

April 1 is Bates-Hendricks' Annual Meeting (No Joke!)

Our April meeting will be our annual meeting, where Board appointments come up for a vote (read about the candidates below). This meeting is also used as a recap to celebrate the previous year's achievements in the neighborhood and is a great introduction to Bates-Hendricks for new neighbors. This year, we have four Director spots up for a vote on the Board of Directors!

James Bulow, up for re-election as Director

James and his family moved to Bates-Hendricks in January 2016 and are enjoying life on East Street. After arriving in the neighborhood, James gladly joined the Quality of Life and Land Use committees. He is a co-chair of the Quality of Life Committee, focusing on improving the infrastructure of the neighborhood. James is excited about our vibrant and growing neighborhood and looks forward to hearing your ideas about what the Quality of Life Committee can do to improve the lives of all Bates-Hendricks neighbors, and working with you to see those ideas become reality.

Brandon Mott, up for re-election as Director

Brandon Mott is the Executive Director of Dathouse, a community-building non-profit in Bates-Hendricks that oversees the Lincoln Center and Lincoln Lane Coffee Company. He is the co-chair of the Quality of Life Committee, focusing on improving business development on East Street. He has lived in the neighborhood for 10 years and is also an ordained minister in the Church of God. When he is not spending time with his wife and daughters or doing community work, he enjoys being in the wilderness.

John Winter, current Vice President, up for Director

John has been a resident of Bates-Hendricks for over 11 years. He has spent much of his time in the neighborhood working to eliminate abandoned housing and negligent property owners as well as implementing beautification projects. He has been the chair of the Abandoned Housing Committee (now Land Use Committee) for the last 7.5 years and in that time has worked to target the worst properties in our area. John has also spent time working on many of the neighborhood public spaces, including Coburn Park and the public urban garden, Czerny Gardens – a memorial to his mother who loved to garden and feed people.

Maureen Miller, up for election as Director

Maureen would like to increase the involvement that she already has within the community. She finds that connecting neighbors to create an informed community is the fastest way to a more vibrant and ever-evolving community. Since becoming a neighbor in May 2016, she has been active in the neighborhood, and especially on Weghorst Street, by helping with neighborhood cleanups, distributing monthly newsletters, and serving on the Land Use Committee. Outside of her involvement with the neighborhood association, she adopted a median to maintain, became a Block Captain through KIB, and most recently added a Little Free Library to the green space at Orange Street and East Street. She looks forward to being able to help our neighborhood continue to become one of the best neighborhoods in Indianapolis.

Beth Whitaker, up for election as Director

Beth, an educator with the Indiana Historical Society, moved to Bates-Hendricks with her two pups and fiancé in July 2017. Since then, she has enjoyed the opportunities to support and serve the Events and Marketing Committees as well as represent the neighborhood at Historic Urban Neighborhoods of Indianapolis (HUNI). Beth values the community in this neighborhood and wants to support initiatives that continue to connect all neighbors. She has also offered to fill our vacant Secretary officer position that is sorely needed. Beth hopes to be able to serve as a local advocate for Bates-Hendricks through this capacity. Her front porch is always open!

Letter from the President

Bates-Hendricks has been working for the past year on both land use objectives and a redevelopment plan for East Street, which will be merged into one plan for this proposal. We are proud to announce the start of our planning process to have the Land Use Plan become [certified by the City of Indianapolis](#). Per DMD:



BHNA President, Laura Giffel

A DMD Certified Plan recognizes community plans prepared by neighborhood groups and other community organizations outside of the Department of Metropolitan Development that meet minimum expectations for community engagement and content. These plans are not adopted by the Metropolitan Development Commission and are not an official element of the Comprehensive Plan, but do represent important documentation of neighborhood aspirations and desires and should be consulted when engaging in projects.

The program is designed to encourage excellence in community planning and to maximize the impact of community-sponsored planning initiatives. It enables the Department of Metropolitan Development to leverage the full planning capacity of the Indianapolis community by providing community groups a pathway to influencing the official Comprehensive Plan for Indianapolis and Marion County. The certification expectations ensure planning processes and their resulting plans maintain the high level of accountability and transparency necessary when crafting public policy.

Our intent of this process is to ensure that the desires of the neighborhood association and its members are outlined in future development and planning in our boundaries. We recognize that while not everyone will agree on specifics of the plan, we hope to create a plan that furthers the growth in our community while being respectful of what is already here.

