



2020-2021 WHHNA Board Member Nominees

President: Dot Doyle – 2311 Woodrow Street 919-286-330

Dot has lived in the neighborhood since 1991 and is retired from the Math faculty at NCSSM. She enjoys playing golf, volunteering with organizations like Crayons2Calculators, and taking continuing ed classes through the OLLI program at Duke. She appreciates the sense of community that makes WHH a special neighborhood and enjoys participating in events like the Independence Day celebration and Night of Lights. She has enjoyed serving on the board and looks forward to continuing to contribute to the community.

Vice President: Heather Gudac – 2307 Alabama Ave 919-696-4535

Heather has lived in the neighborhood for almost eleven years with her husband, Alex. Together, they are often found around town with their dog, Benji by their sides. She is a partner and operations manager for an independent wealth management firm in Raleigh. She coordinates our annual Night of Lights celebration, now on her fourth year as coordinator. Heather served as secretary during 2017, and held the VP role since 2018. She loves Durham for its inclusive, strong community and the friendliness of our neighbors.

Secretary: Kevin Crofton – 2311 Wilson St

Kevin is a recent retiree from 35+ years of working for the US Environmental Protection Agency as a research scientist and manager. He moved to NC in 1980 to finish his education at UNC and lived in Durham since it was 'cooler' than Chapel Hill. He and Susan moved to the neighborhood in 1989 and have lived on Wilson Street ever since. He says, "I am standing for election on the board because I want our neighborhood to continue to be a great place to live."

Treasurer: Jennifer Wood – 2400 Tampa Ave 919-597-8027

Jennifer moved to Durham in 2005 and to WHHNA in 2008. Jennifer and her husband (Howard, a lifelong resident of WHH) married in a Durham themed wedding in 2010 on the main stage at Carolina Theater. They own a company called Laundrymen and work from home. She enjoys creating things and exploring this great city, that she sees so much potential in. Her favorite part of Watts Hillandale is the people—they are wonderful! Jennifer is committed to helping keep our neighborhood a beautiful and safe place.

DIRECTORS:

Perry Whitted – 1705 Maryland Avenue 919-323-7523

Perry is a 27-year resident of the neighborhood, who retired from a long career where he managed clinical healthcare and mental health research. The majority of his time and attention are now focused on producing expressive metal work. Public service and fostering a sense of community are important to Perry, as this type of effort has the potential to impact so many other aspects of our lives.

Jamie Gruener — 2410 W. Club Blvd. 919-624-9760

Jamie has lived in Durham for 20 years and has been working in IT since he first arrived in North Carolina in 1995. When not working, he enjoys spending time with his family, building things in his workshop, and volunteering for the neighborhood association. Jamie has been a member of the WHHNA since 2011 and has served as both President and Vice President in the past. He also serves as the WHHNA mailing list moderator.

Fred Peterson – West Club Blvd

Fred and his wife, Kathy Carter, have lived in the neighborhood since 1989. You may have seen him jogging on our streets and walking his dogs. He is a retired actuary (don't ask) and plans to spend all his retirement years in the neighborhood. He has served on the board of Preservation Durham and is interested in preserving the historic character of the neighborhood. He loves the neighborhood for its visual appeal, the community spirit from engaged neighbors, and easy availability of borrowed tools. Other key issues for Fred are traffic and beautification (picking up litter and clearing storm drains).

Chris Flannagan – 1404 Oakland Ave. 202-384-6986

Chris, Amanda, and Phineas moved to Durham in 2016 and to WHH in 2017. They live on Oakland Avenue with their cat, foster son, Prentiss, and 1000 worms. Their house is best defined by the large garden and bean teepee in their front yard. Amanda is from NC and lured Chris to Durham to start his nursing career at Duke. Chris helps Amanda in the garden, but mostly just stares at birds while she works. Chris enjoys our neighborhood and is looking forward to working with the board to keep WHH improving for the better.

Rubén Gonzalez - 1406 Pennsylvania Ave. 919-699-0991

Rubén was born in Panamá and moved to Durham in 2004, after meeting his wife Rachel Cohn. They have lived mainly in Watts-Hillandale with a brief spell on Carolina Avenue in Old West Durham while he was a grad student in International Development Policy at Duke. Most of his career has been in Panamá and Central América in the NGO sector with human rights, indigenous peoples and environmental conflicts, through research and activism. Currently, Rubén is a stay at home Dad, an experience that he loves, because it's tons of fun hanging out with Liana, Rubén and Rachel's 3-year-old. He wants to contribute to making Durham more engaged—seeing a holistic and sustainable approach to development (better funding for public schools, better infrastructure for bikers and pedestrians, and more parks for our kids to play). Rubén is a member of Bike Durham and the Durham Bike Coop. When he's not busy dancing and cooking, he's strengthening his Lego building skills with Liana.

Kokou Nayo - 1519 Mountainview Ave.

Nayo works for Church World Service as a political advocate for refugees. He hails from Togo, West Africa originally but has become a Tar Heel since receiving his Masters in Social Work from UNC - Chapel Hill. He moved to Durham four years ago. His dreams growing up included becoming either a soccer star or a mayor of his home town and to this day he is often found on the soccer field or advocating for the advancement of the town of Durham.

Tom Miller – 1110 Virginia Ave. 919-599-7618

Tom Miller was born in Watts Hospital and has lived in the neighborhood since 1983. He has served on the WHHNA board in various positions on and off since the organization was founded in 1984. Tom usually works with land use and zoning issues, but he also coordinates our annual July 4 parade and helps out with cones on Halloween and luminaria sales for Night of Lights. He has written for every issue of the neighborhood newsletter for the last 35 years. Tom worked in the North Carolina Attorney General's Office for thirty years before retiring in 2012. He and his wife Kim live on Virginia Avenue.

Christopher Moyer- 1702 Meeting St. 561 632-7316

Chris & his family moved to Durham in search of a strong sense of community, quality public education for his children, evolving culture and an outdoor lifestyle. His family of four found that in Durham and it's his desire to be a facilitator of interconnectedness and play a part in building a strong & healthy sense of community, by being an active participant. The heart, passion, and energy of the people of Watts Hillandale has enlivened him with a desire to be an advocate for his neighborhood. He is looking forward to learning first hand about issues that the city of Durham and the Watts Hospital Hillandale community face. He wants to have a strong sense of what's going where he lives and felt an opportunity to serve on the board would help him to deeper understand the efforts that help to make life here so great. Recently transitioning from Restaurant/ Beer Bar management, Chris is an agent with local Real Estate Agency INHABIT. Chris enjoys riding his beach cruiser bike with wife Kristi and his kids Dylan and Kaia, in addition to jogging through 17acre woods with their family dog Eno Bella.

Victoria Arrivillaga- 2300 Tampa Ave

Victoria moved to Durham 21 years ago from Guatemala. She is a mother of two and Social Worker in her Country she founded a Cooperative Spanish School with Community Projects like latrines, improving stoves, and after school program for children, etc. She has been working for different local organizations like YMCA, Catholic Social Charities, El Centro Hispano, Carolina Friends School, and in the last 4 years for Book Babies of Book Harvest NC. She loves to ride her bike on Ellerbe Creek Path and hike at the Eno River.

To contact individual board members, use the email address firstname.lastname@whhna.org; to contact the entire board email board@whhna.org.