

The Greenbrier Gazette

The newsletter of the Greenbrier Neighborhood Association

Spring 2019



Greenbrier Neighborhood Association Spring Meeting May 1 at 7:30pm

The Greenbrier Neighborhood Association (GNA) Spring Meeting will be held in the gym/cafeteria of the Greenbrier School on Wednesday, May 1 beginning at 7:30 PM. This is a City Council election year, and a majority of our new Councilors will be chosen in the general election to be held November 5, 2019. At the **GNA Fall Meeting**, we will likely have a forum with all the candidates who will run for the three open seats. Currently, eight citizens have announced their candidacy for City Council. Three are running as Independents and five have announced as Democrats.

In the Democratic primary to be held June 11, 2019, three of the five Democratic candidates will be chosen to represent that party in the November 5, 2019 general election. No Republicans have announced to run. If the Republicans do choose a candidate, he or she will not be running in the June primary.

meet.n.greet

Given the important and direct impact that City Council has on the lives of Charlottesville residents, the GNA Executive Committee decided to have a "Meet and Greet" at the **GNA Spring Meeting** for the candidates running in the June primary. So please mark your calendar and plan to come on May 1 to meet some of the folks who might be running our city come next January. We will also have some food available for this social event, as well as tables with information from some local groups that impact our neighborhood (for example, the McIntire Botanical Garden, Rivanna Trails Foundation, and YMCA).

The Official Candidate Slate posted March 29, 2019 on the Charlottesville Democratic Party website (<https://cvillegdems.org/>) is:

Bob Fenwick

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/bob.fenwick.796>

Sena Magill

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/SenaforCville/>

Twitter: @senaforcville

Michael Payne

Facebook: @MichaelPayneCville

Twitter: @MPayneCville

Brian Pinkston

Twitter: @PinkstonBrian

www.pinkstonforcville.org

Lloyd Snook

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/Lloyd-Snook-for-City-Council-747209678996506>

Independent Candidates for City Council to date are:

Bellamy Brown

John Hall

Paul Long

Independent candidates must declare by June 11.

Also at our May 1 GNA Spring Meeting:

We will hear briefly from the City Commonwealth's Attorney or his Deputy about their community outreach initiative.

Elections will be held for GNA Executive Committee members. The current members of the Executive Committee seeking re-election are: Deborah Johnson, Aven Kinley, and Kyle Lewis. In addition, we have one At-Large Seat open and need a Secretary. **Please consider volunteering!**

Multi-Use Trail Update

If you haven't been to Greenbrier Park recently, be sure to check out the completed first section of our long awaited multi-use crushed stone path! It is a nice little recreational trail section that people of all ages and abilities can enjoy on foot, bike, stroller, or wheel chair. The next section of the multi-use trail will hopefully be built during the second half of this year. It will start at Brandywine Drive, and then go upstream and across a bridge just beyond the current "rock hop." In addition, a bid is going out this summer to design the third section of the path that will extend upstream from the end of the "rock hop" bridge to cross a second bridge near The Center (formerly the Senior Center). This section will hopefully be built in 2020, if there is sufficient funding. Once this section is complete, the path will start to become more than just recreational because it will create a bike and pedestrian connection to Hillsdale Drive near The Center.

This multi-use path has been on City plans since 1972. It was included as a top priority on the City's bicycle pedestrian plans adopted by City Council. It was also the key feature of the Meadow Creek Stream Valley Park plan worked up by Parks and Recreation Department with our neighborhood back in 2012 and 2013 (and adopted by Council June 2013).

Unfortunately, the planned path is still less than halfway funded and designed. We are hopeful that the City is going to apply for a VDOT grant in the Fall 2019 to help fund the critically needed tunnel under the railroad tracks, which will connect the path to the existing paved trail along the John Warner Parkway. Upstream, the critical link from The Center area connection to Michie Drive and beyond to the City Gardens (behind Bodos) is also unfunded. **Please advocate with City leaders to finish these important long-planned projects.**

The other good trail news is that hopefully by the Summer 2020 the City will complete construction of a planned paved multi-use trail paralleling the 250 Bypass. It will run from Hydraulic Road through the lovely woods behind CHS, past the YMCA, and connect all the way to the John Warner Parkway near the Vietnam Memorial.



Support Your Neighborhood Association!

If you would like to support your Greenbrier Neighborhood Association (GNA) and its activities, please consider paying the suggested dues of **\$10.00 per calendar year**. Dues fund neighborhood meetings and printing of the newsletters. In addition, they support activities such as the "Lets Party!" neighborhood social gatherings and the **Greenbrier School Frog Jog**. Another project being considered for funding is erecting map signposts on the Rivanna Greenway trails in the Greenbrier Neighborhood.

You may pay dues by check (paper or electronic) or digitally through Zelle:

(1) If you pay by check, please make it payable to **Greenbrier Neighborhood Association** and mail it to Jane Tirrell at 1715 Meadowbrook Heights Road, Charlottesville, VA 22901. You may also set up a bill pay to GNA and have your online banking generate and mail a check to GNA C/O Jane Tirrell.

(2) If you would like to pay through Zelle, please establish a contact for GNA-Jane Tirrell and use the email address GNADUES@gmail.com. The money will go straight to an account with SunTrust Bank that is linked to the Association's business account.

PLEASE NOTE: You are not required to pay dues to join the GNA e-mail list or to receive the newsletter. Many thanks to the **95 households** who paid dues in calendar year 2018 and the **three** that have already paid dues for 2019!

Along with their checks, some neighbors have sent notes expressing their appreciation for the newsletters and for being "kept in the loop". Members of your GNA Executive Committee thank you for your kind words and encouragement.



