



# Ednor Gardens – Lakeside Civic Association 2016 -2017 Annual Report

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This has been a strong year for the Ednor Gardens – Lakeside Civic Association. Election of the current Board of Directors took place November 2016 and the members quickly got to work shortly thereafter. All Board Members were new to their role, but worked together to ensure a productive and positive outcome for our community. It has been our pleasure to serve you, our neighbors, in creating a strong and inclusive community. We continue to work toward a more equitable tomorrow and know we can achieve more by working together.

Please note, the information below does not include every detail or project the Civic Association has participated in this past year. In respect of transparency and openness of Association business, we present you with this annual report to acknowledge the work from 2016-2017 Ednor Gardens – Lakeside Civic Association.

## **Strengthening the Association**

One of our first priorities was making sure that the Association had the structures in place to be able to serve residents. Over the past year, the Board has worked to make sure that the Association has everything it needs to be able to stay in touch, keep track of members, and be good stewards of our financial resources. To do this, the Board has:

### *Established systems for continuity*

- Secured a post office box to serve as the official address of the Association.
- Established a Google Voice phone number for the Association, which can be forwarded to any current Board member.
- Created a Google Drive for the Association to house materials developed by the Board to ensure continuity and knowledge transfer when new Board members are seated.
- Created an online membership form where residents can add their information to the Association's database of contacts, as well as express their interest in committees and events.
- Updated and issued membership cards to Association members.

### *Established systems for financial management*

- Developed a relationship with Strong City Baltimore to act as our fiscal sponsor and keep the financial records of the Association.
- Established systems for collecting and recording dues that allow for payments to be made in cash at Association meetings or events, by check sent to the Association's post office box, or electronically via Strong City Baltimore's website.

## *Capturing our past and building our future*

- Archived historical documents and pictures by utilizing a Neighborhood Intern awarded to the Association through Johns Hopkins University.
- Developed a Nominating Fact Sheet and shared position descriptions to encourage more neighbors to become involved with the Association Board of Directors and committees.

## **Communicating with Our Residents**

One of the goals for this year was to establish mechanisms to regularly communicate with neighbors to keep people updated on events and meetings, as well as to hear about issues and concerns. Over the past year, the Board has worked to make sure that information is being regularly shared with the community, and that Ednor Gardens-Lakeside residents are able to get in touch with Board members to voice concerns. To keep these channels open, the Board has:

- Created an email and a postal mail contact list of members and other neighbors to stay in touch when needed.
- Established email addresses for each board position that can be forwarded to anyone in that position.
- Shared the newly established Association phone number on materials distributed to members.
- Re-established *Hi Neighbor*, the printed Ednor Gardens Lakeside Civic Association newsletter and created an electronic version of the newsletter that can be email to neighborhood residents.
- Launched a new website (<http://www.ednorgardenslakeside.org>) which is regularly updated and includes Association membership meeting minutes.
- Posted to the Association Facebook page with information that is relevant to neighbors.
- Responded to inquiries via NextDoor.
- Brought back a facilitated Block Ambassador (Block Captain) program to the community, and recruited 11 new Block Ambassadors to organize their neighbors and share important information.

## **Addressing Neighborhood Concerns**

It's not enough to know what the problems are; it's also important to take action to improve the quality of life in our neighborhood. From public safety, to education, to greening and transportation, Board members have been active in the past year to make our community an even better place to live. To do that, the Board has:

### *Crime and Safety*

- Met with the police department and city council members to discuss crime prevention in the neighborhood.
- Worked with the police on a plan to increase police presence in the neighborhood to reduce the robberies and identify the youth perpetrating these crimes.
- Conducted an evening light inventory to identify areas of the neighborhood that lacks sufficient lighting. Numerous city agencies and representatives participated in the inventory that brought tree trimming and enhanced lighting to our community.

- Maintained active Citizens on Patrol from March - December with 18 community patrollers.

#### *Housing Concerns*

- Created and maintain a list of properties of concern, and followed up with Baltimore City Department of Housing and Community Development to address issues.
- Met with the management of the Tiffany apartments to raise residents' and neighbors' concerns, and have continued to follow up.

#### *Transportation*

- Tracked changes to the Baltimore bus system and kept the community informed about the changes affecting the Ednor Gardens - Lakeside community. Advocated for changes based on residents' input prior to the launch of the new system and share ways for the community to provide feedback on their experience with the new system.
- Arranged meetings with Rails-to-Trails for the community to learn more about the proposed trails along E. 33<sup>rd</sup> Street.

