



One South Euclid City Council presentation
Monday, 8pm, September 12, 2016
Read aloud during 'Open Meeting'

Hello, my name is Yvonne Sanderson, I live at 4078 Elmwood Rd., with my husband, Mark, we also own two additional properties on our corners.

Thank you Council President, Jane Goodman, for this invitation to One South Euclid (OSE) to share the good news and positive impact OSE is having on residents and local businesses.

I'm here as OSE's VP, and chair of the Community Dev. and Eng. Committee, presenting on behalf of Board President, Karen Poelking, who is recovering from surgery, and on behalf of an additional 12 dedicated volunteer board members. (those present, please wave).

To provide context, OSE formally presented to City Council on April 27, 2015, to advocate for a three-year renewal of the April, 2012 Professional Services Agreement between One South Euclid and the City of South Euclid.

A history of OSE was provided, since its inception in 2009, a summary of the strategic planning process then underway, and highlights of the 2014-2015 year.

We are proud to say Council unanimously approved the agreement which went into effect May, 2015 and will extend until April, 2018. This approval and subsequent partnership has allowed the positive impacts to continue.

OSE board members prioritized goals and objectives, focused on items with the greatest short-term impact, and allowed for consideration of long-term sustainable strategies.

Highlights include: continued success of Harvest Fest, the 5th annual held this past weekend (some of you were in attendance), holiday tree lighting, community garden potluck, Bexley Park pumpkin event, and new this summer, walking tours along Green Rd. (2nd and 4th Saturdays through Oct., you still have a chance:), All events with the goal to instill in All attendees a sense of pride and community.

OSE also has taken over the management of community gardens and pocket parks, including an allocation towards maintenance, and acts as fiscal sponsor for individual neighborhood groups who collect their own funds, served as fiscal sponsor for the Rock the Block, the East Side Cycles Pump Track project, the dog park at Quarry Park North,



due to the dwindling number of, and at the request of, FIDO volunteers, with a restricted line established to hold its funds and continue to accept donations in support of the dog park's maintenance.

A restricted fund for the Playground of Possibilities has been established, with donations accepted so donors may receive tax deductible credit, and funds utilized by the City for ongoing park needs.

OSE also made financial contributions in support of the local arts, to the Brush High School Senior Art Show, Mercury Summer Theatre, the school's SE/L Experience Project, and worked with the city to host Realtor Day on May 25th, including the cost to design and print a View book, that highlights South Euclid's assets and strengths, for realtors to also hand out.

The Revitalization Committee has focused on the Build-Grow-Thrive Re-sale program. Vacant properties sold provided revenue to launch the new Neighborhood Grant Program in April. An important milestone for OSE to reach, to reinvest funds back into the community and support its residents. This pilot program was allocated \$10,000 initially. Due to the number of applications and interest, the board unanimously approved an increase, and to date, \$25,000 of the total \$30,000 set aside has been awarded to 34 residents throughout the city, to fix violations, make needed curb appeal repairs, and support neighborhood group projects.

OSE recently agreed to support the South Euclid Centennial Committee by serving as fiscal sponsor, and to support a temporary restricted line item so the Cen. Com. can make needed long range plans and reservations while it pursues its fundraising efforts to cover costs.

Continued programming, along with necessary marketing and fundraising, requires additional board members and volunteers. The more hands, the more positive impact can be made. To that end (and to all in the room), on Thursday, October 27th, OSE will host a casual "Meet and Greet" for interested SE residents and business owners, to learn more about volunteer opportunities and the work of OSE, 6:30-8pm, SE-L Library on Green Rd.

If you know residents you feel have an interest in "getting more involved in their community", please share news of this event, or notify me or Karen whom to contact and invite. We also remind you to please visit the website for meeting minutes, activities, and that you have a council representative on the OSE board in Keith Benjamin, who can provide you with up-to-the-minute information.



Lastly, President Karen Poelking invites you to please contact her directly with any questions or comments, and she extends her sincere apologies for being unable to be here tonight.

Thank you energetic OSE board and committee members and dedicated SE city staff colleagues, who effectively work together toward a vibrant SE community, and Thank you City Council for all you do, for this opportunity this evening, and for your continued support.