

## WASHINGTON SQUARE WEST CIVIC ASSOCIATION BOARD CANDIDATES - Fall 2022

Current Board members up for re-election:

1. Leigh Ann Campbell
2. Casey Kuklick
3. Drew Moyer
4. Tami Sortman

Candidates for board:

1. Julia Hutnik
2. Adam Kesseleman
3. Lynn Landes
4. Jarrod Williams

### **Current board members up for re-election:**

**1. Leigh Ann Campbell:** Please accept this email as my wish to continue to fill a role on the Board of Directors for the Wash Square West Civic Association. In my time on the board, I have enjoyed collecting and sharing resources with our community through the weekly ePosts. Although unfamiliar with the software, I embraced the challenge of being the board's tech guru and continue to update the Civic website and attempt to solve email challenges as they arrive. I have enjoyed stepping into a co-leader partnership with Casey Kuklick to plant trees in our community through the Wash West Tree Tender group.

Outside of my board contributions, my children have attended McCall from K-8 grades, and I believe in supporting the local school which supports the larger community. I am a landscape architect, so I am always looking for ways to improve the built world while building community. I would look forward to the opportunity to continue to serve our community through a Board of Director role.

**2. Casey Kuklick:** Casey Kuklick is a current WSWCA board member and the Chair of the Government Relations Committee. In his brief tenure at the Civic, he has led the Wash West PHS Tree Tenders group, leading groups of volunteers in planting close to 20 street trees in the neighborhood since the spring of 2020. He has also successfully worked with the Streets Department to install a series of dog bag dispensers at key corners to help reduce dog waste in the neighborhood. In addition to his work with the civic, Casey serves Wash West as a Democratic Committee person in the 5th Ward and an active member of his condo association's greening committee. In his day job, Casey is the Chief of Staff at the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society where he leads long-term strategic planning efforts and oversees government relations and external partnership building. He looks forward to continuing his work with the Civic in a new term and to keeping Wash West clean, green, and safe.

**3. Drew Moyer:** Please accept this note as my statement of interest for re-election on the Board of Washington Square West Civic Association (the "Association" or "WWCA"). I have an intense interest in the City of Philadelphia and the Washington Square West community where I have lived with my partner and two sons for more than 12 years. I have demonstrated my commitment to the community by currently serving on the Board, including as Secretary for the past year, and by my engagement in the City on a wider basis including board service at the Philadelphia Zoo and The Philadelphia School where my children are students.

I am the Chief Financial Officer and Corporate Secretary for a \$20 billion industrial distribution group based in Wayne, PA. This job and prior work experience including more than 20 years as the CFO and Corporate Secretary of a New York Stock Exchange publicly-traded global manufacturing company, has provided me with deep and relevant experience in governance and financial matters. In non-profit and community work, I have chaired the Advancement and Finance Committees of the Philadelphia Zoo and also served as a director of Penn Foundation and the Manufacturers Alliance for Productivity and

Innovation, a Washington, D.C.-based public policy and advocacy group for global manufacturing companies. I'm also a director of the Elite Distributors Insurance Corporation.

I'm very thankful to be a part of this great community and would be honored to continue service as a Director of the Washington Square West Civic Association.

**4. Tami Sortman:** Please accept this as my statement of interest for re-election to the Board of Washington Square West Civic Association. I have lived here for over 20 years and have been involved in community service for the City of Philadelphia and Washington Square West for many years. I have volunteered for current and past boards in the community, including WSWCA as a longtime board member and now current President, the Pennsylvania Convention and Visitors Bureau board of directors and marketing boards, current board member and co-chair of the Brainbox committee for PHL Diversity with the CVB, and co-chair of the LGBTQ+ Police Liaison Committee. I also sat on the Gay and Lesbian International Sport Association boards and the MPA LGBTQ international board, Mayor Nutter's LGBT Advisory Board, and The Attic Youth Center board where I helped plan The Attic's 20th anniversary gala and raised over \$65,000 for the center. I was part of the 50th Anniversary Planning Committee for 2015 Philadelphia LGBT Archives Exhibit "Speaking Out for Equality". This was a groundbreaking exhibit, which was converted into an online educational site and a traveling exhibit.

I was a founder and first elected president of the Philadelphia Gay Tourism Caucus, where I spearheaded the rainbow signage project that demarcates the Gayborhood. I also sit on the marketing committee and chair the LGBT sensitivity training. I worked on behalf of the PGTC, along with the mayor's office and PGN, to place a historic marker in front of Giovanni's Room as the oldest LGBT bookstore in the country. I was also just appointed co-chair of the LGBT Police Liaison Committee for Philadelphia as well as the LGBTQ Meeting Professionals Association board. I worked on a LGBTQ+ committee for the 2020 Census.

