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# ALLEGHENY WEST GAZETTE

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November 2020

## President's Message

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*"We must find time to stop and thank the people who make a difference in our lives."*

*- John F. Kennedy*

Impossibly, here we are in November with the holiday season on the horizon. The year 2020 has already delivered a lot of tumult, and it doesn't seem to be letting up. I truly hope that, despite the challenges and uneasiness around us, that everyone is able to find some moments of calm, much to be thankful for, and many joyful celebrations over the remaining weeks of this year.

The Allegheny West Civic Council has had to adapt to the events of 2020 – conducting virtual meetings, cancelling the summer Wine and Garden Tour and the Victorian Christmas House Tour, as well as our neighborhood picnics on Memorial Day, Fourth of July, and Labor Day. The business of AWCC, however, continues largely uninterrupted and I would like to stop and thank a few people who have made that possible:

- **Karen Beer** edits and then manages the printing and distribution of the Allegheny West Gazette every month.
- **Trish Burton** compiles the e-Newsletter and delivers it weekly to our inboxes, sometimes more when necessary. Trish also made sure the flower baskets on Western Ave were hung, watered, and paid for this past summer.
- **Cathy Serventi**, as AWCC Treasurer, makes sure our bills are paid on time and our accounts are in order.
- **Sara Beck Sweeney** posts pictures on the AWCC Instagram account (@alleghenywest\_pgh). Also, as Sergeant-at-Arms, Sara will be Chief Judge of AWCC Elections.

Karen, Trish, Cathy and Sara join a long line of Allegheny West women who give of their precious time to get things done with no drama or fanfare. If you see them around, say thanks! (At a safe social distance of course.)

*(Continued from previous page.)*

Iris and Desmond Adams also deserve a big thank you for making a positive difference in our lives. Every Wednesday since April they have hosted a Zoom Dance Party, picking a theme matched with 15 minutes of music. They sing and dance, and make us forget everything we're worried about – anyone who has joined and danced along understands what a gift that 15 minutes is. (Their parents, Dan and Gretchen, might also deserve a thank you for pulling this off every week!)

In the spirit of Thanksgiving, and because being thankful makes us happy, we will take some time at the November 10<sup>th</sup> Membership Meeting to say thanks. Everyone is encouraged to think of something someone in the neighborhood has done that deserves a thank-you and share it with the rest of us.

Finally, (finally!) the Allegheny West Civic Council Election is on Tuesday, November 10<sup>th</sup>. An overview of the voting process and the plan to communicate voting updates is outlined in this issue of the Gazette. Please participate in the vote and join the Membership call on the 10<sup>th</sup> to hear the election results. Note, because of the election, the meeting starts at 8:00P.M. instead of 7:30P.M.

— Ann Gilligan, AWCC President

## **The Nominating Committee's Slate of Officers for 2021**

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**President:** Bob Griewahn

**Vice President:** Carole Gomrick

**Treasurer:** Aaron Bryan

**Corresponding Secretary:** Michael Shealey

**Sergeant-at-Arms:** Colleen Storm

**Property Committee:** Fran Barbush

**Friends of Allegheny West:** Trish Burton

**Communications Secretary:** Cathy Serventi

**Officers and Committee Chairs serving a second term:**

**Membership Committee:** Timothy Zinn

**Ways and Means Committee:** John DeSantis

**Housing and Planning Committee:** Robin Zoufalik

## AWCC Election: Nominations Are Open

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The Allegheny West Civic Council Election is on Tuesday, November 10<sup>th</sup>. After Executive Committee discussions and feedback from Membership, here are the voting guidelines:

