



PPA Board Candidate Bios 2025 Annual Election

**Anyone who lives or works in the Prospect Park neighborhood
is eligible to vote online at the Annual Meeting on May 12th.
The online voting ballot will be open
May 12–May 19, 2025 at 4:00pm.**

IAN GORODISHER



What do you like most about Prospect Park?

It's location and greenery.

Why are you interested in serving on the board of Prospect Park Association?

To continue serving my community.

What experience and skills do you bring to PPA?

This will be my second term on the board.

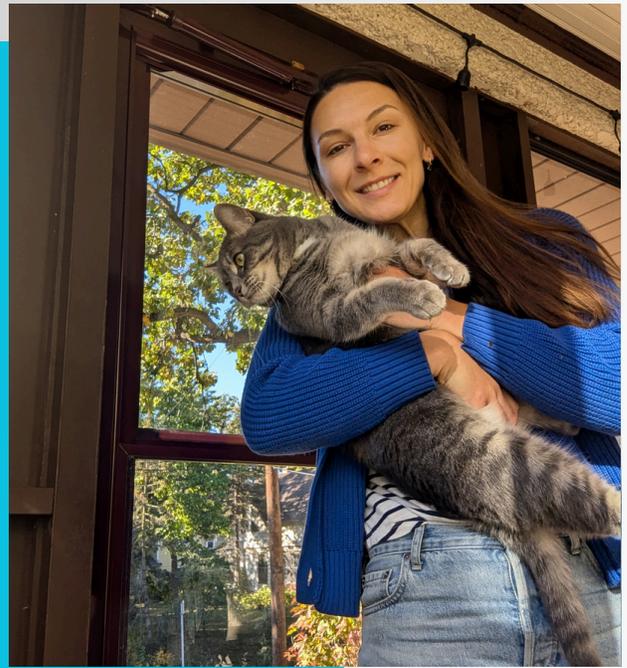
What committees, task forces, projects, events, or initiatives do you commit to work on?

Land use

Is there anything else you want to share with your neighbors?

I may or may not be the masked vigilante, Pugnacious Prospector.

JULE GORODISHER



What do you like most about Prospect Park?

I love that Prospect Park prioritizes walkability and green spaces.

Why are you interested in serving on the board of Prospect Park Association?

I want to leave the neighborhood better than I found it and preserve this great niche of the city for all.

What experience and skills do you bring to PPA?

I've lived in the neighborhood for three years and want to continue building on the inclusive and safe environment that has already been built. I am a project manager at my 9 to 5 and can bring those skills to our neighborhood efforts.

What committees, task forces, projects, events, or initiatives do you commit to work on?

Neighborhood development or parks preservation.

Is there anything else you want to share with your neighbors?

There's nothing better than seeing this neighborhood and our turkeys thrive!

ARTHUR HERBERT



What do you like most about Prospect Park?

I've had the joy of calling Prospect Park home since June 2024, when my family and I moved into the neighborhood on Emerald Street. Though I'm a newer resident, my wife grew up in Prospect Park on Arthur Ave. We have many family and friends in this community and I've been visiting the area for nearly a decade - this community has felt like home to me for a while.

What first drew me in was the openness and warmth of the people who live here. There's a real sense of connection and shared purpose among neighbors. At the heart of this community is Pratt Community School, where our daughter Ramona is now in 1st grade. The school is more than just a place of learning—it's a hub for the neighborhood. The incredible work of the PTO has strengthened both the school and the broader community, making it a central part of our lives.

We're grateful to live in a place that balances quiet, tree-lined streets with easy access to parks, biking trails, and other vibrant events. Prospect Park offers the kind of neighborhood we wanted: engaged, welcoming, and deeply rooted in a shared commitment to community.

Why are you interested in serving on the board of Prospect Park Association?

I'm seeking election to the Prospect Park Association Board of Directors because I believe in the power of local engagement to strengthen and support our beloved communities.

ARTHUR HERBERT continued on next page.

ARTHUR HERBERT

With over 15 years of experience in retail management and in my current work as a certified elementary teacher, I bring a unique perspective that blends strategic leadership with a passion for education and community-building.

I believe in working collaboratively, listening actively, and amplifying community voices – and I would be honored to help shape the future of our neighborhood.

What experience and skills do you bring to PPA?

I bring a well-rounded set of experiences to the Prospect Park Association Board of Directors, rooted in leadership, community engagement, and strategic operations. As the longtime Board Chair (2015-2024) of ValloCycle, a nonprofit bike share program, I've organized over 100 community events, secured thousands in grant funding, and built lasting partnerships with local organizations. My previous role as a City Council Member in Montevallo (2019-2020) sharpened my ability to navigate municipal goals, infrastructure planning, and public policy – experience that directly translates to the kind of thoughtful, neighborhood-level leadership that PPA requires. My service on sustainability, beautification, and sanitation committees also reflects a deep commitment to environmental stewardship.

Professionally, I spent over 15 years managing teams and operations in large-scale retail environments, where I honed my skills in financial oversight, conflict resolution, and organizational leadership. Currently, I serve as a certified fourth-grade teacher in Minneapolis Public Schools, where I apply those same leadership and problem-solving skills to support student growth and collaboration among peers. Whether it's building a more connected neighborhood, promoting sustainability, or ensuring diverse voices are heard and represented, I'm eager to bring my experience and energy to the Prospect Park Association Board and continue making a positive impact in the community.

