

NEIGHBORHOOD LEADERSHIP SERIES

When you look around your neighborhood, are there things you want to change? Do you want to be more active in the Bartram Choice planning process? Would you like to be more involved with the future of Southwest Philadelphia? Do you want to make a difference in your community?

If so, please join us for an exciting Neighborhood Leadership Series for Bartram Village residents and residents of the Bartram Choice neighborhood. Develop your communication and leadership skills, meet neighbors with similar interests, learn how to take an active part in the Bartram Choice and other community planning and development efforts, and have some fun!

Format: The Neighborhood Leadership Series will include six (6), two-hour sessions that will be held every other week (with a break for the holidays) followed by a graduation celebration. Attendance is expected at each session.

Time and location:

- All sessions will be held at Bartram Village Community Room (5404 Gibson Drive, Philadelphia, PA 19143)
- 5:30 pm: Enjoy dinner from restaurants in the neighborhood
- 6:00 pm: Interactive session with discussions and activities

NOVEMBER 15, 2018

Session 1: Right under our noses-the building blocks of change

Every community has its challenges. But finding a way to make a meaningful change doesn't mean that you have to go far. Roll up your sleeves and get ready to look at your community in a whole new way as we map the things that make the Bartram Choice neighborhood special—the people, places, history, and culture. Then we will explore how these things can become the building blocks of a neighborhood plan.

Presenters:

- Mary Morton, Urban Designer and Planner at WRT
- Regina Young, Resident of Eastwick, Founder of Empowered CDC

NOVEMBER 29, 2018

Session 2: Music to my ears—Building consensus with your inside voice

Another way to think about planning is as a shared problem-solving exercise. Listening to and respecting other points of view is necessary for planning to be successful. But bringing together many different opinions and experiences can be messy. Activities will also explore consensus-building tools so that participants can work effectively in a multicultural setting.

Presenter:

 Lamar Wilson of Wilson Associates whose work over 35 years has focused on affordable housing, organizational strategic planning, and neighborhood strategic planning in Philadelphia, as well as in other cities and towns.



DECEMBER 13, 2018

Session 3: Planning in Philadelphia

Planning creates a vision for a community's future and identifies actions to get there. Plans are shaped by the people who live and work there to make recommendations about affordable housing, public transportation, jobs, and parks. In this session, you will learn about the Philadelphia City Planning Commission (PCPC) and how it works with other city agencies and local residents to guide development of the city. You will learn specifically about your Lower Southwest District Plan (adopted in 2016) and how it fits into the city's vision for the future--Philadelphia 2035. You will also learn how city agencies and others are working to make the recommendations a reality.

The Citizens Planning Institute (CPI) introduces Philadelphians, who "love where they live," to city planning, zoning and development issues so they can help shape and preserve their neighborhoods. CPI's main activity is a 7-week course offered every spring and fall to a new and diverse group of thirty residents who bring new-found skills and resources back to their neighborhood organizations. You will hear from graduates of the program who live in the community and are using the tools they learned to take action to improve where they live.

Presenters:

- Donna Carney, Citizen's Planning Institute
- Martine DeCamp, Philadelphia City Planning Commission
- Local Citizen Planners: Mark Harrell, Southwest CDC; Norman Matlock, ACANA; Tracey Gordan, ACANA and Bartram Choice Neighborhood Ambassador

JANUARY 17, 2018

Session 4: Change is good but so is affordability

Planning improvements for a community can be exciting but what if it the changes attract others to the area and the cost of living starts to go up? What exactly is affordable housing? Are there ways to make housing affordable and keep it that way? This session will discuss the different types of affordable housing. Explore programs and tools that can help keep people in their homes and keep housing in the neighborhood affordable.

Presenters:

- Ryan Bailey, Pennrose Properties
- Steve Kuzmicki, Southwest CDC
- Woo Kim, Urban Planner with WRT
- Melissa Long, Philadelphia Office of Housing and Community Development [to be confirmed]



JANUARY 31, 2019

Session 5: The Power of design and nature [Trauma and Resiliency]

In July, new research from the University of Pennsylvania and Columbia University showed that adding green space to people's neighborhood can improve their mental health. Did you know that spending time in nature can reduce stress, improve attention, and help people feel more connected to each other? This session will explore ways to counter the effects of blight and trauma to promote community health and healing.

Presenters:

- Eugenia C. South, MD, MSHP, University of Pennsylvania
- Chantay Love, founder and Program Director of the EMIR Healing Center.
- Dr. South's research focuses on how neighborhood context impacts health and safety in urban environments and Ms. Love develops programs using unconventional and creative ways to help communities in crisis heal from violence at the EMIR Healing Center."

FEBRUARY 7, 2019

Session 6: Take the lead

Have you ever wondered how local government decisions are made? Have you ever wanted to share your opinion about a city project or development but are not sure how to go about it? Learn how to connect with your neighbors, speak with one voice, and communicate with city leaders.

Presenter:

Asia Coney, President PHA Resident Advisory Board

[DATE: To Be Determined]

Graduation Celebration

You did it! Come share what you have learned and enjoy a celebration of your accomplishments with your fellow graduates. Teams will present their projects and discuss ways to put their ideas and skills to work in the Bartram Choice planning effort and other initiatives throughout the neighborhood.

Questions

For more information about the Neighborhood Leadership Series, please contact: Gabriella Nelson, PHA, (T) 215.684.3209 (E) gabriella.nelson@pha.phila.gov

To learn more about the Bartram Choice Transformation Plan and the planning process, please visit www.bartramchoice.com.