

Quarterly Meeting
Sherwood Forest Neighborhood Association
November 12, 2025

Present: Pat Mason, Leyla Mason, Ron Hagell, Regina Monteith, Skosh Foreman, Valerie Marcil, Henry Nechemias, Greg Dunbar, John Epting, Ed Tilden, Polly Tilden, Maria Harvin, Trey Franklin, Susan Culler.

Opening Remarks Pat Mason

- Volunteer sheets were passed around for various opportunities.
- Sherwood Forest has been nominated for **Neighborhood of the Year** by the Columbia Council of Neighborhoods.
- Additionally, **Dave Nelson** has been nominated for **Volunteer of the Year**. Dave, a retired teacher from Dreher High School, has coordinated the Keep the Midlands Beautiful Program in Sherwood Forest for the past 10 years. We are deeply grateful for the contribution this makes to our quality of life in the neighborhood.
- Also, one of our many beautiful trees in the neighborhood has been nominated as a **Treasured Tree** in the City of Columbia. This tree, a 75-year-old, 90-foot tall, 80-inch trunk Magnolia Grandiflora, is located in front of 400 Kalmia Drive.

Police Update: (Lance Corporal Gibbs)

- Workers should be encouraged by homeowners to lock their vehicles.
- The police station will provide a safety escort to persons when needed in evening hours.

Guest Speakers:

- **Ms Samantha Yager, Superintendent, Columbia Waste Management** gave very helpful information about how to recycle household materials. There are disposal sites for paint, electronics, tires, cooking oil and other waste materials in the city. Waste Wizard is 95% accurate.

“Leave the Leaves” to help our local environment:

- 1) Leave the Leaves, a sustainability effort to encourage waiting for spring to rake up leaves, etc. This provides a haven for bees and insects and more material for mulch. “Easy to do and better for the environment, if you can wait until spring to tidy your garden.”
 - 2) A sustainability newsletter is published by Columbia Waste Management.
- **Ms. Lisa Sumpter, Housing Authority and Code Enforcement Officer** for our area. She has worked 23 years with the city. **Contact her at (803) 518-4632.**
 - **Mr. Greg Dunbar gave a history of Dunbar Funeral Home** of which he is the 5th generation to own and manage this business in the City of Columbia.

Previous Minutes: Susan Culler: The August 2025 minutes were approved.

Treasurer's Report: Henry Nechemias:

The bank account is in good standing with about \$5,000 in reserve. Appreciation to Pat Mason and the block captains who have been active in their areas. Association memberships have increased.

Arboretum: Dr. Trey Franklin:

Art in the Arboretum is scheduled in March of next year.

Forest Friends: Valerie Marcil

"Twelve Steps for Gardening" outlined in a brochure, made available at the meeting.

Digital Platform: Ed Tilden: No report.

Artist Friends: Ron Hagell

- Support **Gemini Arts, located at 2847 Commerce Dr, Columbia.** Gemini Arts is a new art studio, home for over 27 local artists, including painters, ceramicists, animators, filmmakers, & writers. Open to the public: **Every Friday from 6 - 10 p.m.** Info@geminiarts.org.
- **Art in the Forest** will be showcased at the **Belser Arboretum on Sun, March 15, 2026, from 1 - 4 p.m.**

Updates: Pat Mason

Social Event Reports:

- **The Halloween Block Party and the Neighborhood Yard Sale on Nov. 8** were very successful. Both are excellent community events.
- **The 12th Night of Christmas Pot Luck Event** is Fri., Jan. 9 from 6 - 9 p.m. This event is held at the home of Ms. Virginia Monteith.
- **Art in the Forest:** March 15, 2026, 1 - 4 p.m.

Block captains were thanked for their work. A **Clean-up Day** was scheduled for Nov. 15,

History of Sherwood Forest, presented at the Lourie Center by [Gail Wojtowicz](#) is available on the SFNA website.

Merchandise is available on the website.

New Gateway signs will be placed at Yale Ave & Kilbourne and at Bloomwood Ave & Kilbourne. Future speakers were discussed.

The next General Membership meeting will be Wednesday, Feb. 11, 2026.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 pm.