

Name: Cathy Clermont

1. Why are you interested in serving on the SPNA board?
On the Slatterly Park website the mission of the Neighborhood Association is to "...strengthen ties between neighbors, curtail crime, and beautify our properties in an overall effort to maintain and enhance our property values." Is that our mission? I want a safe, inclusive neighborhood for child-free adults, those starting a family and empty-nesters. A place where retired folks can live side by side with professionals and working class individuals. I want to live with people that aren't concerned about their property value because they never want to move. If these people feel welcome and at home, property values will rise as a byproduct. Location and affordability drew me to Slatterly Park but the friendly and diverse neighbors make me never want to leave.
2. Please describe any previous community leadership experience.
I don't really have any community leadership experience. Maybe that's bad, but I think it'll bring a new perspective and some new ideas to the board.
3. Please describe any specific skills that you would bring to the board.
I feel that more importantly than skills I have values. I believe strongly in helping each other. I look at the people before the big picture. I listen to and respect the minority and the underrepresented. We should strengthen neighbor ties because it will curtail crime and peer pressure is a great way to beautify our properties. We should also look out for each other, help a neighbor when they need it and take the time to chat at the bus stop, playground or passing on the bike path.
4. Please describe any experience you have working for or serving on the board of a nonprofit organization.
I don't feel any other non-profit experience I have is relevant to this position. If you want an impressive resume, it's not mine. I am just someone that loves living here and is committed to keeping it the safe and friendly downtown neighborhood that it is for my family, the renters down the street who rarely mow their lawn, the guy around the corner with the car leaking oil in the driveway, the guy whose bad fortune has caused him to abandon the house nearby, the school kids that ding-dong-ditch my house every morning, the retired woman with the immaculate garden that puts mine to shame and all those who want to live in an expensive artsy area too. We all belong here and we should all be working together.