
ALLEGHENY WEST GAZETTE

January 2020

President's Message

Happy New Year 2020!

20/20 - Twenty Twenty: denoting vision of normal sharpness.

Twenty-twenty hindsight: the full knowledge and complete understanding that one has about an event only after it has happened.

Congratulations and thank you to everyone who contributed to a successful Christmas House Tour and, like always, it seems like everyone contributed. A special thank you to Annette Trunzo and Carol Gomrick they both worked very hard to manage all the pieces of the tour puzzle. They assembled a great team. If you volunteered or went on the tour, you saw the results of everyone's hard work. We'll get a breakdown of the financial results of the tour at the membership meeting this month.

Another item on the agenda at this month's membership meeting is a presentation from Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy on the Allegheny Commons North Promenade Project. PPC will be asking for a Letter of Support for the Historic Review Commission, which will require membership approval.

Andrew Reichert will also be attending the membership meeting to provide an update on the Stables Building development project.

It is heartening to see that the number of people attending the General Membership meetings increased month-to-month last year, particularly in December. In 2019 we had a surge of new members, also mostly occurring towards the end of the year. An interesting and positive twist - many new members are neighborhood businesses.

It will be challenging to keep the enthusiasm level as high as it was at the end of last year but I'm hopeful we can. I look forward to seeing new members and members who started attending meetings again continue to stay involved this year. There is a lot going on in our officially smallest neighborhood in Pittsburgh.

AWCC currently has 4 standing and 2 *ad hoc* committees, listed with their chairs below:

Property – Michael Shealey

Housing and Planning – Robin Zoufalik

Ways and Means – John DeSantis

Friends of Allegheny West – Diane Caruso

By-Laws (*ad hoc*) – Bob Malakoff

WANID (*ad hoc*) – Ann Gilligan

The Committee Chairs will be writing brief columns to appear in this and subsequent Gazettes to describe what they are doing, who they'd like to have on their committees and how to join. I encourage all members, long-time and newly joined, to volunteer on one of these committees.

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Do you see a need for neighborhood volunteer work that doesn't fit one of the current committees? Let me know how you want to contribute and I promise I'll do whatever I can to help make it happen! Wishing everyone health, peace and prosperity in the New Year.

— Ann Gilligan, AWCC President

Property Committee

The Property Committee oversees the maintenance and any alterations to most, but not all, AWCC properties. These properties include, primarily, 806 Western Avenue with its AWCC office on the first floor and rental apartment above. It also includes the AWCC vacant lot on Western Avenue and sidewalks in front of all AWCC-owned properties. Property Committee responsibilities do not include maintenance of the AWCC parklet at the corner of Brighton and Western Avenues.

Current projects include the installation of air conditioning for the apartment at 806 Western Avenue and repair of the roof on that building. Various small maintenance tasks are also in process. If you want more information or wish to join the committee, you may contact me, Michael Shealey, at property@alleghenywest.org.

AWCC Membership Meeting Agenda

Tuesday January 14, 7:30 P.M

Calvary United Methodist Church, 971 Beech Ave.

7:30 - Guests

- Officer Burford, Pittsburgh Police
- Molly Onufer, Mayor's Office
- Councilman Wilson's Office
- Senator Wheatley's Office

7:50 - November and December Meeting

Minutes Approval

8:00 - Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy:

Allegheny Commons North

8:20 - Treasurer's report

8:30 - Committee Reports

- Ways and Means
- Housing and Planning
- Friends Committee
- Membership
- By-Laws

8:50 - New Business

- Allegheny Historic Preservation Society, Tiffany Concert Series
- Andrew Reichert, Stables Building Progress Report

9:20 - Meeting conclusion

Housing & Planning Committee 2020
Robin R Zoufalik CPSM, Chair

1/6/2020

Hello Allegheny West Neighbors and Members of the AW Civic Council;

Happy New Year 2020!

As Chair for the Housing & Planning Committee, here is a message for the coming year of meetings and activities anticipated. Past Chair, Ashley Webb, has briefed me on various items on the agenda for the committee that have been discussed over the last few months and are anticipated for the coming year. Having attended a couple of the meetings the most recent being on Dec 17th, I believe a message to the neighborhood and members of the AWCC is appropriate, at this time, prior to the 1st meeting scheduled for Tuesday, Jan 21st (3rd Tuesday of the month) starting at 7:30 pm at GoRealty, 848 W North Ave.

