



NETWORK

ORIGINAL NORTHWOOD ASSOCIATION

SUMMER 2022 ISSUE

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President's Corner



As we celebrate the last few weeks of spring, I wanted to take an opportunity to thank the many volunteers who participated in our Spring Fling clean-up. Special thanks to Zhan Caplan, Maintenance Chair, and Jason Drenna, Social Chair, for organizing a wonderful event. It's volunteer service like this that makes Original Northwood such a wonderful place to live! Please take note of two

opportunities to become more involved in the neighborhood. We are accepting nominations for our September Board elections. If interested, please contact our Nominating Committee chair Steve Levy on Westview Road (he is on Nextdoor, too). We are also seeking candidates for President of the Greater Northwood Covenant Association. Both are wonderful opportunities to meet your neighbors and to give back to this great community!

Mark your calendars for upcoming events in the neighborhood. We resumed our Quarterly Meeting schedule this month (June 8th) with special invited guests from our elected representative and Northwood Commons. The annual Wine & Cheese will be held on July 23rd. To mark summer's start, Popsicle Night has resumed on Thursdays - please contact Lauren Devine or Emily Weber (on NextDoor) for more information.

As we prepare for sunny skies and hot weather, please keep an eye out for neighbors, pets, and other critters who may be vulnerable to the heat. Everyone needs some shade and cool water to drink. We've included some tips on preparing your home and garden for the hot weather.

Richard Skolasky
President, Original Northwood Association
Trustee, Greater Northwood Covenant Association

Board of Governors
2021-22

Officers

President

Richard Skolasky

president@originalnorthwood.org

Vice President

Glenn Paisley

vicepresident@originalnorthwood.org

Treasurer

Jen Spratt

treasurer@originalnorthwood.org

Secretary

Jonatham Roque

secretary@originalnorthwood.org

Members-at-Large

Communications

Carla Paisley

communications@originalnorthwood.org

Covenant

Lauren Bambusch

covenant@originalnorthwood.org

Maintenance

Zhan Caplan

maintenance@originalnorthwood.org

Safety

Joe Mertz

safety@originalnorthwood.org

Social

Jason Drennan

social@originalnorthwood.org

Board of Governors 2022

Please remember that the ONA Board is composed of your neighbors. We volunteer our time and areas of interest to ensure that the neighborhood continues to be a safe and comfortable one for each of us. If you would like to volunteer, you are invited to reach out to one of the members or to attend our monthly meetings.



Richard Skolasky,
President



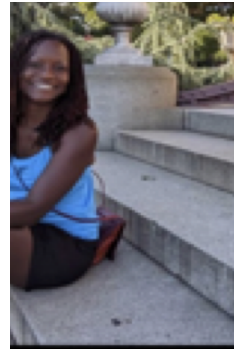
Glenn Paisley, Vice
President



Jen Spratt,
Treasurer



Jonatham Roque,
Secretary



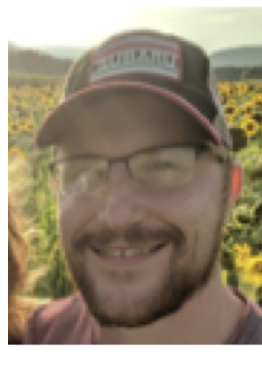
Carla Paisley,
Communications



Lauren Bambusch,
Covenant



Zhan Caplan,
Maintenance



Joe Mertz,
Safety



Jason Drennan,
Social



The best defense against crime is you!
We encourage you to report every crime
regardless of how petty or insignificant you
believe it is. Together, we can make Balti-
more a safer city! www.baltimorepolice.org

BE PART OF THE SOLUTION! ONA NEEDS YOU!

As you know, the ONA Board of Governors is a team of people who have been elected by you and who volunteer their time and energies to represent and serve you, the Original Northwood community, in accordance with the GNCA Covenant and the Bylaws of the Original Northwood Association. In other words, the Board is YOU!

Board service is a great way to meet new neighbors and give back to such a wonderful community. To achieve an effective Board that best represents and serves ON, we need committed community members like YOU, to consider running for a Board position, and to identify other potential Board candidates in the neighborhood. And of course, it needs your VOTER PARTICIPATION in the annual ONA Board elections this September. All households that are current (2022) dues-paying members of ONA are eligible to vote, with one set of votes per household.

The ONA Nominating Committee has been formed by neighbors Steve Levy and Linda Stewart. The committee will accept nominations and prepare the ballot for this year's elections. If you, or someone you know, is interested in serving on the board, please contact the Nominating Committee, Steve Levy of Westview Road or Linda Stewart of Argonne Drive. You can find them on NextDoor. The members of this committee are responsible for identifying neighbors interested in running for election to one of the Board positions. These positions are President, Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary and Chairs of the Communications, Covenant, Maintenance, Safety, and Social Committees.

