

DRAFT Agenda: AWCC Membership Meeting

September 8, 2015 7:00pm, (EARLY START TIME)
Calvary Church at 971 Beech Ave.

- Make Your Life Easier Discussion
- Guest Speaker: Q Development / Trek - Garden Theater Project
- Minutes
- Treasurer's Report
- Updates from July / August Executive Committee Meetings
- Neighborhood Grant: Trash Can Update
- Housing and Planning Updates - House Tour
- AWDC Updates
- Ways & Means: House Tour Update
- Neighborhood Clean-ups
- Upcoming Membership Events
 - Allegheny Cemetery Trip
- Property: 806 Repairs
- NSLC: AGH Sign Update
- Committee Q&A

Send a note to president@alleghenywest.org if you have additional agenda items to add.

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Estate Planning
Real Estate * Taxes
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Notary Service by Appointment
Free Initial Consultation

Farmers Market

You don't have to leave the City limits to buy farm-fresh vegetables. Visit the Farmers Market in East Park, along Cedar Avenue. You can find farm-fresh fruits, vegetables, meats, cheese, baked goods, and flowers. Take advantage of this wonderful community asset in our Commons. The Market begins May 15 and is open from 3:30 to 7:30 pm.

AWCC Calendar

Monday, Sept 7 @ 4:00pm

Labor Day Picnic, 800 Block of N. Lincoln

Tuesday, Sept 8 @ 8:00pm

Make your Life Easier, Calvary Church

Tuesday, Sept 8 @ 8:00pm

AWCC Membership Meeting, Calvary Church

Tuesday, Sept 15 @ 7:30pm

Housing & Planning, 845 N. Lincoln Ave.

Tuesday, Sept 29 @ 7:30pm

AWCC Executive Committee, 806 Western Ave.

Saturday, Sept 25 @ 9:00am

Alley Clean up, 806 Western Ave.

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September 2015

President's Message

Hopefully people won't start hiding from me again. Aside from the fact that we're still looking for houses for the Christmas Tour (and I swear someone did actually run from me once...you know who you are!), I have another petition for folks to sign. Martha is heading up a grant application through the Buhl Foundation/Sprout Fund One Northside Community grants. At the July Membership meeting we voted to work with an urban planner to build out a plan that we can use to apply from additional funds from lots of different sources. This is different from a 5 year plan or some other medium or long term vision. We want to identify shorter term projects (a year or two) that would significantly improve things in the neighborhood. And then we're going to figure out how much it actually costs (that's what makes it different from the usual 5 year plans). In order to make sure it is your life that is significantly improved we need folks to show up at a planning meeting or two (oh yeah, petition, you have to sign the petition so we can get the initial funding). Emailing Martha or cornering me at the Labor Day picnic (after I corner you with the petition) with your great idea isn't going to cut it for this since we're going to also need to establish priorities which we have to do in groups. (Because if you let me pick the priorities you'll probably end up with gas street lights and duck ponds all over the neighborhood - and there will be no parking anywhere because I don't drive.) So please come to the initial planning meeting, which will be run by someone really good at running these types of things, so I promise it will be productive (and apparently really big maps are involved). If you can't make this meeting, depending on what some of the initial pain points are we'll have some more opportunities to get feedback. We'd especially like to make sure that we get input from neighbors such as business owners and employees or renters and landlords who typically haven't been as active in the membership meetings. I would be interested in suggestions from folks on how to reach out to those people - please invite them personally if you see them. Come for the pizza stay for the neighborhood improvements. And PLEASE contact Trish or Gloria (tours@alleghenywest.org) if you're interested in having your house on the tour.

And congratulations to Babb Inc. who was named one of Pittsburgh's Coolest Offices by the Pittsburgh Business Times. <http://www.bizjournals.com/pittsburgh/news/2015/09/01/pittsburghs-coolest-offices-babb-inc.html> Michael and I got to hang out in their really neat garage space and have pizza with them after their service day on July 15. (See the Above and Beyond article for more information.).