- Assuming there ARE additional nominations made (see next bullet), AWCC Members will vote between 6:00 P.M. and 8:00 P.M. on November 10, 2020 at the ballroom of the Parador Inn at 939 Western Avenue. There will be signs directing everyone to the voting location. Masks are required.
- The Nominating Committee Slate of Officers for 2020 is listed on the previous page. Any additional nominations can be made via the Google doc found in last week's e-newsletter, as well as on [\\_](#)from the Allegheny West website. (Scroll down on the main page.) You'll be asked to list the name of the nominee and office nominated to, as well as confirm that the person being nominated has agreed to the nomination.. Nominations will be accepted until **Sunday, November 8<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 P.M.**
- Sergeant-at-Arms Sara Sweeney and her two Assistant Judges of Election will collect, count, recount, and certify the election. They will also be present at the polling site to confirm eligibility and enforce social distancing.
- If there are NO nominations from the floor (i.e., no additional nominations made on the website by Sunday, November 8th at 5:00 P.M), the slate listed will be accepted. An eBlast to that effect will then be posted Sunday evening alerting voters that it is unnecessary to come out and vote at the Parador on Tuesday, November 10th.
- The results will be announced at the General Membership Informational Meeting that will begin at **8:00 P.M.** on November 10<sup>th</sup> on Zoom.
- Note that Nominating Committee Election will be postponed until February or March of 2021.

## AWCC MEETING ZOOM INFORMATION

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Membership meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89969724081?pwd=dGFWNTRaalpJZThHNjBWQm5wenNYQT09>

By phone +1 301 715 8592 US (Germantown)

Meeting ID: 899 6972 4081

Password: 979088

**Problems connecting?** Text (do NOT call) Cathy at (412) 418-2027.

## Allegheny Commons North Promenade Bench Dedication

In July 2020, the Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy started the first of several projects to reconstruct the historic North Promenade--the prominent walkway that runs parallel to North Avenue--within Allegheny Commons Park. The complete project scope, along with frequent construction updates, can be found online at [pittsburghparks.org/ac](http://pittsburghparks.org/ac).

As part of the reconstruction of a beloved and much-used park, the Parks Conservancy is pleased to offer the opportunity to dedicate a bench within Allegheny Commons Park. Bench dedications are a great way to honor, memorialize, or pay tribute to family, friends, an anniversary, a special moment or a group/organization. The bench dedication project is limited to the Allegheny Commons North Promenade stretching from Federal Street to and around the Northeast Fountain.

Details regarding the bench dedication project in Allegheny Commons are as follows:

1. Bench dedications include a 2.5" high by 8" wide bronze plaque that will feature a custom dedication message (to be approved and produced by Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy).
2. Donors will be able to approve a digital proof of the final plaque.
3. It will take approximately four to six weeks after the donation has been received for the plaque installation.
4. The donation to dedicate a plaque also includes three years of maintenance.
5. Benches 1 - 9, located around the fountain, are available for a \$3,000 donation.  
Benches 10 - 18, located along the Promenade, are available for a \$1,500 donation

For additional information, contact Julie Segner, 412-682-7275 x240, or [jsegner@pittsburghparks.org](mailto:jsegner@pittsburghparks.org).



### 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](mailto:gazette@alleghenywest.org). Submission does not guarantee

### AWCC Informational Meeting

**Tuesday, November 10<sup>th</sup> 2020 via Zoom**

#### Agenda

**7:45-8:00 pm:** Gather

**8:00pm:** Update - City of Pittsburgh, Mayor's Office

**8:10pm:** Update - Councilman Wilson's Office

**8:20pm:** Update- Representative Wheatley's Office

**8:25pm:** Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy

**8:30pm:** AWCC Election Results

**8:40pm:** CCAC Institutional Master Plan

**9:00pm :**Light of Life Update

**9:15pm:** Treasurer's Report

**9:20pm:** THANKS!

publication.

**A publication of the  
Allegheny West Civic Council**

806 Western Avenue, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15233 [www.alleghenywest.org](http://www.alleghenywest.org) ~ [info@alleghenywest.org](mailto:info@alleghenywest.org) ~  
(412) 323 - 8884