To learn about the board positions, visit our website at <https://www.originalnorthwood.org/board-of-governors>. Here you will find descriptions of job duties and information about our upcoming election. We will again be using electronic ballots to ensure the best turnout in the neighborhood!

PLACE YOUR ADS HERE

Interested in advertising in the NETWORK Newsletter? The rates are great and your message is delivered to nearly 400 homes in Original Northwood.

Contact communications@originalnorthwood.org for more information.

MAINTENANCE UPDATE

We scoured the Internet for tips to prepare your home and garden for the warm weather that is on its way. If you have tips that you'd like to share, please reach out to us at maintenance@originalnorthwood.org.

Get your home ready ...

- Check your fire alarms, CO2 detectors, and home security systems at the start of each season.
- Clean your windows thoroughly once a season. This will keep them in operational condition and protect any UV or sun blocking capabilities. Make sure to repair/replace broken hardware or damaged screens. As an added bonus, they make looking out that much more pleasant!
- Clean your drains ... inside and out! Check your garbage disposal and clean out any leftover debris. Check your outdoor drains in window wells, basement stairways, and patios. This will prevent standing water to help keep mosquitos at bay this season.

Taking care of your garden ...

- Summer is a wonderful time to grow things outdoors. Whether you grow flowers, shrubs, or vegetables, getting your hands dirty can be very satisfying. If you are adding new flowers and shrubs, please consider native plants that are drought resistant, habitat helpers, and pollution reducers. More information may be found at <https://tinyurl.com/3ajkxbmb>.
- Remember our winged friends (and their good friends the squirrels). Be sure to keep bird baths clean and filled and bird and squirrel feeders well stocked. More information on backyard birding can be found here: <https://tinyurl.com/k8xh8xb2>.
- Our friends at Bluewater Baltimore offer great tips on watering your gardens and lawns. For tree care or other tips, head over to <https://tinyurl.com/85mwwpsr>.

- Clean your gutters - this may require a professional. Removing debris, unclogging downspouts, and replacing/repairing damaged gutters ensures water moves away from your house. This will prevent roof, wall, and foundation damage!
- Remember, it's easier to keep your home cool if you keep the sunshine out. Consider room darkening window treatments to block the hot sun. If you can't cover a window, consider closing a door to keep the rest of your home cool!

Other news you can use ...

- Upcoming Dumpster Days are advertised on our website (<http://originalnorthwood.org>):
 - Saturday, June 18
 - Saturday, September 10
 - Saturday, November 19

As on previous days, monitors will help ensure that no prohibited items are placed in the container.

Crime Plan from the Baltimore Police Department

The Baltimore Police Department (BPD), in response to a request from the City Council, provided a Short Term Crime Plan for Baltimore City. Below is an excerpt from an email describing that plan. More information may be found at: <https://tinyurl.com/2p9fzrm3>.

The Short Term Plan focuses on 1) enhanced visibility patrols, foot patrols, and business checks in high crime areas; 2) expanded warrant apprehension efforts to target repeat violent offenders; and 3) strong participation from federal and state partners on enforcement and investigative efforts.

Enhanced Visibility Patrols.

- ✓ With additional state funding (\$8 million), BPD is enhancing their deployments, while dedicating a portion of this funding for short-term increased visibility in areas downtown and across the city. Each District has developed a dedicated summer strategy that will provide additional visibility resources that are tailored to community needs.
- ✓ The planned budget allows 300 hours of overtime for each district June - September to allow focus on ensuring a continuous presence and enhancing public safety.

Enhanced Warrant Apprehension

- ✓ Additional state funding (\$3.25 million) allows BPD to significantly increase capacity for warrant roundup efforts during the summer and fall months.
- ✓ BPD will continue ongoing partnership with Baltimore City School Police, Baltimore Sheriff's Office, and U.S. Marshalls.

Strong Partnerships

- ✓ Collaboration with Federal partners will continue investigation of violent drug organizations to impact high crime areas and disrupt, dismantle, and eradicate areas of illegal drug activity.
- ✓ The plan will eliminate the most violent drug trafficking organizations, combat firearms-related and drug-related crime, and apprehend violent offenders in a timely manner.

Stay connected

- ✓ BPD hopes that this information is helpful and addresses community concerns about violent crime. BPD Leadership will be attending in-person District Commander's meetings. Information about these meetings can be found at <https://tinyurl.com/mpd9vhja>.

Be sure to find us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/OriginalNorthwood/ and share our posts with your networks

Biannual Community Housing Inspections

In years past, the board conducted housing inspections using a team of neighborhood volunteers. These inspections focused on items related to the condition of properties that violated Baltimore's housing code. At a recent board meeting, the president of the Northeast Community Organization (NECO) explained that her neighborhood had twice yearly walking inspections with staff from the Baltimore City Department of Housing & Community Development. Original Northwood will begin having similar inspections. The first one will take place on Thursday, June 16. The maintenance chair will walk the community with the assistant superintendent of code enforcement, and properties that violate housing codes will receive citations. For information about the codes they'll be enforcing, visit <https://dhcd.baltimorecity.gov/ce/code-enforcement>.