Our committees that address the plan include Quality of Life (2nd Monday of the month at Lincoln Lane Coffee Company at 6:30pm) and Land Use (4th Tuesday of the month at Immanuel United Church of Christ at 6:30pm). On **June 3, 2019 at 6:30pm**, we plan to discuss the plan in depth at our monthly meeting (located at Immanuel United Church of Christ). We will break into small groups, review plans, and solicit feedback. We hope to have final plans to vote on during our July neighborhood meeting. These meetings are all open to the public and you are welcome to attend. Our committees also plan to hold listening hours during the day before our July vote, and I will send out those dates once they are secured.

Please follow us on Facebook or join our mailing list to receive updates on this process.

James A. Garfield IPS School 31 April Calendar

Monday, April 8	School resumes
Friday, April 12	\$1 Jeans Day
Friday, April 12	3rd Nine Weeks Honors Day
Thursday, April 18	Donuts with Parents at 8:00am
Monday, April 22	ILEARN testing starts

Bates-Hendricks Neighbors & Dathouse Honored at Neighbor Power



Matt Nunley, Laura Giffel, Mayor Joe Hogset, & Greg Allen at Neighbor Power 2019

Bates-Hendricks had a strong showing at this year's Neighbor Power on March 9, a neighborhood-focused event run by Indianapolis Neighborhood Resource Center (INRC). Not only did Bates-Hendricks neighbors give a presentation, we were also nominated for a couple of awards, winning one of them.

Relationship Building Presentation

The Bates-Hendricks Neighborhood Association was thrilled with the opportunity to present at Neighbor Power on the topic of relationship building in and out of the neighborhood. Laura Giffel and Erin Chatten had participants mix and mingle with others and ask specific questions to take their relationship from a stranger to a neighbor. Attendees were encouraged to seek more relationship development

opportunities that focused on understanding *who* they are before *what* they can do for the neighborhood. After the presentation, discussions were held regarding ways relationships can be used to accomplish specific goals that leaders have created for their organizations.

Connecting Community Honorable Mention

In November, Bates-Hendricks resident Alexander-Lee collaborated with Dathouse to create the inaugural annual Bates-Hendricks Soiree of Thanksgiving, an event that included a delicious dinner, live music, a raffle, and an incredible pumpkin drop! We were nominated for INRC's Neighbor Power Connecting Communities Award and received honorable mention. Don't miss out as the event is set to return in the fall!

Inspiring Places Award

Last spring, Lois and Greg Allen evaluated the trees and plants on the S. New Jersey Street median. Along with Brian Thoele, they started pulling together a new vision for the median. Over the decade since the "Fab For Less" event that last transformed the median, many of the trees that had been planted at that time have since died or started to thin from age. That is not unusual for understory trees like the crabs planted on the median.

Because Keep Indianapolis Beautiful (KIB) had been such a great partner in the original landscaping of the median in 2008, Greg Allen called Nate Faris at KIB to ask if he would come out to look at the median and listen to their ideas. When he did, he agreed that the median would benefit from an avenue of native shade trees which would last into the next century. And so, KIB agreed to provide 21 shade trees to be interplanted along the S. New Jersey Street median. However, in order to get the trees, the residents on S. New Jersey Street had to promise at least 20 volunteers to help plant them. As an incentive to volunteer, the neighborhood organizers offered a lunch of Charleston Shrimp Gumbo after the planting, ending up with not 20, but 40 volunteers!

Of course, that meant a lot of Shrimp Gumbo needed to be prepared, which in turn required a volunteer cooking party of close friends to help make the meal. Most of those attending had never heard of shrimp stock, so they were taught as they went along. They made enough Gumbo to feed 60 and had a great time doing it. In the meantime, KIB had delivered the trees, placing them on the median.

Unfortunately, the day of the planting, Mother Nature had other plans – a blizzard – which forced KIB to call off the event that morning. Left with an enormous amount of Shrimp Gumbo and with heavy snow falling, they decided to take the Gumbo around to so many neighbors that always say "yes" when asked to help, much

to their surprise and delight. The trees did get planted the next week, but KIB did it since the neighbors had made such a monumental effort and had been thwarted by the weather.

With the trees planted, neighbors could see that something good was happening and, inspired by a vision for the future, neighbors pitched in to purchase almost a dozen hydrangeas to plant on the median. Without money for mulch, many decided to split their own hostas and planted them to keep the weeds down. Over 100 divisions of hostas were ultimately planted in the median. Brian planted Cantalilies, and planted huge clumps of Zebras grass. Other neighbors ripped out weedy-looking bushes that had outgrown their beauty and sieved the soil, removing the tubers of invasive wild morning glory that had taken over the Lincoln Street planting. Another family planted the turn-around with wax begonias. One neighbor donated a young sycamore to replace the ancient 100-foot-tall sycamore tree that anchored the north median, and they secured a donation from a local contractor to replace the worn-out roof on the gazebo.