See you all Monday at the Labor Day Picnic,
Cathy

Membership Activities**Labor Day Block Party**

Monday, September 7. How can this be the end of summer so soon? An enclosed flyer has all the details for the event.

Monthly Mixer:

September 25 at the Modern Café at 6:00 pm.

Allegheny Cemetery Tour

Looking ahead to October I am planning an Allegheny Cemetery Tour. Possible dates for the tour are October 10th or 24th in the morning. Many of the families who built and lived in our neighborhood are buried there. They don't necessarily have to have lived in your house, so if you want to see if someone interesting from Allegheny West that you've heard about is buried in the cemetery feel free to pass those names along too. If you would like to find out if the family associated with your house is buried there call or email Mary Callison (membership@alleghenywest.org) by September 12.

Above & Beyond: Special Edition

Babb Insurance, our neighbors on Ridge Ave. got together 25+ employees for a service day in Allegheny West. Their fearless leaders, Kaylee Kirsh and Sarah J. Hagen, whipped them up to such a state of enthusiasm that the Allegheny West folks who joined them, Michael Shealey and Cathy Serventi could barely keep up with things for them to do. They swept the entire neighborhood for trash, weeded every treewell on Western, and removed a bunch of debris in front of the Stables building and at the corner of North Ave. and Brighton. We're really grateful and hope they come back soon!



The Gazette - Editor: Fran Barbush

The monthly newsletter of the Allegheny West Civic Council. Letters, submissions, advertising and other notices: gazette@alleghenywest.org. Submission does not guarantee publication.

Calling All Cooks!!!

Allegheny West is starting to gather recipes to compile a neighborhood cookbook to use for a fundraiser. Do you love to cook and have favorite recipes you know people would enjoy trying? Are there delicious and cherished family recipes you would be willing to share? Please send your recipes to Debra Kelly via email to: kellern2001@hotmail.com. Please double check for typos and ingredients and include your name and if you are submitting a family recipe please include the name and relationship of the person whose recipe you are including.

The 34th Annual Old Allegheny Victorian Christmas House Tour

Friday, Dec 11 and Saturday, Dec 12, 2015

We are once again planning for the Christmas Tour, which will feature six neighborhood houses in addition to Calvary United Methodist Church. Once again, Holmes Hall will be open to guests as well as those who would like to tour the train museum. Tourgoers (and neighbors) can do early holiday shopping at our shop in Calvary Church.

Much work remains to be done:

- 1) Two homeowners have graciously volunteered their homes, but we need four other homeowners (or renters!) Please consider opening your home so that we can continue to host what is our major fundraiser. Without this tour, our neighborhood's projects and opportunities to impact the surrounding area will be diminished.
- 2) Those who have volunteered for past tours will soon be contacted by our sub-chairs. Please respond (positively!) to their emails and calls.
- 3) New neighbors are encouraged to consider how they will be able to help with the tour. This is a great event to be involved with. Some ideas:

- Put your house on tour.
- Offer to help homeowners on tour with decorating and housesitting during the tour.
- Be a tour guide (instructions and scripts provided)
- Greet our visitors at Calvary Church where the tour begins
- Help our party chair to organize (and perhaps cook or bake for) the volunteer party held on Saturday night
- Be on the tour committee - or just attend the meetings - and give your ideas and suggestions.

Please contact any of us for more information: Trish Burton
Gloria Rayman
Cathy Serventi

ways-means@alleghenywest.org
arms@alleghenywest.org
president@alleghenywest.org

Neighborhood Clean-up

The September neighborhood cleanup will be held from 9:30 - 11:00 AM on Saturday, September 26th. We will be both picking up trash and cleaning a few tree wells, if possible. Gather at the AWCC office at 806 Western Ave. (next to the parklet). Refreshments will be provided.