Meet your Citywide Neighborhood Committee

Lori Soloway – Ward 1 - lorisoloway@gmail.com

Lori joined us in September 16, 2019. Currently she is working on organizing the forums and would accept the vice-Chair position if nominated. She has extensive experience in human resources and when employed as the HR Director for a New England town, she worked closely with its various boards.

Paul Mannle - Ward 3 - p_mannle@yahoo.com (p_)

Paul has served the committee since May 2014. He worked on a Capital Improvement Plan to ensure a fair budget allocation for each ward. In addition, he contributed to the Dilapidated Properties study/recommendations for the committee and actively assisted the Islington Creek neighborhood on seeking a permit program to alleviate crowded street parking. He, a two-time candidate for City Council, also served on Portsmouth Listens in various capacities. He is currently a data analyst for a government contracting firm.

Beth Margeson – Ward 5 - bmargeson@myfairpoint.com

Beth, our newest member as of April 6, 2020, is an attorney handling child abuse and neglect cases for the Division for Children, Youth and Families. She is a current board member and officer of the Friends of Prescott Park, Inc., a former board member and officer of the Portsmouth Women's City Club, former coordinator of Little Harbour School's after-school enrichment program, and former board member of Portsmouth Little League. She is a proud member of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, Lodge No. 97. Moreover, she has been an advocate for her South End neighborhood.

Dave Cosgrove – Ward 3 - dcosgrov@gmail.com

Dave works locally as a software architect/engineer and was recently accepted by the City Council on March 16th. Earlier in his career, he worked as a financial analyst and has served terms as both the Assistant Treasurer and Treasurer of the New Franklin School PTO. In addition to these positions, he has volunteered helping coach girls' softball and basketball with the Portsmouth Girls Softball Association and New Franklin School respectively.

Mark Syracusa – Ward 4 - mark@applepaintingrestoration.com

Mark, who became a member on March 16th, is a long-time independent contractor in the restoration business and an active fund raiser for such non-profits as Habitats for Humanity, Safe Harbor and the Chase Home. He is a former volunteer firefighter in New Castle and an original member of the Pierce Island Blue Ribbon Committee. He continues to be an activist for the Elwin Park neighborhood.

Larry Cataldo – Ward 2 – larrycataldo@yahoo.com

Larry joined the committee in May 2015 and is currently its transitional chair. While on the committee, he spearheaded the study on Dilapidated Properties. He was the coordinator for Islington Creek's effort to secure a neighborhood parking permit program. Prior to that, he served on the Taxi Commission for almost two years, introducing new ride services to the city. He is currently the treasurer with Portsmouth Citizens Alliance and former member of the Portsmouth Citizens for Transparency, both political advocacy groups. He comes from a diverse background as a telecommunications business process consultant, an overseas project manager and company comptroller.

Jim Splaine – Ward 1 - jimsplaineportsmouth@gmail.com

We are fortunate to have Jim as our City Council representative for the second time. He represented the Committee in 2015 and 2016 and was one of its founding members in the early 1990s. He is currently the Assistant Mayor, a position he held for 5 previous terms and served as a state representative for many years and a state senator for several terms. He served on the Portsmouth School Board and recently on the Police Commission. He still conducts neighborhood walks as he had on the original neighborhood committee.