

## Executive Director's Thoughts

By David MacDonald



As we approach the end of the calendar year, it's time to re-affirm and strengthen our partnerships with non-profits and organizations in Asylum Hill. There are two major functions of the Asylum Hill Neighborhood Association. First and foremost is to provide a forum for our neighbors to voice concerns about the quality of life in Asylum Hill and work with other stakeholders to address those concerns. The other major function is to encourage and facilitate neighborhood institutions (non-profits, corporations, churches, etc.) to work together and collaborate to improve the quality of life in our neighborhood. We need their resources (funds, volunteers, knowledge, etc.) to improve the quality of life in our neighborhood. We can't do it alone. We need their collaboration. Therefore, over the next two months, we will be reaching out to our non-profit partners and other neighborhood institutions to discuss how they can collaborate with us to help improve the quality of life in Asylum Hill. Our institutional partners are the lifeblood of AHNA, providing essential resources and volunteers for our efforts and we thank them for their support.

At our next General Meeting, Monday, November 5<sup>th</sup> at 6:15 at 224 Farmington Ave. we will be electing four new Board members as well as discussing and approving our new By-Laws. These by-laws were approved by the Board of Directors and will be submitted to the membership for review and a vote. You can get a copy of the new by-laws from our website ([www.asylumhill.org](http://www.asylumhill.org)). The primary changes are to clarify and simplify language. It also clarifies and simplifies how to become a voting member of AHNA, the election of officers, and the structure of Board of Director committees. A more detailed summary of the changes will be provided. We will hold our Annual 'End of Year Celebration' Meeting in December. We hope you will join us at our next meeting and let your voice be heard.