

## Volunteer of the Month Maura Hallisey

Maura came to Asylum Hill as an interpreter for the Harriett Beecher Stowe House because she was interested in museums and their capacity to educate. The social justice part was also a big plus. She had just graduated from Connecticut College and was back home in Wethersfield when the position became available. She applied and was accepted. In these past three + years she has been promoted several times to her current position as program coordinator. It has been this work at the Stowe Center that brought her into contact first with AHNA and then with South Marshall Interfaith



Coalition. She joined both organizations and has become a regular at their meetings, helping to strengthen the connection of the Stowe Center to the rest of the neighborhood. However we just learned that Maura will be leaving soon for the University of Pennsylvania Law School in Philadelphia. "It's something that I've wanted to do for a while, I love museums and that they can serve as a platform for discussion and conversation and public education." But it was the social justice aspect of the Stowe Center that got her thinking about Law School, and Bryan Stevenson's visit didn't hurt either.

"I think I'd like to pursue a type of public interest law, in particular exploring being a public defender." Maura said.

So Our August 7<sup>th</sup> meeting will be her last, at least for a while. When asked about life after law school, she said "my entire family is here, I love the area, I love Hartford, I love living and working here, so I would hope to come back" We hope so too.

To see Maura off and wish her well, come to the AHNA meeting Monday August 7<sup>th</sup> 6:15 pm at **The 224** 224 Farmington Ave.