#### *Education*

- Established relationships with neighborhood schools and school principals.
- Worked with neighboring communities and Waverly PTO to advocate for new administration and resources at Waverly Elementary Middle School.

#### *Community Greening*

- Implemented community-wide tree planting after tree canvass review in partnership with Baltimore City Forestry and Parks and People Foundation.

### **Bringing People Together**

2017 has also been a year full of memorable events, where people have been able to get to know each other and create stronger bonds as neighbors. Our work as an Association is not all fun and games - but some of it is! During the year, the Board:

- Planned a 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration for the Ednor Gardens Lakeside community.
- Scheduled four Community Pitch-ins (dumpster days) throughout the year in different areas of the community.
- Hosted barbecues in conjunction with two Community Pitch-in events.
- Supported neighborhood block parties with games and people power.
- Hosted three Good Neighbor walks around the neighborhood to create a greater sense of community.
- Served as fiscal sponsor and assisted in the planning and implementation of the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Waverly Village Fair.
- Hosted monthly events -- E. 33<sup>rd</sup> Street Hangout and Wine Wednesday - that bring neighbors together in a social setting.

## **Connecting with Other Communities**

As a neighborhood, it's important that we work with other communities that are often facing the same issues including those that are closest to us, as well as those working on issues that affect the whole City. The Board has been active in representing Ednor Gardens-Lakeside in a variety of partnerships that make our community stronger. The Board has:

- Represented Ednor Gardens – Lakeside at a Live Baltimore event to encourage city residents to purchase homes in Ednor Gardens. Created a display board about the community for use at these types of events.
- Actively participated in the Northeast Community Organization (NECO), a coalition of neighborhood associations in north and northeast Baltimore City that specializes in articulating the needs and concerns of the NECO area regarding community development and economic, commercial, educational, recreational, and environmental issues to city and state officials.
- Participated in Waverly Business Area Urban Renewal Plan Working Group.
- Endorsed the Baltimore Housing Roundtable 20/20 Campaign to support the creation of permanently affordable housing throughout the city.
- Participated in planning for National Night Out in partnership with Harbel Community Organization, Coldstream-Homestead-Montebello Community, Councilman Brandon Scott, NECOP and Black Professional Men, Inc.
- Served on the planning committee for the Coldstream-Homestead-Montebello community's Light City event at Lake Montebello.
- Participated in the Strong City Baltimore Neighborhood Institute to learn about and share ideas for improving our community.

It has been a fantastic year for the Board in serving the community and working with our neighbors has made all of these things possible. We look forward to what we can do next year!

Respectfully Submitted,

The 2016-2017 Ednor Gardens-Lakeside Board of Directors,

Shane Bryan, President

Steve Holt, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President

Liana Washburn, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President

Mike Puma, Secretary

Arthurine Walker, Treasurer

John Vaughters, Sergeant-at-Arms

Anthony Angion, Ednor Gardens Representative

Sara Artes, Lakeside Representative

Amy Greensfelder, Youth Committee Chair

Brian Weisner, Safety Committee/COP Chair

# 2016 -2017 Financial Report

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<b>Starting Balance</b>	\$1,991.44
Income from Dues	<u>\$1,840.00</u>
<b>Total Operating Budget</b>	<b>\$3,831.44</b>

## Expenses

Bank Service Charges	\$24.39
Books & Software	\$30.50
Event Supplies	\$976.69
Management Fees	\$135.92
Membership Fees & Dues	\$100.00
Office Supplies	\$35.79
Printing	\$463.37
Professional Development	\$95.00
Program Supplies	\$175.87
Subscription	<u>\$86.00</u>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$2,123.53</b>

## Current Account Balance

**\$1,707.91**

## Explanation of expenses:

- Bank Service Charges – self-explanatory; varies monthly based on transactions
- Books & Software – material for Community Law Center course for community associations
- Event Supplies – food and supplies needed for food related events including two barbecues and the 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration
- Management Fees – fee charged by Strong City Baltimore to maintain our financial records. This also allows the Association to apply for grants available to nonprofits (even though the Association does not currently have nonprofit status)
- Membership Fees & Dues – EGLS Community Association is a member of the Northeast Community Organization (NECO), a coalition of neighborhood associations in north and northeast Baltimore. We pay annual dues to NECO
- Office Supplies – cash box, receipt book, and general office supplies
- Printing – printing of the 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary invitation and photocopying the printed newsletter
- Professional Development – payment for a class through the Community Law Center that will help EGLS Civic Association to become a nonprofit organization.
- Program Supplies – yard bags for community clean-up and kids gift bags for 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration.
- Subscription – the Association post office box