, a Spanish-style house that is now at the top of 24<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE just before it intersects Northgate Way. Originally all the streets had colorful names but the fire department soon put an end to that, insisting on uniform street numbers so buildings could be easily located. Aerial photos show the neighborhood developing, with a massive change from just a few houses in a 1936 to being nearly completely built out by 1946. We also saw photos of the LaVilla Dairy on Fischer Place which goes back to the 1920s and the infamous Jolly Roger Restaurant down Lake City Way (which NEVER was a speakeasy--it opened in 1934 after Prohibition had ended!).

Other bits of business discussed included more homeless encampments in the creek on 17<sup>th</sup> Avenue south of 104<sup>th</sup> Street, and a massive build-out of tents next to the 15<sup>th</sup> Avenue bridge. Keep using the Find It, Fix It app to keep the city focused on our area.

There is a 5<sup>th</sup> District candidate forum on Thursday, June 27<sup>th</sup> at the North Seattle College (Room CC1161) from 6:30 PM – 8 PM. More details here: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/seattle-d5-city-council-election-forum-tickets-62240966406>

Annie Thoe brought our attention to some lots in Pinehurst on 20<sup>th</sup> Avenue that developers are planning on taking all the trees down on. She urges us to write to the city council to pass land use rules that would restrict logging.

The Lake City Farmers Market is in full swing, every Thursday afternoon from 3 PM – 7 PM in front of the library on NE 125<sup>th</sup> Street. Some produce is a bit late this year because of the weather, but more arrives each week. Plus, tons of activities for kids.

Next month we will host our annual pot luck/ice cream social, on July 16<sup>th</sup> starting at 6 PM on NE 106<sup>th</sup> Place next to the park. Be sure and mark your calendars and come on out, we usually have over 100 people show up each year.

Submitted by Ryan Johnson

Secretary, Victory Heights Community Council