The AWCC Bylaws have the following mandate for the standing committee –

*The **Housing and Planning Committee** shall be responsible for the physical planning and housing conditions in Allegheny West. It should be as representative as possible of residential, business, and institutional sectors of the neighborhood.*

Additionally, the committee members are to be chosen as follows:

Standing committee chairmen shall select from between two and ten members for their committees

Please let me know if you are interest in being a member of the H&P Committee. Everyone is welcome to attend any of the H & P meetings and participate in discussions and votes, whether or not a member of the committee.

Prior to the 1st meeting, I would request all of you to provide input as to any items you would like the committee to address in the coming months that may not be on the current list relayed to me as follows:

- Western Ave Neighborhood Improvement District (WANID)
- Northside Leadership Conference (NSLC) Bridge Committee & Opposition to double-stacked trains
- Code Enforcement Concerns
- Historic District Expansion
- Galveston Ave. Traffic Calming
- Stables Development
- Value Added Properties
- Scrap Yard
- CCAC Workforce Development Center
- Allegheny Commons Master Plan and Noise along Brighton Rd
- Light of Life Ridge Ave Facility
- Hip at the Flashlight Factory

The meetings will be conducted in an orderly manner to have productive discussions and allow everyone to actively participate. However, personal attacks by attendees will not be acceptable and non-factual statements will be questioned. We are all neighbors and should have equal opportunities to speak and listen in a respectful manner.

All comments, feedback, and suggestions are always welcome!

Either email me at housing-planning@alleghenywest.org or call 412-216-0207.



PittsburghParks.org

45 South 23rd Street • Suite 101
Pittsburgh, PA 15203-2120
P: 412.682.7275 • F: 412.622.0160

   [pittsburghparks](https://www.pittsburghparks.org)

October 30, 2019

Mr. Tom Barbush
Allegheny West Civic Council
806 Western Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15233

Dear Mr. Barbush and Allegheny West Civic Council,


Thank you for your gift of trees to Allegheny Commons. We have planted to these trees in honor of the following persons:

Dogwood trees for Donna Otto, Stella Kalaris, and Yia Yia Kalaris
London Plane Trees for Kerry Kennedy and Bob Turley
Swamp White Oak for Alex Watson
Paperback Maple for Dan Rooney

Allegheny Commons Park is what all Northsiders have in common. This community treasure provides lush outdoor space for the residents of the Northside, thanks in part to your gift of trees, and serves as a gathering place for a uniquely diverse group of users from the surrounding areas. For the city of Pittsburgh, it is an important piece of history being the city's oldest park. Your gift to Allegheny Commons Park is not only a great tribute to the Northsiders you've honored, it is an investment in the Northside neighborhood.

Parks have a way of making a lasting difference in someone's life, and we have **you** to thank for that.

With gratitude,



Jayne Miller
President and CEO



Donor Receipt

Gift Amount: \$3,600.00

Method: Check No. 1552

Date Rec'd: 10/16/2019

The Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy, identification number 23-2882145, is a tax-exempt, non-profit entity under Internal Revenue Code Section 501(c)(3). The Parks Conservancy provided you with no goods or services in exchange for your contribution. Please retain this acknowledgement for your tax receipt.

RAIL POLLUTION PROTECTION PITTSBURGH:

CONTINUE TO WRITE LETTERS

RP3 (glennolcerst@gmail.com) asks that neighbors PLEASE take a few minutes to write to our city and state representatives (*contacts below*) to demand:

- . a freeze of the \$20 million in Pittsburgh Vertical Clearance Project Funding;
- . a repair, not a replacement, of the bridges, since their current height is grandfathered;
- . an investigation into Norfolk Southern's rail and bridge inspection practices;
- . an investigation into the installation of 5 million nearly untraceable defective rail ties;
- . an Environmental Impact Study that includes, air, noise and vibration;
- . distribution of the above results to the public;
- . Positive Train Controls throughout the 20 mile route of the Pgh Vertical Clearance Project/Allegheny County (with agreement for a backup PTC system when that system is offline for maintenance.
- . creation of emergency response plans funded by Norfolk Southern;
- . enhanced oil spill regulations;
- . a true public town hall meeting attended by Norfolk Southern and our elected representatives, despite Norfolk Southern announcing this week there will be no more public meetings.

