



WESTERLEE COMMUNITY NEWS

Westerlee: A Proud Covenant Controlled Community

www.westerleenews.com



Summer 2025



Editor: Pam Jarrell

President's Letter

Dear Neighbors,

As summer comes to a close and we welcome the fall season, I want to take a moment to reflect on what makes Westerlee such a strong community: the pride we take in our homes and the care we show for one another.

Community safety and neighborhood pride continue to be topics many of you bring up, and for good reason. While we're fortunate to live in a place where people look out for each other, there are always small steps we can take to keep our neighborhood safe, welcoming, and beautiful. A few reminders:

Yards & Walkways: Keeping grass trimmed, sidewalks clear, and trash bins stored properly not only makes our neighborhood look beautiful, but it also shows visitors that Westerlee is a community we're proud to call home.

Vacant Homes: From time to time, homes in the neighborhood may be unoccupied. Please keep an eye out for these properties and report anything unusual. Watching over vacant houses helps prevent unwanted activity and shows that our community stays alert.

Neighbors Helping Neighbors: If you notice something out of place, or if a neighbor needs a hand, don't hesitate to step in or give a friendly call. A simple check-in can make all the difference.

School Safety: With children back in school, please be extra mindful of kids walking to and from bus stops. Drive slowly through the neighborhood, watch for pedestrians, and remind young ones to use sidewalks and crosswalks safely. Together, we can help ensure our children travel safely each day.

Celebrating Our Homes: We all take pride in the way Westerlee looks, and it truly reflects the spirit of our community. This month's newsletter includes an article on how you can share photos of your home, seasonal decorations, or landscaping. We'd love for you to be part of it and help showcase the beauty of Westerlee!

Westerlee's reputation and property values are directly tied to how well we care for it together. By each of us taking small, consistent steps, we help create the kind of community we're proud to share with family, friends, and future neighbors.

Thank you all for your continued involvement, care, and commitment to making Westerlee not just a place to live, but a place to thrive. I look forward to seeing many of you at our upcoming events this fall.

Warm regards,
Wanda Richardson
President, Westerlee HOA



WESTERLEE COMMUNITY, INC. BOARD OF DIRECTORS
President: Wanda Richardson
Vice President: Shanna Strickland
Secretary: Jessica Dotson
Treasurer: Casey Fuller, send checks to:
 2114 Fernglen Way, Catonsville, MD 21228

Directors: Pam Jarrell, Jacqui Johnson,
 Deborah Cason, Tanya Deshields,
 John Fox & Klaus Philipsen (Past Presidents)
Contact the board by emailing westerleehoa@gmail.com

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 Saturday, September 13, 2025
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Join our community Facebook page!
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AND SO MUCH MORE!

Westerlee Meeting Minutes. Zoom Mtg Date 8/12/25 (abridged)

6:33pm Meeting open

Treasury Report

Jacqui confirmed Casey has access to mobile banking, but still needs to be added to the account. Jacqui and Casey still need to coordinate a time to go to the bank to get him access. The check to the lawyer Mr. Thurston has been mailed. \$15,209.32 bank account balance currently.

The group discussed compiling a report on the status of dues. Klaus made a motion to have a draft of the budget for the next 12 months ready for the next meeting to be able to vote on. The board talked about gathering past meeting minutes and treasury reports/budget reports and compiling them in a central place on the shared Westerlee Google Drive.

Google Drive Modernization

Casey confirmed who has shared access to the drive and is asking board members to upload any files they have to the shared drive so we can begin to organize files into an archive so we can better create future documents and build a central archive. Rizwan went ahead and uploaded an archive of all the treasury files he had. Jacqui also uploaded files to the drive.

Website Update

Wanda called for anyone else who would like a bio or blurb added to the website under the Board Members page. Jessica said any bios or blurbs can be sent to her to be incorporated.

Picnic Planning

The board talked about the budget for the picnic. Shanna shared with the board a pricing sheet for one catered and the board discussed the affordability of the options. The board discussed renting tents. Casey proposed the HOA buying one or two tents to decrease rental costs over time. Jacqui said that last year the tent rental cost \$450. The cost was \$716 total including tent, tables, chairs, and set up and break down.

Newsletter Update

Pam made a request for content to be sent to her for the upcoming

newsletter by August 19th. Klaus said he shared an architectural code outline about some regulations that we can include. Wanda said she has the historical documents of the board and asked if she should pass them along to Jessica as secretary. The group discussed a photo or home highlight contest. Jessica volunteered to write up a piece for the newsletter.

Neighborhood Security

Rizwan brought up how another neighborhood he saw had a "No Soliciting" sign to help slow down soliciting. The board discussed the feasibility of posting signs if the neighborhood is lacking a shared space. Klaus said we would not be able to add signs to the stop signs or elsewhere and suggested neighbors putting signs on their houses. Rizwan suggested we ask if neighbors at the end of the streets would be willing to host signs. Pam suggested a program where we buy "No Soliciting" signs in bulk and hand them out to neighbors at the picnic.

Community Garden Update

Wanda asked for an update on the possibility of a community garden. Jessica brought up using the space on Chantilla as something like a pocket park or other green space. Klaus stated he doesn't have a vested interest in a community garden in that space. Wanda suggested we table the issue for now.