The goal of these twice yearly inspections is to ensure that homeowners are maintaining properties in accordance with Baltimore housing codes. Moving forward, the maintenance chair will work with the Housing office to schedule the inspections in the spring and fall.

Good Neighbor Spotlight

Bill Youngston, Westview Road

For the first Good Neighbor Spotlight, we would like to recognize Bill Youngston of Westview Road. Bill has been a neighbor since 2019. When not working on his front garden, you can see him walking his dog throughout the neighborhood. He was nominated by his daughter Chris Youngston-Gray of Deepwood Road who wrote: *"My dad lives in the neighborhood, a new resident since only a few years, and almost daily he takes his dog for a walk around most of the neighborhood. On his daily walks he stops to pick up metal trash that he worries will puncture someone's tires. He gets nails, shards of construction trash, etc and carries it home to protect all our neighbor's tires."*

If you would like to nominate a neighbor for the Good Neighbor Spotlight, please email communications@originalnorthwood.org.

Social Update

Warmer weather provides a great opportunity to get out of doors and to meet new neighbors. Jason Drennan, our Social Chair, is busy at work planning great events for us all to enjoy!

Wine & Cheese, July 23, 2022, 2:00pm - 5:00pm

Our annual Wine & Cheese will be held at Scott's and Richard's home at 1108 Argonne Drive. There will be a \$15 cover charge per attendee. Please RSVP to social@originalnorthwood.org.

Newcomers' Party, August TBD

To welcome friends, both new and old, the Original Northwood Association will be hosting our annual Newcomers' Party during the month of August. This is a great opportunity to give a hearty welcome to those who have recently joined our neighborhood.

Blocktoberfest, October TBD

Work is underway to plan for the hybrid Block Party and Oktoberfest that we have come to enjoy these past few years. Stay tuned!

For more information, please reach out to Jason at social@originalnorthwood.org.

GNCA Update

The Greater Northwood Covenant Association (GNCA) holds quarterly Trustees' Meeting. The next meeting will be held on Saturday June 18th 10:00am - 12:00pm. The meeting will be virtual. To join, please use the following Zoom information: <https://tinyurl.com/2p862ub9>.

You can also join by telephone:

- Call: 1-301-715-8592
- Meeting ID: 812 3732 8367
- Passcode: 109416

The current President of the GNCA has stepped down from his position. The Trustees met to announce the vacancy of the President's position in our respective neighborhoods.

To contact the GNCA, please reach out to our Executive Secretary, Gretchen Pike at greaternorthwood@gmail.com.

NECO Update

As many of you may know, we are part of the Northeast Community Organization (NECO). Current President Angie Winder has joined our monthly meetings and always shares timely information.

NECO exists to *unite* the neighborhood associations, community organizations, and institutions within the designated area; To *articulate* the needs and concerns of the NECO area regarding community development and economic, commercial, educational, recreational and environmental issues to the City and State governments; To *provide* a forum to educate NECO members and the means for public discourse and education; and To *support, assist and serve* as a resource to member organizations.

The next NECO meeting will be June 11th at 10:00am. Please register at <https://tinyurl.com/4swcbj9h>.

Help support ONA Activities in 2021 by paying your ONA membership dues (\$40 per household)

1. Pay on the PayHOA.com website (which also collects mandatory GNCA assessments)
2. Pay on Venmo to treasurer@originalnorthwood.org
3. Mailing a check (payable to the Original Northwood Association) to The Original Northwood Association, P.O. Box 33576, Baltimore MD 21218.

Make sure to indicate your full Original Northwood address in your Venmo mailing or on your check, so that we can register your payment correctly. Thank you for supporting YOUR Neighborhood Association!

Board of Governors Quarterly Meetings

Residents of the Original Northwood Association are always free to attend our monthly board meetings that take place on the 2nd Wednesday of each month.

Quarterly meetings are held in June, September, December, and March. If you have something you would like to discuss, email secretary@originalnorthwood.org.

2021-22 meetings are scheduled to take place virtually using Google Meets (all you need is a web browser and Internet connection!).

Covenant Report

It has been a busy 9 months since taking over as your Covenant Chair, and my committee and I have been busy. In the last three months, we have:

- Reviewed 17 applications for exterior alterations, with all being approved.
- Continued working with neighbors whose homes were damaged in storms of last year to ensure that their projects were expedited for approval and that their contractors had the support needed to quickly get our neighbors back into their homes.