Rosemary Chiavette, Secretary, PA Public Utility Commission 400 N Street, 2d Flr, Harrisburg, PA 17105-3265

Leslie S. Richards, Sec'y, PA Dept of Transportation 400 N Street, 8th Flr, Harrisburg, PA 17120-0095

William Peduto, Mayor: <http://pittsburghpa.gov/mayor/mayor.html>
414 Grant St, 5th Fl, Pgh, PA 15219 <https://www.facebook.com/pedutoforpittsburgh/> @billpeduto

Tom Wolf, Governor: <http://www.governor.pa.gov/> @GovernorTomWolf
Office of the Governor, 508 Main Capitol Bldg, Harrisburg, PA 17120

John Fetterman, Lieutenant Governor: <https://www.governor.pa.gov/lieutenant-governor/>
Office of the Governor, 508 Main Capitol Bldg, Harrisburg, PA 17120
<https://www.facebook.com/JohnFettermanPA/> @JohnFetterman

Josh Shapiro, Attorney General: <https://www.attorneygeneral.gov/Home/>
Office of the Attorney General, 16th Fl, Strawberry Sq, Harrisburg, PA 17120
www.facebook.com/JoshShapiro
@JoshShapiroPA

Bobby Wilson, City Council District 1
City-County Bldg, 414 Grant St, Pgh, PA 15219 Telephone: 412-255-2135 @bobbywilson412

Jake Wheatley, PA House of Representatives, 19th District : <http://www.pahouse.com/wheatley>
jwheatley@pahouse.net @RepWheatley
36 East Wing, PO Box 202019, Harrisburg, PA 17120-2019

Wayne Fontana, PA State Senator: <http://www.senatorfontana.com>
fontana@pasenate.com / (717) 787-5300
Senate Box 203042, 543 Main Capitol, Harrisburg, PA 17120-3042

Neighborhood Tree Project

In 2016, a study was done by Pashek Associates, funded by the Buhl Foundation, to address four issues in our neighborhood: 1) sidewalks, 2) trees, 3) traffic, and 4) street lighting. The report was 60 pages in length.

I have been asked by Diane Caruso, chairwoman of the *Friends of Allegheny West*, to work on neighborhood trees. The goal is to have a plan completed to submit to Pennsylvania Conservancy by March 13th for the fall 2020 planting.

If you are interested in working with me on this project, please call me at 412-321-5951 or email callismar@gmail.com. I would love to have at least one person from each street in the neighborhood. Thank you!

-Mary Callison

AWCC Calendar: January 2020

Tuesday, January 14 @ 7:30 p.m.

General Membership Meeting @ Calvary UMC

Tuesday, January 21 @ 7:30 p.m.

Housing & Planning Committee Meeting, @
Go Realty Office (848 W. North Ave.)

Tuesday, January 28 @ 7:30 p.m.

Executive Committee Meeting, @ AWCC Office
(806 Western)

Find out about more events in Allegheny West and all around the Northside on the Allegheny West Website: www.alleghenywest.org, and click on "View Full Calendar."

From the Membership Committee:



Bowling has begun. It takes place at the **Elks Lodge on Wednesdays at 7:00**. It's a bargain at \$2.50/game, and that includes bowling ball and shoes. Food and beverages are of course available, also at prices not seen at many establishments!

This is social bowling with friends and neighbors, not a league, so don't think that you need to be a good bowler (some of us-I'm speaking personally-are not!) Or, just come to help us keep score or to socialize. Hope to see you this winter on Wednesdays at the Elks Lodge, 400 Cedar Avenue.

Note, too that **Allegheny West Mixers** will resume soon. Keep your eye out for updates in the e-newsletter and on the Allegheny West Facebook page!



The Allegheny West Gazette

Editor: Karen Haller Beer

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

A publication of the Allegheny West Civic Council

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