

From the Executive Director
David MacDonald

April is going to be a busy and active month for the Asylum Hill Neighborhood Association. Our Committees will be meeting in April to continue the work of improving our historic neighborhood. Committees allow residents and other stakeholders to have a positive impact on our area of the city. We invite everyone from the Hill to join a committee and help us improve our neighborhood. Each committee with its description is listed below.

Quality of Life Committee: To assist residents and businesses in resolving Quality of Life issues in Asylum Hill. Some of the issues it will focus on include: safe streets, panhandling, public safety, and housing (tenant issues).

The Public Safety Committee is being folded into the Quality of Life Committee, which will continue the work on reducing panhandling in our neighborhood.

Economic Development and Infrastructure Committee: To further the AHNA's mission for economic development and related infrastructure, including market-rate housing. The Committee will create an economic development plan that will guide our work forming a broad coalition to support the revitalization of the Farmington Avenue business corridor, as well as encourage more market-rate housing and homeownership.

Transportation Committee: To further AHNA's mission for improved transportation, safe streets, related infrastructure and the I-84 project.

The Communications & Membership Outreach Committee produces the News and Views newsletter. It is also going to focus on increasing outreach to our residents. Anyone interested in helping to get the word out about Asylum Hill through communications is encouraged to attend on the third Tuesday of the month at 2pm at the Asylum Hill Congregational Church. The Committee is looking for a new date/time to meet so check our website for more information on meeting times. All Committee meetings will be listed on our Committee Calendar at www.asylumhill.org.

As always, if you have any questions, would like to join us in our work or have concerns about the Hill, please feel free to email me at exdir@asylumhill.org. We look forward to hearing from you.

In addition, AHNA is co-sponsoring an event celebrating April as DonateLife month. We will be honoring organ donors and recipients, including our own Georges Annan-Kingsley, with an evening of art, photography, and jazz. Hors d'oeuvres will be served. Georges recently received a donated kidney and became a U.S. citizen in 2018. Join us as we celebrate the gift of life and our neighborhood leader Georges. The DonateLife celebration will take place on Friday April 5th from 5:30 -7:00pm at the Mark Twain House and Museum. Doors open at 5pm. We hope to see you there.

