



# AROUND THE PARK

## Letter from the President

### State of Overbrook Park

Hello to all of the residents of this great neighborhood. As we exited year 2018 and entered year 2019, I thought it would be meaningful to reflect on our accomplishments.

- Prevented illegal dumping at Rose Playground with the installation of a fence in partnership with Parks and Recreation and Councilman Jones Office.
- Installed brighter lights along 75<sup>th</sup> street to provide a safer corridor for our residents.
- Installation of “No Parking” signs to deter tractor trailer parking.
- Routine upkeep and maintenance of the Rose Playground facility which provides venue space for residents at a nominal cost and it a revenue source for the civic association.
- Organized monthly park clean up events to provide community service and gets residents involved with the civic.
- Provided financial scholarships for several organizations within Overbrook Park: Tar Heels Football team, Overbrook Park Library, Haverford Ave Business Association and the 19<sup>th</sup> Police Dist. Advisory Council.
- Continued to provide free community wide events each year: Overbrook Park Community Day and outdoor Family Movie Night.
- Offered low cost snow removal for the residents and allowed the youth to make money by matching residents with teens to shovel snow.
- Supplied current up to date information on zoning meetings.
- Furnished a quarterly newsletter to keep the community informed.
- Hosted the fall Town Hall meeting to address concerns and issues in the community.
- Hosted the Youth and Young Adults Summer Basketball Leagues at Rose Playground.
- Blessed families during the holiday season by distributing \$400 in Aldi gift cards.
- Partnered with CLYDE and the Overbrook Park Church to feed families for the holidays and provide gifts.

While our community may have more future issues to address and overcome, let us not forget the great work that was done. I want to thank the Overbrook Park civic association board, members and volunteers for the successes we have achieved this past year. Rest assured the board members of the Overbrook Park Civic Association take the responsibility of being a liaison for the community very seriously. Twenty-nineteen will bring its own challenges and we will be here to meet those challenges head on. We will continue to need and expect the community to support us and our efforts to make Overbrook Park operate to its fullest capacity. So please become an active paid member and help propel this community forward.

Marc Reason

President of Overbrook Park Civic Association

#Overbrook Park Pride

To Inquire about sponsoring

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[opca19151@gmail.com](mailto:opca19151@gmail.com)

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# PARK AND RECREATION ADVISORY COUNCILS

Why Advisory Councils are more important now than ever

By Damon C. Williams

While the citywide network of playgrounds and recreation centers serve as backbones for the communities in which they serve, these centers simply wouldn't be able to effectively operate without the input of an efficient, organized and cohesive Advisory Council.

And in the light of the ongoing Rebuild initiative – which will rehabilitate and rebuild many recreation centers, parks and libraries with funds raised through the sugar-sweetened beverage tax – the importance of these councils cannot be understated.

By their very nature, advisory councils represent the center and the immediate community, as advisory councils can institute and direct certain programming, carry out fundraising initiatives, and generally form both the long- and short-term direction of the center.

It is responsibility, made only greater, given the influx of dollars going to the locations on the Rebuild list. It is imperative that advisory council members – and the community members at large – are at the table when Rebuild-related decisions are being made about their respective center. The Rebuild initiative is being billed as a once-in-a-lifetime effort, with the changes and new construction designed to last several generations.

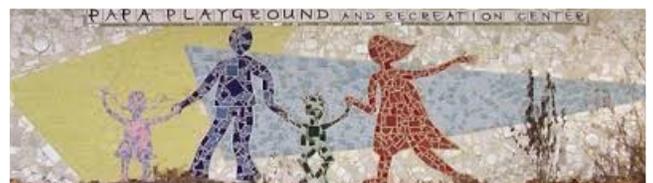
So, what is an advisory council?

The Philadelphia Parks Alliance describes an advisory council as a structured group of community volunteers that host events and maintain their neighborhood recreation center, park, or playground. The councils also serve as a volunteer liaison between the facility staff, community, and city agencies to assure community input on a regular basis. Advisory councils meet once a month to plan how to improve their center.

Advisory councils also act as partners with the community and Philadelphia Parks and Recreation; serves as the facility's governing board; assists in the recruitment of volunteers; introduces new programming to the facility and advocates for the recreational facility.

Any community member can become an active advisory council member. All that is requires is for that individual to regularly attend the stated monthly advisory council meeting.

The best and most direct way to become involved with your neighborhood advisory council is to contact your local center and find out when the next meeting is, and then attend – it really is that easy. Given the state of our changing and diversifying community and influx of commercial development, it is now more important than ever that community members have a seat at that table and insure their voices are heard and that their concerns are answered. A surefire way to achieve that is by being active in your advisory council. To contact Papas Playground call 215-685-0141.



**NOW ACCEPTING MEMBERSHIP FOR 2019 \$20 per household**

**OPCA**  
Overbrook Park Civic Association

1300 N 75<sup>TH</sup> Street, Phila PA 19151 [www.opca19151.org](http://www.opca19151.org)  
Pay pal accepted -[opca19151@gmail.com](mailto:opca19151@gmail.com)

## JOIN OPCA TODAY

Your Civic Association at Work... Park Clean Up, Beautification Events and Volunteer Programs

**Become a Member**

**Taking 2019 summer reservations for baby showers, family reunions, birthday parties**

Available for rent  
Call (484) 240-1528



### **IMPORTANT DATES FOR 2019**

**January 9th at 7pm— OPCA Winter Quarterly Meeting and Membership Drive -7630 Woodbine Overbrook Park Church of Christ**

**April 10th at 7pm—OPCA Spring Quarterly Meeting and Membership Drive -7630 Woodbine Overbrook Park Church of Christ**

**April Spring Clean Up—Date TBA— 10am Rose Playground 1200 N 75th Street**

**May Love Your Park Clean Up Event—Date TBA—10am Rose Playground 1200 N 75th Street**

**June 8th at 10am—Rose Playground Monthly Park Clean Up 1200 N 75th Street**

**June 12th at 7pm—OPCA Summer Quarterly Meeting 7630 Woodbine Ave Overbrook Park Church of Christ**

**June 22nd at 2pm OVERBROOK PARK COMMUNITY DAY—Haverford Ave between Brookhaven and Sherwood**

## Contact Us

Overbrook Park

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1300 N. 75th Street

Rose Playground

Philadelphia PA 19151

484-240-1528( Call or Text)

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Visit us on the web at  
[www.opca19151.org](http://www.opca19151.org)

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OverbrookParkCivicAssociation



OverbrookPark—North



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