

AWCC March Agenda

AWCC General Membership Meeting
Calvary United Methodist Church
Tuesday, March 10 @ 7:30pm

- 7:30 – Guest Speakers Erin Tobin: Allegheny Commons Initiative
Darlene Harris
Sally Stadelman: Office of the Mayor
- 7:40 – Welcoming new neighbors and AWCC members.
- 8:00 - Minutes: Review of Motions from last meeting
- 8:05 - Treasurer's Report
- 8:10 - Upcoming Membership Events
- Marathon Party: Sunday 5/3 (City grant money available).
 - Memorial Day Picnic 5/24 Hot Dogs & Hamburgers, 800 block of Beech
 - Independence Day Picnic: 7/4, Rib Cook Off, 900 block of Beech
 - Labor Day Picnic: 9/7, Corn Roast, 800 block of Lincoln
 - Next neighborhood mixer on Friday, 3/20 – location TBA
 - Last day to bowl is April 29. Starting at 6:30pm now.
 - Bocce: Thursdays, May 7 through Sept. 29. Starting at 6:00pm
 - Shaw Festival Trip: Tentatively scheduled for 5/25-5/26
Planning meeting March 13 at 7:00pm, location TBA
 - Neighborhood/Membership voluntary directory.
 - Welcoming new neighbors
- 8:25 – Friends (aka: Public Space) – Upcoming cleanups:
4/11 – Mulching the Tree-wells
5/16 – Flower Planting
5/30 – Alley Clean up; looking for organizations to partner with
7/15 – Babb Insurance services day
- 8:35 – Allegheny West Candidates Night – Tentative: 4/14 at 7
- 8:40 – Ways & Means: Wine Tour – Paris of Appalachia theme,
3 tours instead of 2, chocolate tasting/wine pairing for dessert. Next planning meeting: early April
Tickets on sale now on alleghenywest.org.
- 8:45 – NSLC – Dinner on 6/11
- 2015 dues
 - Ohio Street Bike Lane Update
 - AGH Update
- 9:00 – New Business
- 9:05 – Q&A w/Committee Chairs

AWCC Executive Committee Meeting
806 Western Avenue
Tuesday, March 31 @ 7:30pm

Neighborhood Clean Up
806 Western Avenue
Saturday, April 11 @ 9:00am

IF ANYONE'S GOING TO LOSE SLEEP, IT'LL BE US.



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ALLEGHENY WEST GAZETTE

March 2015

President's Messages by Cathy Serventi

I just got back from a really fascinating Bylaw Committee meeting and I can't wait to tell you all about it! (No wait...come back, ...hmm maybe this is why people avoid me at parties....?) Seriously though, I realize that bylaws are pretty much something only a process nerd could love so I won't go into too much detail. First I want to say, I really appreciate all the time that Jim and Gloria and Bob have been putting in to modernize these; you have to be pretty darn dedicated to take on this type of task. To make the bylaws seem less annoying, I try and think of them as a roadmap for how we, as a community, make decisions. In my mind good bylaws keep people from getting lost when they are trying to make things happen. If we set them up right, they will make it easier to get things done in a transparent and efficient way and at the same time make it clear who is accountable for the actions we take. I'm happy to report, that I can safely say now that we've actually went through the bylaws line by line tonight, that we're actually in pretty good shape. But there are a few things that we think could be clearer such as: how we determine who is eligible to vote; how money is spent; and how the committees are set up. We think these area could be clearer or reflect better how we get things done now as opposed when the Bylaws were last amended back in 2004. If I've succeeded in getting you excited about the bylaws (ha, ever the optimist) you can see the current bylaws at: <http://alleghenywest.org/get-involved/allegheny-west-civic-council/bylaws/> We hope to have a draft with the changes we've been talking about for several months at the April meeting if we can hammer out the wording to our satisfaction, but May at the latest. And I really am happy to talk to you about this (preferably with a glass of wine in my hand..or yours.)