What committees, task forces, projects, events, or initiatives do you commit to work on?

I am most interested in working with the Transportation & Safety and Environment committees.

Is there anything else you want to share with your neighbors?

My family and I love to bike - let us know if you'd like to ride sometime.

STUART LEVESQUE



What do you like most about Prospect Park?

The community atmosphere, the people of all ages, and the beautiful scenery.

Why are you interested in serving on the board of Prospect Park Association?

I love this neighborhood and I want to help preserve and strengthen its welcoming environment and natural beauty.

What experience and skills do you bring to PPA?

I am currently a law student at the University of Minnesota where I serve as the Editor-in-Chief of the Minnesota Law Review. I bring leadership experience and experience working with law and policy. I also have strong interpersonal skills that will contribute to a friendly and collaborative working environment. I developed these in part by working locally in customer service for six years before I started law school.

What committees, task forces, projects, events, or initiatives do you commit to work on?

I plan to work to ensure the continued maintenance of Prospect Park's parks and green spaces. I also want to work to make sure this neighborhood remains a safe place for all residents.

Is there anything else you want to share with your neighbors?

I've lived in Prospect Park for almost ten years and I love the neighborhood. I would love the chance to serve as a representative

GABRIELLE METZGER



What do you like most about Prospect Park?

I love the people and the vibe those people create here. Prospect Park is a creative, unique neighborhood and I'm so happy to be a part of it.

Why are you interested in serving on the board of Prospect Park Association?

I'm just finishing up my first term on the board and have enjoyed being able to get to know people in the neighborhood and getting involved with the issues that people in the neighborhood are passionate about.

What experience and skills do you bring to PPA?

I am an attorney, and during law school, I took many classes in land use law and historic preservation. I have experience in property legal practice, including zoning issues, development agreements, and property dispute negotiation and litigation.

What committees, task forces, projects, events, or initiatives do you commit to work on?

I commit to continue attending Land Use committee and Tower Hill Park committee meetings and participating in the buckthorn removal project at Tower Hill Park.

MAX OSTENSO



What do you like most about Prospect Park?

It is quiet and peaceful, close to 94 & 280, walking distance from the Seward Co-op and Fresh Thyme along with other coffee shops and restaurants, also walking distance from the river, and it is filled with beautiful houses that I love walking around and looking at.

Why are you interested in serving on the board of Prospect Park Association?

I would like to be more involved in this community as I've lived here since 2017.

What experience and skills do you bring to PPA?

I am a Program Director for the YMCA. I run a summer camp that serves 4,000 kids/families over the summer and I help run a Nature Preschool during the school year. I have 4 years of experience managing a staff of 70 young adults (most are 17/18), and managing a property that's 40+ acres. I am creative, collaborative, curious, forward thinking, and a logical and thoughtful decision maker. I am also a listener and a learner.

What committees, task forces, projects, events, or initiatives do you commit to work on?

I am not sure if these fall under those but I would say environment, equity, renters rights, park improvements, and transportation would be my top 5 based on the flyer I have.

DONNA SCHNEIDER



What do you like most about Prospect Park?

I grew up in the neighborhood, I like the diversity of this community, and would like to contribute in meaningful ways.

Why are you interested in serving on the board of Prospect Park Association?

I have concerns regarding future impacts by various elements on the sustainability of this great neighborhood.

What experience and skills do you bring to PPA?

As a Healthcare Provider, I bring listening skills and the ability to discern varying viewpoints that will have an impact on our community.

What committees, task forces, projects, events, or initiatives do you commit to work on?

I am currently on the Land Use Committee. I'm open to other projects as well.

Is there anything else you want to share with your neighbors?

I feel that it is important to protect the uniqueness and beauty of Prospect Park.

RYAN WOLDT



What do you like most about Prospect Park?

I was first drawn to the Prospect Park neighborhood as a student at the University of Minnesota – initially due to its proximity to the University, but also by the neighborhood character from all the beautiful old homes, winding streets, and the Witch’s Hat Tower. Over time I’ve come to appreciate the diverse group of people that call Prospect Park home, the unique access to parks and trails and greenspace while being located in the middle of the Twin Cities, and the friendly community that we live in.

Why are you interested in serving on the board of Prospect Park Association?

I would like to give back to the community that I’ve called home since 2007. I’d like to get a deeper understanding of the issues that impact our neighborhood and to help our community in any way that I can.

What experience and skills do you bring to PPA?

I’m an engineer in my professional life, and I think I can bring a focused and analytical approach to problem solving and decision making. I’m a thoughtful listener and will welcome all points of view on how we shape our neighborhood going forward.

What committees, task forces, projects, events, or initiatives do you commit to work on?

Land Use & Planning, Transportation & Safety, Grand Rounds Trail completion.

Is there anything else you want to share with your neighbors?

I will take volunteering on the PPA board seriously and will do my best to bring an open-minded and mindful approach to help accomplish PPA’s mission. I’ve lived in Prospect Park since 2007, first as a renter, then as a first-time homeowner, and now with my wife Amy and our three wonderful girls, ages 4, 7, and 9, and I care very much about keeping our neighborhood a great place to live, work, and play!