I'm very thankful and committed to being part of this great community and would be honored to continue service on the board of the WSWCA. I have been president for one year now, which is truly not enough time to get things done and make great changes for our neighborhood! However, the things I have accomplished since being in this position include:

1. Getting approval and starting the paperwork to have Washington Square West become a HISTORIC DISTRICT. Also, adding to that paperwork is BLACK HISTORY for the neighborhood as well as LGBTQ+ HISTORY
2. Creating partnerships with big box stores as well as neighboring hospitals and local businesses to address safety issues
3. Create a pilot program with the Streets Department and Seger Dog Park to have Doggie Poop Bag Dispensers placed throughout our neighborhood
4. Establishing a connection with the police department and their community engagement team to be more involved with our community.
5. Re-establish our seat at the table of PDAC
6. Meeting with Streets Department to talk about Big Bellies and Trash in the neighborhood
7. Connecting with and partnering with other Civic Associations
8. Taking a seat at the table with the potential 76ers Stadium to ensure that they are looking out for the communities that live near there
9. Connecting with the community through events, walking tours and clean-ups
10. Re-establishing connections with Jefferson University Hospital by:
  - a. Speaking about WSWCA to students at the commencement ceremony
  - b. Establishing connections with Jefferson so we can get answers to questions the community may have

These are just a few things the board has been able to tackle in our first 11 months. There is so much more the Civic needs to do and if I am re-elected, I will lay out a game plan for the next 12 months, making safety and security a top priority!

**Candidates for board:**

**1. Julia Hutnik:** I believe that many “Philly transplants” like me are not actively involved in improving the quality of life of the city in which they reside. Not to mention, many long-term residents have given up hope for an amicable and safe community. Having lived and been an active member of our community for over 2 years, I feel confident that I can help provide more opportunities towards a brighter and more resourced neighborhood here in Washington Square West! With a business background and knack for connecting with neighbors, I would like to expand on the great work done by the Washington Square West Civic Association, while residing in Philadelphia. I have worked for Vanguard based in Malvern, PA, since moving to the Gayborhood in July of 2020. It has been a rewarding challenge to grow here (not to mention the rainbow crosswalks are back!). Preparing financial reports for U.S. and international funds with billions of dollars in Net Assets has developed my skills in using professional skepticism, drafting accurate disclosures, and communicating business “plain-talk” with our investors and stakeholders. Always having an interest in extracurriculars, I have been a member of the firm’s Hispanic/Latinx Organization for Leadership and Advancement (HOLA) employee resource group. Having gained a leadership position in HOLA, I get to oversee projects of interest for furthering Vanguard’s DEI goals, such as representation and belonging for a growing Hispanic/Latinx U.S. population.

If given the opportunity, I would commit to showing up, actively participating, and learning from my WSWCA peers. I think the Board position is a special chance to add value directly and indirectly to the neighborhood. For example, the events at Kahn park, yard sales, and commissioner/police/sanitation access brings a sense of social safety to our neighbors. I would be interested in further helping with trash cleanup initiatives, municipal fund research, and community building events and activities.

**2. Adam Kessleman:** I joined this wonderful community as a new resident at 1217 Pine Street I have over 25 years in real estate acquisition, development and property management. I'm the founder of City Bright Philadelphia (a non-profit organization that pays the homeless to clean the streets) and additionally own an environment testing company (Lead Testing Services LLC) as well as visiting faculty at the University of Pennsylvania. I currently serve as Senior Vice President at Health Union. I've served on the condo board at Green House Condominiums (Bala Cynwyd, Pennsylvania), Ply Mar Swim Club and am currently a member of BIA (Building Industry Association) and BOMA (Building Operations Management Association). Lastly, I've held certifications as a Certified Public Accountant, Financial Advisor and Lead Technician.

**3. Lynn Landes:** I am interested in being on the board. I'm a member in good standing, as far as I know. My husband and I have been residents for 21 years, since 2001. In addition, I'm a lifelong community volunteer, organizer, activist, researcher, reporter, commentator, and writer. Currently, I am the publisher of [LynnLandes.com](http://LynnLandes.com) which includes several websites and meetup groups I founded over the past several decades on a wide variety of issues: foraging, fiber arts, health, waste, voting, historic streets, and safe streets. Specifically, I am the Founder of [www.SmallStreetsPhilly.org](http://www.SmallStreetsPhilly.org) and [www.SafeStreetsPhilly.org](http://www.SafeStreetsPhilly.org). Thank you for your consideration.

**4. Jarrod Williams:** Thank you so much for considering me for the Washington Square West Civic Association. I love to keep our neighborhood clean and safe, and I want to use my skills to encourage other residents to get involved.

March, 2020, I began living full-time in Philadelphia, with my partner, he has been a resident and homeowner since 1997. Prior to that, I had been commuting to Philadelphia from Wilkes-Barre every weekend (which I did for over 8 years). I enjoy cooking, gardening and spending time with our two Australian Labradoodles, Jasper and Mackenzie.

Living full-time in Center City has been amazing. I have come to really appreciate the joys of being able to walk to the cultural venues, the Reading Terminal and the many stores, as I hate to drive. Since living here, I have spent many hours cleaning and improving the tree beds in front of both our home and our parking lot. I'm looking forward to getting involved in WSWCA to meet fellow residents and to help improve the neighborhood even more and deepen my commitment to the city.