A few more selected updates: We're still waiting to hear back about the grants that were submitted for the tree well projects. Trish, Holly and Mary did an such a great job on the flower baskets that we're up to 18 baskets at this point, 10 more than the 8 that we had been hoping for. We'll publish a complete list of sponsors next month, but in the meantime you can see the current list at alleghenywest.org/flowers. It's not too late to sponsor a basket! Planning is underway for an Allegheny West Candidates night, tentatively scheduled for 4/14 (if we can convince anyone to show up). The Membership Committee has an incredibly ambitious set of events planned for this year that you'll be hearing about (and man, that meeting has the best snacks ever, just saying, you know ... in case you choose your committees to volunteer with based on the food.) We have the Wine Tour down to a science - tickets are on sale at alleghenywest.org/tour. You heard it here first! I could keep going... Honestly, I figured as Treasurer, that I had a pretty good idea of what was going on in the neighborhood, since I figured most things would need a check. Wow, two months in, and my eyes have been opened! I'm truly amazed, especially for such a small neighborhood, by the number of people who are off just doing their part to make our neighborhood a better place. I trust everyone will keep surprising me... :)

Follow ups from last meeting and written committee reports:

- Audit is scheduled for **TBA**
- (Philadelphia) Allegheny West lawsuit is now in the hands of our Insurance company.
- Final number of flower baskets is **<coming soon>** see the list of our charter sponsors at alleghenywest.org/flowers

Above & Beyond

If you'd like to recognize a neighbor who went above-and-beyond for you or the neighborhood this month please send a note to abovebeyond@alleghenywest.org or give Cathy at call at (412) 418-2027 and, space allowing, we'll recognize them in the Gazette.

More snow angels: **Bob K.** was spotted shoveling walks on Beech Ave.

Howard B., in his awesome, just-get-it-done way, managed to get all the bows & wreaths from the Christmas tours, off the light poles despite the miserable weather.

More than one person asked us to thank **Mary C. and Holly P.** for all the research to get the flower basket program started. And then **Holly & Trish** for braving the bureaucracy to get it approved and. Finally a special shout out to, **John D., Annette, & Trish** for getting the ball rolling with their pledges at the meeting. A few seeds have truly flowered....

Submitted by Ritsu Shimizu

Personal Anecdote

Being already well established and reputed for his business and cultural contribution to the larger Pittsburgh community, Mr. John DeSantis may not be in need of any additional favorable recognition. I will, however, point out one more aspect of an improvement he has undertaken in Allegheny West since no one has expressed this point. How many of you remember the old gas station at the corner of the Galveston and Western Avenue? Mr. Tom Fry, my deceased partner of 30 years, used to loathe that greasy business front-- Tom even used a word, "an eye sore."

John purchased this site and Lo and behold . . . the building was transformed as an office with a residential look, surrounded by a spacious flower garden. Recently a very impressive ornamental black iron fence was added on the top of the granite foundation. Whenever passing by this corner, my heart calls for him. "Look at this corner, Tom."



OUR LADY QUEEN OF PEACE CHURCH HALL

Suismon & Middle Streets, Northside
(Corner across from
Max's Allegheny Tavern)

Fridays of Lent
February 20th thru March 27th
(excluding Good Friday)

Dinner is Served 4 to 6:30 PM

Menu:

Baked Cod, Fried Cod, Salmon or Crab Cakes;
Macaroni & Cheese; Stewed tomatoes or Haluski.
Veg of the day, coleslaw or pickled beets, roll, butter.
Desert & Coffee or Tea included.

Cost: \$9.00 A-La-Cart items available too
Take Out Orders: Call 412-321-2499



LENT

Neighborhood Cleanup!

Submitted by Michael Shealey

Saturday, April 11th at 9:00 A.M.

Please join your neighbors at the AWCC office at 806 Western for the first neighborhood cleanup of 2015. If we have mulch, we will be mulching some of our neighborhood's tree well. With or without mulch, we will be getting trash off our streets and alleys. Refreshments provided.

NSLC Scholarship Program

Know a high school student doing great community volunteer work? Pass this along to them. Through their 2015 Scholarship Program, the Northside Leadership Conference will recognize and award high school seniors who volunteer their time to improve the Northside community. Any Northside resident in the 12th grade, who performs volunteer service in their community, and who will be attending a college or training program after high school, is eligible for the \$1,000 scholarship.

Awardees will be selected by the NSLC Dinner Committee on June 11, which is made up of representatives of the neighborhoods and participating sponsors. The number of scholarships will be determined by sponsor commitments.

The deadline for 2015 Scholarship applications has been extended. You now have until Friday, March 20, 2015 to apply. Applications are available at www.pittsburghnorthside.com

Read more about the 2015 Scholarship Program, including scholarship criteria, by viewing the 2015 Scholarship Application. If you have questions regarding the NSLC scholarship program, email Kelly MacKay at kelly@pittsburghnorthside.com or call 412-330-2562.

The Gazette

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Submission does not guarantee publication