At its February 27, 2019 meeting, the Greenbrier Neighborhood Association (GNA) Executive Committee approved the continued use of a portion of our GNA dues for the important purpose of building a sense of community among the people who live in the Greenbrier Neighborhood.

From October 2018 through September 2019, the **Let's Party Program** will fund up to ten (10) neighborhood parties and reimburse expenses up to \$100 per party to neighborhood residents who will host/organize a social gathering for their block or for some immediate neighbors around them. Residents can invite neighbors who they already know, but the main point is to also to invite others around them who they don't know or don't know well. The funding can be used for things such as beverages; food; table and chair rental; disposable cups, plates, napkins, silverware; or any other communal resource or amenity for the party. It is desirable for a member of the GNA Executive Committee to be invited so they can meet neighbors and spread good will.

In order to apply for such funds BEFORE the event, please e-mail Heather Griffith: Heather@NestRealty.com



Greenbrier Elementary Update

Submitted by Aven H. Kinley Greenbrier PTO Co-President

Frog Jog -- Thank you to the Greenbrier Neighborhood Association (GNA) for helping sponsor the **Second Annual Greenbrier PTO Frog Jog** with a \$250 donation. The Frog Jog gets every child outside running 20+ laps around a small track. Children can run regardless of ability to fundraise, and everyone gets a cool T-Shirt too! This is the PTO's premier fundraiser for the school year. Last year we raised over \$18,000 and made the cover of the Daily Progress! The **2019 Frog Jog** will be held **Friday April 26th from 11:00 AM - 1:40 PM**. If you would like to support this neighborhood event financially or with volunteer time, please email greenbrierpto@gmail.com. We would love to have you come and cheer. **Greenbrier Elementary Families** – Whether you are new to Greenbrier or have been involved before, come learn about what the PTO is doing to support Greenbrier Elementary and its staff and teachers. Together we can do great things. PTO board positions are available!



PTO Meet and Greet – This event will be **Saturday May 11, 2019 from 2:00 - 5:00 PM** at Sarah Yeung's house: 2303 Greenbrier Dr. **RSVP** to sarah.e.yeung@gmail.com

New Kindergarten families – The PTO will sponsor a pizza social at Greenleaf Park **Wednesday June 12, from 4:30 - 6:30 PM**. Last year we had over 20 families attend. Come meet new friends and splash in the water. **RSVP: greenbrierpto@gmail.com** (caregivers and grandparents welcome)

Upcoming Events Include:

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|-----------------|---|
| April 26 | Frog Jog
(April 28 Rain Date for Frog Jog) |
| May 3 | International Picnic |
| May 11 | PTO Meet and Greet |
| June 9 | Last day of school |
| June 12 | Kindergarten Social |

Events

Greenbrier Elementary PTO is now a 501(c)3 non-profit organization – You can choose us for your **Amazon Smile** account.



amazon smile
You shop. Amazon gives.



Stay Connected

by Joining the Greenbrier Neighborhood Association E-mail Distribution List.

The Greenbrier Neighborhood Association (GNA) group e-mail distribution list is a **non-public "Yahoo Group"** that is free. It is monitored and

maintained by your GNA Executive Committee. This means that: (1) you will be included in this e-mail distribution list only if you ask to be added and (2) people who have not been accepted to join the e-mail list cannot access it. We currently have about 350 members on the e-mail list.

A full set of the rules about appropriate use of the GNA e-mail distribution list can be found on the Homepage of our GNA website: <http://cvillegreenbrier.weebly.com>. Please review those before sending anything to the e-mail distribution list.

Our GNA website also has lots of other useful information and history about the Greenbrier Neighborhood. Please take time to check it out!



Thank You For Your Service

Lise Dobrin & Bruce Gehle

Please join your Greenbrier Neighborhood Association (GNA) Executive Committee in offering a huge thank you to **Lise Dobrin & Bruce Gehle**.

After 13 years as GNA Treasurer, Lise has decided to step down from the position. She joined the GNA Executive Committee in 2002 and became Treasurer in December 2005. Lise handled the Association's finances -- including collecting and depositing dues, paying for approved activities, submitting tax returns, and documenting our overall financial journey. ***We happily report that she will remain on the board as an At-Large Member.***

Bruce joined the Executive Committee in 2007 as an At-Large member. In addition, he did an excellent job as our President for several years. Bruce and his family are moving out of our neighborhood. We wish him well and thank him for his many years of fine service on the GNA Executive Committee.



Members of Greenbrier Neighborhood Association Executive Committee

Michael Barnes (Past President)
michaelbarnes456@yahoo.com

Lise Dobrin (At-Large)
id4n@virginia.edu

Barbara Elias (Vice President)
elias2012@comcast.net

Heather Griffith (Newsletter Editor)
heather@nestrealty.com

Sheila Haughey (At-Large)
sheila.haughey@comcast.net

Deborah Johnson (At-Large)
dqj7p@virginia.edu

Aven Hormel Kinley (At-Large)
avenhormel@gmail.com

Kyle Lewis (At-Large)
klewis@virginia.edu

Ned Michie (President; Webmaster)
nedmichie@aol.com

Mary Ropka (At-Large)
mropka@virginia.edu

Eve Solomon (At-Large; Newsletter Distribution)
solomoneve@hotmail.com

Jane Tirrell (Secretary; Treasurer)
teekjc@gmail.com

Currently there are two open seats on the Executive Committee. Anyone potentially interested in serving as an At-Large member or as Secretary should contact Ned Michie or one of the other current Committee members. We'd love to hear from you!