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# The West Ender

By and for the West End Neighborhood

October 2005

## West End Association September Minutes

The summer break came to an end for our Association calendar on September 13<sup>th</sup> 2005 with eighteen members attending our general meeting at the Tise Mansion. President Steve Joiner called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. This was our first regular meeting since adjourning for the summer of '05. Attendee's introduced themselves with special mention given to our guest from the Historic Preservation Commission, Lee Ann Pegram and Michelle McCullough. The Treasurer's Report reflected a positive cash flow for the month of August of \$1917.93.

### Committee Reports

Jack Smith, co-chair of the Historic Preservation/Neighborhood Improvement Committee, discussed improvements being made to Grace Court. The old trash cans will be replaced by newer more period-style receptacles. Jack and his committee continue to have ongoing conversations with the city pertaining to the upkeep of the Grace Court grounds. Rick Pender of the public safety ad-hoc committee discussed suppression and intervention efforts that are targeting areas in the Western Downtown Initiative. Comparing serious and violent crime over the summer as it relates to the same period in 2004, crime on Burke Street was down 70% and West End experienced a 39% reduction in Part One Crimes.

### Upcoming West End Events

ArtsFest will be held on October 2, 2005 at Grace Court. Cathy Stanley mentioned that more than fifty artists will be showing at this year's festival. Sponsors include: Bretco Electric Co., Domicile, Imagine Flowers, Leonard.Ryden.Burr Real Estate, Lowes Foods, Screen Scene, Sharpe Images, Truliant Federal Credit Union, Urban Oasis, Wachovia, Wanda Merschel and West End Auto Clinic.

### Announcements

Jeff Smith announced that Chris Bowman, Director of CHANGE, will be coming to neighborhoods this fall to better inform members of the goals and objectives of its organization. West End is a member of CHANGE. Our next Association meeting will be held October 4, 7:00 PM, at the Tise Mansion. As a reminder, all Board meetings are open to the general membership. Please contact Steve Joiner for dates, times and location.

- Rick Pender, Secretary

## "Come out to our Porch"

The 2005-2006 version of a local visitor's guide and map of West End is now here. Playing off the label the brochure gives to West End, calling it "Winston-Salem's Front Porch", this year's theme for the ad campaign is "Come out to our Porch."

Copies are available from selected West End merchants or from the Visitors Center on Brookstown Avenue.

### October Community Mapping Workshop Schedule

The Transforming Communities Research Lab announces dates for **October are now online** to take our two hour introduction to Mapping Your Community. A hands on introduction to using GIS and data at TCRL to help map and analyze your neighborhood and make decisions based on data and research. **NOTE: THERE ARE SOME THURSDAY EVENING SESSIONS NOW INCLUDED**  
 To see the dates and register, go to <http://www.wssu.edu/WSSU/About/Partnerships/Center+for+Community+Safety/CMW+REGISTRATION.htm> fill in the online form and choose your date!  
**Each workshop is limited to 5 participants and the form will not allow you to register once the date is full.**

  
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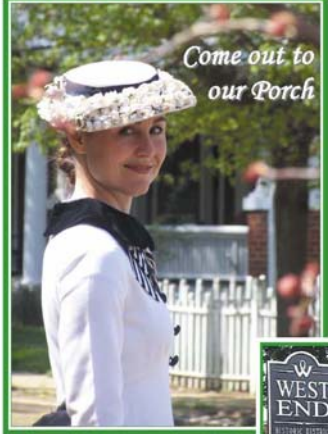
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### West End Neighborhood Association 2005 Membership Form

Join the West End Association and help support a friendly and beautiful neighborhood.  
 Membership is \$15 per family or \$30 per business.  
 Send to: WEA, PO Box 21054; Winston-Salem, NC 27120-1054

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email: \_\_\_\_\_ New Member ( ) Renewal ( )  
 Enclose \$15 for a family membership or \$30 for a business membership.

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This month we meet on the first Tuesday of the month at 7pm at the *The Cicero Tise House*  
 952 West Fourth Street  
 Winston-Salem, NC 27101  
 336.462.0850

**In this Issue:**  
 - West End ARTSfest SATURDAY OCTOBER 1  
 - President's Message  
 - HRC Schedule for September  
 - Community Mapping Training  
 - Barre, VT Gazebo trip  
 - Latest "Front Porch" visitor's brochure now out

