

2022-2023 PRESIDENT'S REPORT given at the June 2023 TCNA General Meeting

I began my term in the middle of a world pandemic, and was faced with the excitement and challenges of trying to navigate re-entry, as the isolation and restrictions began to loosen. We've come a long way from the awkwardness of learning the Zoom platform, and carrying on the business of our lives through our computer screens in our living rooms. As an organization, we didn't skip a beat, and we remained active in maintaining, planning, and communicating as needed, as life went on.

Thank you to my uber capable and committed board, who have done amazing things, and who have given countless hours of time and energy to making sure our quality of life in Tuscany Canterbury remains healthy and strong. It is only getting better.

I believe some of our most important work as a neighborhood association since I've been president has been in the arena of our streets and thoroughfares. Under the leadership of Brian ten Seithoff and his Streets Committee, there has been extensive planning and implementation of calming measures on University Pkwy, 39th Street, and Linkwood Ave.

With enormous support from Delegate Maggie McIntosh, funding of over 1.5 million dollars was secured to complete the project that began in 2002 to join and make continuous the Stoney Run path all the way from Northern Parkway down to the Jones Falls past Sisson Street. From a neighborhood effort among Tuscany Canterbury residents, the Friends of Stony Run was born. With dedication and perseverance, the plan, and its funding is now in place to finish what was started many years ago. Just a few weeks ago, one of the bridges was named in honor of Maggie McIntosh's sister, Amy Mickel who passed away. It was a lovely ceremony. What a huge accomplishment, and an honor to see it all come together in my term as President. I certainly can't take the credit, as the success was a direct result of the years of work of those who came before me. I just got to watch it come together!

Our other major street calming efforts on University and 39th St under Brian's direction, will have a great effect on the increased safety of pedestrians, motorists and cyclists. Thanks to all who have worked so

diligently, and to our Councilwoman Odette Ramos, who has supported our efforts to improve the routes and paths of our densely populated community.

In fact, much of our success in our endeavors is due to the support of our elected officials. We thank Councilwoman Ramos, Delegates Embry and Boyce, and Senator Washington for always being a phone call away, and for being our advocates when needed, in our community.

The strength of our neighborhood can be seen through the measures we take to ensure the historic and aesthetic quality of our neighborhood are honored. For example, we recently learned of a two story, brightly illuminated sign that was proposed to be hung on the sign of the Academy Apartment building at 3700 N Charles. With dozens of emails sent to the Planning Department opposing the variance to allow the sign to be hung, the management company withdrew the appeal, and the proposed sign, greater than 900% of what is allowed, will not be appearing in our neighborhood.

We are hoping for the Hopkins Deli to reopen under new management this fall. When we learned of their application for a new liquor license, we made sure to be present and involved in what kinds of operation details they were seeking. Again, through over 65 emails in 12 hours to the Liquor Board, our voices were heard. We were successful in securing a Memorandum of Understanding, and now have acceptable agreed upon terms under which the new establishment can operate.

Our communication and relationship with Calvert School remain strong. A recent request has come from the school, asking the TCNA to amend our covenants and allow for the school to rent out the recently built squash facilities. This request is being reviewed in greater detail, and we are at the very preliminary front end of our conversations with the school regarding this request. The neighborhood will be kept informed via updates through the monthly newsletter, website, and our board meetings are open for all to attend. This conversation will then become a part of a bigger one - that of the expiration of our current covenants with Calvert School in 2026. We will be actively working on ensuring the continuation of these covenants, and will keep the community informed.

TCNA is an integral force in maintaining our neighborhood, and in strengthening all the aspects of living here that we cherish so much. Continued membership and support is essential. Together we do great things that benefit our residents, our wider community, and the city as a whole. Our membership committee has done a wonderful job, recruiting new residents to become members, and our revenue from dues is up (\$8,130 for FY '23) from this time last year (\$7,675 FY '22). Our finances overall are strong, under our Treasurer Bill Bass.

Our website is truly a wealth of information. If you ever wanted to go deep in the history of Tuscany Canterbury - or be up to date on what's going on currently - it's all there in our fabulous website, created by Julie Watson, and Linda Eberhart. tuscanycanterbury.org.

This July 8th we will be holding our 100th Anniversary celebration. Josh Cohen and Mat Leffler Schulman are the organizers. Permits have been secured by the city, and planning is well under way.

Thanks to all who have made my last two years as President a productive and positive time. The residents that make up our board and neighborhood are truly invested in the health and well being of Tuscany Canterbury. I welcome Pat Hawthorne and Mike Travieso as incoming presidents, and thank them for their leadership.