

## Questionnaire for Nomination to the Tremont West Development Corporation Board of Directors

Name: Carolyn Bentley  
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1. Please describe your involvement with the Tremont West Development Corporation or other Tremont clubs and activities during the last 5 years:

I began my formal relationship with the board about 3 years ago when I was elected Duck Island's ex-officio representative to the board. Then when a board seat became available about a year ago I was voted on as a full voting member and later as secretary of the full board and the executive committee. In addition to serving as a member of these boards, I have been on committees like Celebrate Tremont and Economic Development and I've volunteered at events like the Arts & Cultural Festival. I have also been a long time sponsor of Tremont West and all their yearly programming. I have also been in charge of planning Duck Island's annual Party in the Park summer potluck for the last 3 years.

2. Please describe any involvement that you have had with charitable organizations during the last 5 years:

For the last more than 5 years I had been an active volunteer for the May Dugan Center, even winning their "Volunteer of the Year" recognition. Due to scheduling conflicts I ended my relationship with May Dugan about 2 months ago in part because I had to decide whether to spend my available time volunteering for May Dugan or Tremont West and I chose Tremont West.

3. Please describe any other memberships on boards or committees that you have had during the last 5 years (such as non-profit organizations, professional associations or city or county government):

None besides those described above.

4. Please describe the skills and areas of expertise that you would bring to the Board of Directors of the Tremont West Development Corporation.:

The main area of expertise I bring to Tremont West is an in-depth understanding of real estate in the Tremont and Duck Island markets. Primarily residential (which is what I practice) but I have had some experience with commercial real estate projects just as an interested observer. I have had the opportunity to support Tremont West in their real estate ventures and to serve as a sounding board and educated advisor many times over the years. I also have a strong interest in the importance of community and the arts and how those structures work to reinforce a strong city neighborhood. I am a naturally organized and structured thinker who values supporting those who are serving the

community so I feel like my role as the board secretary has been the perfect fit for my abilities.

- 5: Please state why you are interested in serving on the Board of Directors for the Tremont West Development Corporation:

It has been a true pleasure to me to be able to serve on the board and as the board secretary over the last year. I feel like this is the right fit for my desire to encourage and structurally support those individuals who are serving our community. Duck Island and Tremont are so important to me as an active community member and I want to continue to be a voice for the community and for the importance of community.

Membership on the TWDC Board of Directors requires a substantial commitment of time and energy. Members of the Board typically serve on one or more committees, which meet monthly, as well as the Board of Directors meeting, which also meets monthly. Typically, Board Members spend between 5 -10 hours per month on TWDC matters. Please indicate the number of hours per month that you will be available as a member of the Board of Directors: About 10. I have a full plate with two active teenagers and a full time job. But Tremont West involvement always has been and will continue to be a priority for me.

**Please send this application, along with a current résumé and a short (not more than 75 words) statement that contains the information you most wish voters to consider to:**  
[twdcboard@gmail.com](mailto:twdcboard@gmail.com)

My 75(ish) word statement: Duck Island is the first place I've lived that has felt like home and community. It has been such an honor to me to be able to raise my young family in this neighborhood of active, involved members who watch out for each other. I want to continue to support and strengthen this. I want to serve my neighbors and help them have the same experience I am having living here through all phases of our lives.

# Carolyn Bentley: Parent, Realtor, Athlete, Community Member

I remember the first time it occurred to me I could own a home. I was watching a television open house program one Sunday morning and they advertised a phone number potential buyers could call to determine how much home they could qualify for. I called. I qualified. And I was hooked.

The main thing being a Realtor in these city neighborhoods has taught me is the importance, and the incredible benefit, of community. Before moving to Cleveland in 1997, I had never lived in a place where neighbors knew and valued each other. Now I understand the importance of that kind of community and my goal through my work, my volunteer activities and the way I'm choosing to raise my children has been to support and encourage that community experience.

## Experience

- Secretary, Tremont West Board of Directors and Executive Committee
- Board member, Tremont West Board of Directors
- Former Duck Island Ex-Officio, Tremont West Board of Directors
- Experienced, full-time real estate agent
- Former Production Manager, Ohio Magazine/Cleveland Magazine: (background in marketing, organization, knowledge and appreciation of Cleveland's neighborhoods)
- Landlord and property manager for multiple rental units

## Awards & Recognition

May Dugan Center

- Volunteer of the Year recognition for my years of assistance with their community food distribution

Howard Hanna Awards and Advanced Training:

- National Sales Excellence Award Winner: Recognition given to the top 5% of Realtors annually
- Homes of Distinction Specialist
- Quality Service Award Winner
- Green Realtor with advanced training in energy efficiency and green building

Featured on HGTV's premiere series "House Hunters"

- Episode HNT-5207H: Cleveland Newlyweds Search For Home Near Downtown

Lakewood "Go Green Award"

- Lakewood City Council Resolution Number 8021-05
- Recognition from the Mayor and City Council for the renovation of our three-unit rental property and our ongoing green rental business.

Entrepreneurs for Sustainability:

- "High Performance Green Building Champion of Sustainability" awarded for environmentally friendly rental business and the Cleveland Magazine EcoVation Home Project.

## And More

- Parent of two active, involved teenagers
- International half marathon runner
- Taekwondo blackbelt