Security Update

Wanda asked Klaus if there was an update to the previous carjacking incident. Klaus stated there were issues getting statements from eyewitnesses and that there was not an agreement as to what happened in the incident. Note: This was an isolated incident.

Other notes

The board further discussed a budget for the picnic. Multiple options were discussed. Wanda suggested the party committee have a follow-up meeting to continue planning.

Meeting adjourned 8:33pm



Westerlee Annual Meeting Minutes. Banneker Historical Museum 4/22/25(abridged)

President Wanda Richardson officially called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM, welcoming attendees and thanking everyone for their continued involvement in supporting the Westerlee community.

3. Guest Speakers: Local Leaders and Representatives

Margaret Stokes – Liaison Assistant to Councilman Pat Young

Infrastructure Repairs: Resurfacing projects for neighborhood streets are being scheduled in conjunction with larger Baltimore County initiatives. No specific dates yet, but timelines will be shared.

Code Enforcement: Residents reminded to use Baltimore County 311 (online or phone) to report code violations

Public Works Review: Ongoing audit of trash and recycling pickup. Residents experiencing inconsistent service are encouraged to report issues to the county.

Senator Charles Sydnor – Maryland State Senate

Senator Sydnor addressed pressing community infrastructure and policy topics:

Delegate Sheila Ruth – Maryland House of Delegates

Delegate Ruth emphasized state-level efforts to support sustainability and equitable funding

4. Guest Presentation: Vegetable Gardening

Presenter: Jeff Wanka – Certified Gardening Specialist
Jeff gave an enthusiastic discussion on beginner-friendly gardening topics.

5. HOA Business

a. Election

John Fox facilitated the board election. Following the voting process, Jessica Dotson and Casey Fuller were elected as new board members.

Voting Clarification: Confirmed the policy of "one vote per household," regardless of number of residents.

b. Budget Review

Presented by Jacqui Johnson (Treasurer)

Reviewed current financial status, including operating fund balance and reserve fund status.

Board agreed to explore high-yield savings or money market accounts for HOA reserve funds.

c. Community Engagement

Block Captains: New Block Captains Nayna Philipson (Cedar Circle Dr.) and Bertina Angeles (Chantilla Road) were introduced, to serve as neighborhood liaisons.

Community Yard Sale: Saturday, June 7 – HOA will advertise the event and provide balloons.

Annual Picnic: Planned for September – date to be finalized. Will include games, food, and music.

6. Neighbor Questions & Proposals

Multicultural Holiday Events: Residents proposed hosting events that celebrate various cultural holidays (e.g., Ramadan) Board showed support and agreed to explore.

Community Garden Proposal: Residents expressed interest in developing a community garden on unused land near Chantilla Road. .

Abandoned Property Concern: Ongoing issue with a property stuck in probate. Klaus reported that legal proceedings are delayed due to the difficulty in locating the owner or next of kin.

WESTERLÉE

2025 ANNUAL PICNIC
Saturday, Sept 13th
3-6 pm



Located at the Philippsen's Yard
2018 Cedar Circle Drive

Tasty food! Great Neighbors!
Lots of fun! Bring the kids!
Please bring a dessert to share!



Treasurers Report

Jan 1, 2025 to July 31, 2025

Starting Balance	\$12,878.50
Income	3,020.72
Expenses	660.00
Net Income	2,360.72
Ending Balance	\$15,239.22



Lens on Westerlee

Hey neighbors! Get ready to show off your photography skills and capture what makes our community so special. We're excited to announce our brand-new neighborhood photo contest, open to all HOA residents!

What to Photograph?

We're looking for photos that highlight the unique charm of our neighborhood. This could be an interesting architectural detail on a home, a vibrant garden, a picturesque street scene, spot and amazing butterfly or any feature that truly embodies the spirit of our community. Everyone has a phone in their pocket, lets use it to show our community!

Simply submit your photos to Westerlee Secretary, Jessica Lynn Dotson, at jessica.l.dotson@gmail.com. Chosen photos will be proudly featured in an upcoming issue of our newsletter for everyone to enjoy. We can't wait to see our neighborhood through your lens!



Join our Private Facebook Page



Using the QR Code below

- Open the camera on your phone. Hold it up to see the image on the right.
- Your phone should recognize it and a hotdog shaped box will say "Facebook" inside.
- Touch the word Facebook and you will be taken to our page on the Facebook app. Select JOIN and answer the questions. The hosts will approve you shortly



No Parking on the Grass

Baltimore County prohibits parking on the grass in residential neighborhoods. The following is from County Code.

§ 431.2. - Restrictions on parking on residential property. A vehicle parked on residential property may only be situated on a concrete, asphalt paved, or durable and dustless surface that is intended for the parking of vehicles except for a commercial vehicle otherwise legally parked and only for the period of time essential for the immediate use of the vehicle. [Bill No. 86-23]



Yard Sale Day



Rain rain go away was the theme of this years yard sale day, even the rain date was a wash. That didn't stop our fearless president, Wanda Richardson, for trying both days. Jacqui's friends gave it a go on day 1 as well. Sorry no pics.