



MARY-ELLEN TULPER - OLMSTED

WHY ARE YOU INTERESTED IN RUNNING FOR A BOARD POSITION?

My husband Doug and I moved to Legacy Park in June of 1999. We were retired and wanted to be near our daughters and our three grandchildren who relocated to the Atlanta area. We did not want to be in a retirement community as we felt that a “mixed” community of younger and older residents was a great place to live. In the ten years that I have lived here I have been very active in many community activities and committees, keeping myself informed as to what is going on in Legacy Park by attending Board meetings.

I am running for a Board position to help keep Legacy Park the beautiful place it is. From the lake at the entrance, to all of the amenities that this community has to offer, I want to make sure that we maintain the beauty of Legacy Park while being fiscally responsible with the funds that maintain our beautiful community. In light of the fact that we are experiencing difficult financial circumstances, it would be prudent for the Board to be fiscally responsible. Once the budget is passed by the Board, there should not be any expenditure requested for that fiscal year. All improvements that are not an emergency should not be contemplated until the next fiscal year. Being able to maintain what we have now without **increasing the dues** should be our priority! Legacy Park is “Atlanta’s First Town Park Community” and I feel that we should focus on keeping it as such. All areas of our park community should be a priority and not just certain areas of our amenities. We should not lose sight of the fact that we are a Town Park Community. I would appreciate the opportunity to serve on the Board of Directors to bring a fresh perspective to the management of Legacy Park.

LEGACY PARK AND/OR RELATED ACTIVITIES:

- Treasurer of the LP Seniors Club
- Served on Modifications Committee for 4 years
- Currently serve on the Appeals Committee
- Olmsted Town Council Representative for 5 years
- Along with my husband I helped to bring the fountain to Lake Legacy
- Have helped with 4th of July decorations for the past nine years
- Voted “LEGACY PARK CITIZEN OF THE YEAR” in 2007 along with my husband.
- Volunteered many hours to various Legacy Park activities.

OTHER EXPERTISE:

I was employed for 28 years in various positions in my local school district in New York State. For eleven years I was a teaching assistant in the classroom of the elementary school and then at the High School level. When the school district became computerized I took over the keeping of the attendance records for the State Aid reimbursement for the entire district.

I was President of our local CSEA union which represented the non-teaching staff for 14 years, and was involved in many years of contract negotiations and grievance hearings both at the local and at the State level. Our school district had a “self insured” health plan consisting of 19 other school districts and I represented my union on the self insured health plan Governance Board.

I would also like to add that I would enjoy representing the residents on the Board and look forward to serving.

CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRE

1: If elected, what will be your single highest priority as it relates to improvement of our community? Why?

My highest priority for the improvement of our community would be to remain focused on keeping Legacy Park the community that people are attracted to, while being fiscally responsible. It is my opinion that by being fiscally responsible and carefully keeping a watchful eye on the needs of the community, we will be able to keep LP the community that people will want to be a part of.

2: What are some of the issues in this community you would like to see solved? Please explain.

More transparency by the Board that affects all the community. Such as motions being passed at planning sessions and not at open Board meetings. Also I would like to see more LP residents attend Board meetings so they know what is being passed by the Board and have more of a “say” in how their dues are being spent. I would like to see, by Legacy Park e-mail, that important issues being decided by the Board are sent out by e-mail to encourage people to attend Board Meetings and be informed about issues that are on the table.

3: What specific activities or committees have you been involved with both inside and outside of Legacy Park that will help you impact this community as a Board member?

As a ten year resident of Legacy Park I have been involved in many activities and committees such as: Activities committee, Youth committee, Modifications committee, Appeals committee, Town Council Representative for Olmsted, Treasurer of the Seniors Club, and 2007 Legacy Park Citizen of the year. But most of all I have attended Board Meetings every month so that I keep myself informed as to what is taking place and what is being voted on. Many times my husband and I are the only people who attend Board meetings.

4: What expertise do you have that will help in the planning and budgeting process for Legacy Park?

While being employed for 28 years in my local school district, one of my responsibilities was the procurement of purchase orders for supplies being ordered for the school year. This also included verifying that the orders were received correctly and approving payment of each order. This involved over several hundred thousand dollars in purchase orders.