Of those approved applications:

- 50% were on Argonne, 25% on Southview, and the remaining applications coming from Deepwood and Havenwood.
- 50% included hardscaping improvements, such as fencing, decking, and retaining walls.
- 25% included door replacement or improvement.

Application Reminder

As our attention turns outdoors, many of us may be planning changes to the exteriors of our homes. Please remember that we are a covenant community. What does that mean? It means that the Agreement and Deed attached to each of our homes has specific requirements by which we all must abide. One of these requirements has to do with the review and approval by the Board of all exterior alterations.

More information can be found on our website at <https://www.originalnorthwood.org/covenant-information>. Our Covenant Chair, Lauren Bambusch, and the Covenant Committee work diligently to review applications and make recommendations to the Board. If you have any questions about your application, the application process, or anything pertaining to the neighborhood covenants, please reach out at covenant@originalnorthwood.org.

And, as always, if you have a passion for the history and architectural beauty of our neighborhood and would like to be a part of a group of people like yourself interested in maintaining it, please reach out to join the Covenant committee.

Covenant Violations and Enforcement

A major responsibility of the Board is to enforce the Agreement and Deed, especially with regard to the review and approval process for all exterior alterations. Our process, when notified of a potential violation, is to contact the current owner with a cease and desist letter. If the work is already completed, we send a letter of notice of the violation with a request for Application for Exterior Alterations within 30 days. Failing to receive a timely response, we reserve the right to take legal action.

There are currently 10 homes in Original Northwood that are undergoing the violation abatement process. This can become a lengthy process which can end in legal proceedings. I thank Richard Skolasky, President of the Original Northwood Association and trustee of the Greater Northwood Covenant Association, as well as Mary Stevenson, previous Covenant Chair and member of the Covenant Committee, for their continued support in assessing the outstanding violations and providing historical input in each case. In the past three months, we have been able to make significant progress in curing these violations, with one homeowner completing work to cure a violation and exit the abatement process, and several more to be completed in the next few months.

Original Northwood Association Treasurer's Report, May 2022

A. SUMMARY OF DUES PAYMENTS

Street	# of Houses	2021 DUES PAID (thru Sep 2021)		2022 DUES PAID thru 31 May 2022		
		Cumulative (corrected)	%	Cumulative	%	Current
Argonne	50	23	46%	18	36%	0
Deepwood	37	21	57%	12	32%	1
Eastview	10	3	30%	2	20%	0
Havenwood	19	11	58%	7	37%	0
Kelway	16	5	31%	4	25%	0
Loch Raven	15	7	47%	6	40%	0
Northview	70	31	44%	27	39%	0
Roundhill	33	18	55%	17	52%	0
Roundtop	8	3	38%	2	25%	0
Southview	39	25	64%	15	38%	0
The Alameda	57	16	28%	7	12%	0
Westview	41	18	44%	13	32%	1
Totals	395	181	46%	130	33%	2

B. CURRENT MONTH BANK RECONCILIATION

Bank beginning balance (Checking & Savings combined)		\$21,132.91	
Revenues	2022 Dues	\$80.00	Dues received
	Administrative	\$0.15	Savings Interest earned
	Total Revenues		\$80.15
Expenses	Administrative		
	Communications		
	Covenant	\$570.00	Legal services
	Maintenance	\$480.00	ONA Sign garden maintenance
	Safety		
	Social	\$564.47	Refreshments and Band for Spring Fling 2022
	Contingency		
Total Expenses		\$1,614.47	
Ending balance :		\$19,598.59	
Bank ending balance :	<i>Checking:</i>	\$ 1,951.43	<i>Total:</i> \$ 19,598.59 (Confirmed)
	<i>Savings:</i>	\$ 17,647.16	

C. YEAR-TO-DATE BUDGET ANALYSIS (FY 2022 running OCTOBER - SEPTEMBER)

Category	BUDGET / ANTICIPATED		ACTUALS		NET (Budget minus Actual)
	Expenses	Revenues, Reimb.	Expenses	Revenues, Reimb.	
Dues		\$7,200 revenue	\$0.00	\$3,235.00	(\$3,965.00)
Administrative	(\$100)	\$0	(\$1,094.82)	\$1.11	(\$993.71)
Communications	(\$500)	\$0	(\$127.20)	\$0.00	\$372.80
Covenant	(\$2,000)	\$2,000 reimb.	(\$2,767.31)	\$0.00	(\$2,767.31)
Maintenance	(\$5,000)	\$5,000 reimb.	(\$980.00)	\$0.00	(\$980.00)
Safety	(\$200)	\$0	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$200.00
Social	(\$3,000)	\$2,000 revenue	(\$2,157.39)	\$0.00	(\$1,157.39)
Contingency	(\$100)	\$0	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$100.00
Totals	(\$10,900)	\$16,200	(\$7,126.72)	\$3,236.11	(\$9,190.61)