

## **From the Chair**

Happy New Year!

2017 is the year that The Asylum Hill Neighborhood Association will celebrate 20 Years of existence. We continue to serve together in strength and with joy as the umbrella organization that empowers residents and supports connections and collaborations among all stakeholders to improve the quality of life in our neighborhood.

When we look at where AHNA is today and at the plethora of past victories, losses and breakthroughs within the last 20 years, we see a constant, the repetitive actions from concerned residents and stakeholders who have strived and continue to strive to have a peaceful, safe, beautiful and loving neighborhood to reside, work, learn, play and worship in.

The members of AHNA are planning a Gala this year, along with other events to celebrate those pioneers and champions who worked hard to make AHNA what it is today. This year will also be the start of AHNA's first fundraising campaign to raise funds to employ a professional Executive Director. Our hope is to employ an Executive Director who has the ability to strengthen and build stronger collaborations with the residents and stakeholders alike within the Asylum Hill neighborhood and give greater attention to the day to day business and advocacy needs of the organization.

AHNA thanks the Asylum Hill Congregational Church for their continued support and for the many years they provided a home for AHNA'S monthly General Meeting place. Our next General Meeting will be held on Monday January 9, 2017, at 6:15pm at Grace Lutheran Church, 46 Woodland Street, Hartford, CT. The meeting place in the months thereafter starting the first Monday in February at 6:15pm will be at the 224 EcoSpace, 224 Farmington Avenue, Hartford, CT.

I look forward to celebrating AHNA'S 20th Year of existence with each one of you.

Together we can continue the mission of AHNA with excellence and strength.

Have a Good Month!

Yours in the mission!

Yvonne Matthews, Chair