

William “Brian” Wardman – Community Bio.

Brian moved into the Jefferson Park area in 2004. Brian has been a member of the Jefferson Park Neighborhood Association since 2007. In 2008 Brian was elected to the board. In 2010 Brian was elected as Vice-President and has been serving since. The actions Brian has been involved with as follows:

- Represents the JPNA on the Working Group on Homelessness (WGOH) coordinating committee, which is a coalition of community members to help the homeless in Jefferson Park.
- Editor of the JPNA Newsletter from 2018 to the present
- Volunteered since 2006 to the present at Olive’s Garden for the Hungry which provides fresh vegetables to food pantries. Acting Bee Keeper for the Garden since 2018
- Developed membership database Membership
- Chairs the Zoning / TIF Committee(2009 to 2017) involved in the following):
  - Educates the neighbors of Jefferson Park and beyond regarding what zoning means and why it is important
  - Actions related to Long/Argyle, Pedestrian Walkway, Jefferson Park TIF, etc.
- Chaired two fund raisers in the development of 2 neighborhood cookbooks. Both cookbooks have shown a profit
- Jefferson Park Farmers Market (2012-2015). Directed set-up of vendors, worked front table, and manage website
- One of the administrator on JPNA Facebook site
- Volunteer at JEFF Fest from 2011 to the present. Managed beer tent as a fund raiser from 2017 to the present
- Participates on the Jefferson Park Advisory Council
- WebMaster for JPNA website
- Member on the Jefferson Park Chamber of Commerce

Prior to moving into Jefferson Park, Brian lived in the Belmont-Cragin Neighborhood. Brian was involved in his community through being part of the Hanson-Riis Park Neighborhood Organization which was an affiliate of Northwest Neighborhood Association (NNF). Brian was a member of from 1988 to 2004, and was on the Board of Directors of the NNF from 1991 to 2002, 2003. As a member of the NNF, Brian held officer positions of Secretary, Vice-President, and President. The actions Brian was a part of as follows:

- Became involved in 1988 as a result of an abandon building on his block. Worked with organizers going to HUD
- Community Safety:
  - Starting in 1988 in being involved with community safety due to the increasing numbers of gang activity

- In 1991 played a part in organizing the Anti-Gang Task Force Conference held in Weber High School Gym. The number that attended was over 900. This brought open awareness and several follow-on from this meeting
- One of the leaders that worked with State Representatives (Kotlarz, Blagojevich) and Senators (Dudycz, DeLeo) to draft a Bill that later became the Creative Sentencing Act (passed in 1994). Went to Springfield to talk to representatives to endorse the Bill which later became Law
- Worked with other NNF leaders and Alderman Banks in drafting the Anti-Gang Loitering Ordinance
- Property / Home:
  - Worked with organizers in identifying abandon buildings and Illegal Hotels (single family homes converted into mutli-family) dwellings. Used this information to work with officials in correcting problems
  - Representative from NNF to work with NTIC/NPA in Community Re-investment Act Initiatives. One of the signers from the community to get agreement of Bank-One to invest more in the community
  - Representative from NNF to work with NTIC/NPA in demonstrating the adverse affects of Predatory Lenders. Went to Washington DC to talk to our Representatives and Senators this issue (1998-2002)
- Education
  - NNF representative at NPA in seeking additional funds for Education. Result was additional funds received from US Government for Chicago Public Schools
- Fund-Raising
  - Worked Bingos. Ran a Bingo for 2 years
  - Worked with other NNF Neighbors in development of Ad-Books