Alexander-Lee Mysliwiec McQueen, Matt Nunley, Laura Giffel, Greg Allen, Brandon Mott, & Erin Chatten at Neighbor Power 2019

It started as a simple tree-planting project. But in order for it to happen, it grew into so much more. In the end it was more about people, more about neighbors, and more about inspiration than about 20 trees. In the years to come, this will be a shaded avenue of 100-foot-tall native trees.

Investing in our green space ensures that our neighbors have an inspiring place for their annual Easter egg hunts, Bocci on the green, or just a quiet, beautiful place to walk their dogs. The median is part of the host location for our annual neighborhood Street Fest. The gazebo is a favorite location for several weddings a year and regular evening neighborhood cocktail parties.

The Inspiring places prize was \$1,000. Winning this prize provides the much-needed money for the paint and caulk that is required for the 140-year-old gazebo.

Bates-Hendricks Neighborhood and the S. New Jersey Street median continue to be an inspiring place today, tomorrow, and even in the next century thanks to this project, our amazing neighbors, and Keep Indianapolis Beautiful.

Bates-Hendricks Neighborhood Association

The Bates-Hendricks Neighborhood Association strives to improve the quality of life of those living in the neighborhood through efforts to assure safety, to maintain or improve the living environment, and to enhance the spirit of cooperation and neighborliness among all residents. We meet monthly on the first Monday of the month at the Immanuel United Church of Christ at the corner of East and Prospect at 6:30pm. Annual dues are \$10 for households and \$25 for businesses. Please mail dues to Matt Nunley, PO Box 342, Indianapolis, IN 46206. More information about the neighborhood can be found online at bateshendricks.org.



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bateshendricks.nextdoor.com



Add our calendar to yours
bateshendricks.org/calendar

Upcoming

- Apr 1** **Bates-Hendricks Neighborhood Association Meeting, 6:30pm, Immanuel United Church of Christ, 402 Prospect Street. The Association meets on the first Monday of every month except holidays (then it's the second Monday). Stay involved with the neighborhood and visit with your neighbors!**
- Apr 4** 1st Thursday Supper Club, 6:30pm. Join your neighbors for this get-together at a different location each month! Please RSVP by signing up on the events page, which can be found at www.facebook.com/bateshendricks/events, or by emailing Events@bateshendricks.org. This month's location: Ember Urban Eatery, 435 Virginia Avenue.
- Apr 6** **Great Indy Cleanup, 10:30am to 1:00pm. KIB's Great Indy Cleanup (GIC) is an anti-litter, community empowering program in partnership with the City of Indianapolis. This year, the neighborhood will be focusing on Baumann Park (1868 Singleton Street), the New Jersey Street Esplanade (1500 block of S. New Jersey Street), and the Shortcut Path / East Gateway (approximately 799 E. Morris Street). More info about the Great Indy Cleanup: www.kibi.org/great-indy-cleanup.**
- Apr 8** Quality of Life / Economic Development Meeting, 6:30pm, The Lincoln Center, 516 Lincoln Street. This committee works to improve the East Street corridor. For more information, contact QualityOfLife@bateshendricks.org.
- Apr 11,25** Republic Recycling Pickup. More info at www.republicservices.com/residents/all-in-one-recycling.
- Apr 15** Marketing Committee Meeting, 6:30pm, The Lincoln Center, 516 Lincoln Street. This committee works to promote the neighborhood. Contact Marketing@bateshendricks.org for more information.
- Apr 16** Heavy Trash Pickup. More info at www.indy.gov/eGov/City/DPW/Trash/Pages/TrashHome.aspx.
- Apr 17** Events Committee Meeting, 6:30pm, The Lincoln Center, 516 Lincoln Street. This committee works to plan neighborhood events, including Street Fest, the Chili Cook-off, holiday dinners, and more. Contact Events@bateshendricks.org for more information.
- Apr 20** Parent Monthly Meetup, 9:30am, The Lincoln Center, 516 Lincoln Street. Come join with other parents for a monthly meetup for parents or soon-to-be parents to meet and support each other.
- Apr 22** ROW – Pleasant Run Meeting, 6:30pm, 924 Shelby Street. This committee focuses on improving the waterway that runs through our neighborhood. For more info, contact ROW@bateshendricks.org.
- Apr 23** Land Use Committee Meeting, 6:30pm, Immanuel United Church, 402 Prospect Street (enter through glass doors on north side of building). This committee considers zoning, development, and property issues in Bates-Hendricks with the goal of ensuring peaceful co-existence among residents and businesses. Contact LandUse@bateshendricks.org for more information.