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**President's Column**

**Demolition By Neglect Does NOT Really Mean What it Says**

Over the last few weeks, since the emergence of this misnamed proposal /concept in our community, there has been quite a bit of buzz about it, first by those in the know, privy to the inner workings and often misunderstood workings of the Historic Resource Commission, then to other citizens in the West End community at large, mostly by our surfacing of the issue in the West End Association newsletter and featuring it on the September WEA agenda. What's all the fuss about anyway? Things are always being demolished in one way or another, sounds like they've just come up with a new way to tear things down, right? Actually... NOT! As the HRC's LeAnn Pegram acknowledged earlier this month at the WEA meeting, it's perhaps not the best-named ordinance, in fact, it sounds pretty much like the exact opposite of its avowed intent. People from this neighborhood who I know and consider reasonably well-informed did indeed believe that this was a proposal designed to arm the city/ community/HRC (pick your own usual suspect) with a tool to help it remove unsightly structures from our treasured neighborhood! Blame it on North Carolina State law – apparently the enabling law/regulation, already in force in quite a few cities with historic areas, just happens to have been so labeled, misnomer though it may be. Well folks, I need to tell you that the proposed ordinance has a way to go yet ("proposed" being the operative word, as it still has to run the gauntlet of local government review, where its maiden voyage before the city council drew some flack and the West End was characterized as the home of the "landed gentry"! ). While I have confidence that some version of the ordinance will eventually see the light of day let me at least tell you what the intent of it is: to *preserve* structures that are in danger of self destruction by the neglect of their owners, by willful neglect or through financial hardship. The ordinance is intended to insure that a house will not be so abandoned as to literally fall into an advance state of disrepair and become a liability for the owner as well as the community. You know the houses we're talking about, the ones where no amount of entreaty on your part will give a neighbor cause to shore up a sagging porch or rotting columns, where roofing is so porous that rain is slowly eating away at the heart of pine floors if not the very heart of the home itself. This ordinance has procedures, process, a system and, yes, fines for failure to comply, but it most assuredly is not designed to help tear down, but to help build up. We on the WEA board applaud its coming and view it as a vital tool to help us discharge the charter of this organization to preserve our lovely community in all its historic splendor wherever possible. Stay tuned to this one everyone. Moreover, make sure you're not living in a glass house of your own before you start naming names!

– Steve Joiner, WEA President

**This Month at the HRC**  
Historic Resources Commission,  
Wednesday, Oct. 5, 2005 at 4:00 P.M.; City Hall South Public Meeting Room, Room 530;  
100 East First Street, Winston-Salem

*This group meets monthly to review applications for repair work and alterations in Forsyth County's local historic districts. You can always check their website at [www.ForsythCountHRC.org](http://www.ForsythCountHRC.org) or call them at the Planning Department at 727-2087 for the latest information or for questions about your property.*

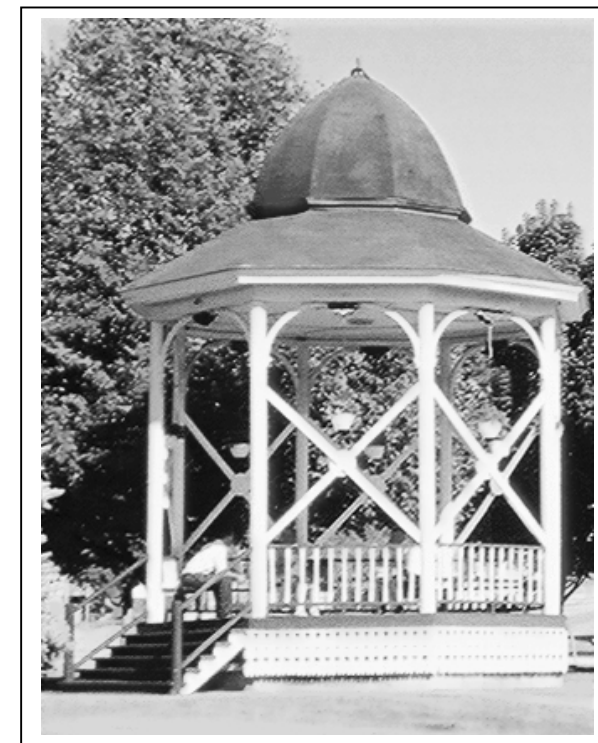
**Scheduled West End Business in September before the HRC.**

**Augsburg Evangelical Lutheran Church, Applicant**  
(Former) Friends Meeting House (Inventory #83)  
502 North Broad Street

Request: Replacement of ten large sanctuary windows with new aluminum windows Case #: W013-2005

**Grace Court's Northern Inspiration**

On a family vacation this summer, WEA Newsletter editor Eric Elliott discovered the inspiration behind our Grace Court gazebo. West Ender Barbara Smitherman had been on a family vacation in Vermont in the 1970s and noticed a charming gazebo in the middle of the square in the granite-quarry town of Barre. The lightness of the gazebo stood in sharp contrast to the many monumental pieced of granite sculpture dotted across the town, an homage to the skills of immigrant Italian stonecutters who harvested the countryside's bounty. She acquired its plans for West End. The gazebo still stands, though now with a rusted roof. Hanging baskets are from each arch, as are reinforcing X's – perhaps a structural necessity in snowy Vermont. The stairs and ornamentation at the base should look familiar to West Enders. The Barre gazebo has a dark green floor paint job, a bit heavy contrasted with our gray. We took a good design and made it better!



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