



Hello Neighbors,

The 2021 HAND Board election will be held on May 18, 2021. Like last year, we will conduct our election via zoom at our May General Meeting. Our bylaws allow for election by voice vote; in the last two decades, we have never had to resort to paper ballots, and I don't anticipate this year will be any different.

We have a number of open seats for 2-year terms. If you are over age 18, live, work, or own property or a business in HAND, you are a HAND member and are eligible to vote and run for the board as well as vote. The HAND neighborhood boundaries are Hawthorne to Powell, and the river to 28th/29th Avenue. We also have a seat reserved for a student under 18. If you know someone who is interested, please let me know.

While we will accept nominations up until the election, I would appreciate an indication of interest before then to make planning easier. You may (but are not required to) provide a statement up to 300 words by April 20 that will be posted to our email list. At the meeting on May 18th, candidates will be asked to introduce themselves, and will have the opportunity to give a brief statements. All members of HAND as defined above attending the meeting will have the opportunity to vote.

Being a board member requires a minimum commitment of 2 hours per month to attend meetings. In addition to attending our monthly meetings, board members can take on an officer position, volunteer to participate on a committee, or help with a project or event.

I see HAND's role as providing a platform for civic engagement. What this means for individual members varies. For some it is attending meetings to get a better sense of what is going on in the neighborhood. For others it means representing HAND at other civic organizations. Or participating in or leading projects of interest to the community. Or learning how to engage with city bureaus. In my role as chair, I try to foster participation from board members and guests alike, and we welcome ideas and input from all.

Due to COVID-19, many of our annual activities have been cancelled, but some prior projects include a Spring Clean-Up, our summertime Ice Cream Social, movies in the park, and graffiti and litter cleanups. We occasionally join with other neighborhoods in larger events such as planting trees. If you have an event or project you want to organize, join the board and we can help get it done.

We are currently meeting via Zoom, but hope to resume in-person meetings (at St Philip Neri Church) and activities when it is safe to do so. Our meetings are open to everyone, and we meet the third Tuesday of every month (except December and August, when we have a board retreat), from 7-9PM. Our next meeting is Tuesday, April 20th.

We look forward to hearing from you, and hope you will be interested in serving our neighborhood! Please don't hesitate to reach out to me if you have any questions.

Kind Regards,

Chris Eykamp,  
Chair, HAND