

#### Board of Directors

- David Avirom
- Kathy Crisp
- Chris Cummins
- Don Green
- Jay Hancock
- Joe Harkins
- Robbie Hayes
- Gil Hutchinson
- David Kumatz
- George Malo
- Kelli Nelson
- Mark Thompson
- Jimmy Wilson
- Jim Wiseman

#### 2020: A Year In Review

2020 was an interesting year for all of us, including CBGS! The culmination of a lot of hard work. Read about our activities in the attached Annual Report recently presented at our Annual Meeting. We'd like to thank our board and volunteers that helped us get to where we are today.

Also, 2021 Officer elections include: President - Gil Hutchinson, Vice President - Joe Harkins, Treasurer - Kelli Nelson, and Secretary - David Kumatz.

#### The Year 2020

Looking back at 2020 - the year of the coronavirus pandemic - the year will still be remembered as a year of opportunity and success for The Citizens for Brentwood Green Space (CBGS). We are pleased to provide this report on the activities of the corporation and accomplishments in 2020 as well as presenting the goals and objectives that we are planning to pursue over the next year.

#### Mission

The Citizens for Brentwood Green Space, Inc. is a volunteer citizens group organized as a 501(c) (3) nonprofit corporation. Our mission is to preserve open space in the form of parks, trails, historic sites, and flood plains while being sensitive to the rights of landowners and developers. CBGS desires to assure that ongoing development of land resources is accomplished in a way that is beneficial to landowners, to existing citizens of the city and to future generations of Brentwood residents.

#### Major Activities and Accomplishments in 2020

##### 1. Our People

People are an important and essential asset to the development and growth in any organization. This is particularly true of volunteer organizations that rely on the passion and dedication of people that share an interest in the mission and are willing to promote that with others in their communities.

CBGS has a strong, dedicated board that is willing to work hard and help us achieve our goals. Their enthusiasm and experience have positioned our organization for future success. Officers that served during 2020 included: President - Gil Hutchinson, Vice President - Joe Harkins, Treasurer - Kelli Nelson, and Secretary - David Kumatz.

Board members continue to be involved in giving back to their community through participation in a wide variety of community organizations. A number of our Board are engaged in local civic organizations such as Leadership Brentwood for example. The following board members also served on these City boards during 2020:

- Robbie Hayes, Tree Board
- Chris Cummins, Environmental Advisory Board

## 2. Community Engagement

In years past, CBGS has been a frequent speaker around the community with local organizations and at public hearings and City Commission meetings. The pandemic put a halt of course to much of this, but our web and social media sites remain accessible to the community and provide valuable content and updates. We have a strong and valued relationship with the local media and are often sought to provide quotes or topics on items of interest to the local community.

We were unable to host our annual "A Walk in the Park" fundraising event at Marcella Vivrette Smith Park this year due to COVID-19, but we did have the culmination of several large projects come to fruition in 2020:

### "Miss Peggy's Bark Park"

CBGS formally announced in late 2011 our goal to raise \$300,000 towards the acquisition of the remaining 80 acres at Ravenswood Farm. This



announcement marked the first time our organization shifted from being a community advocacy group to one that also is willing to make a financial stake in our community for the future.

CBGS presented an \$80,000 check to the City of Brentwood at the October 28, 2019 Brentwood City Commission meeting. With this payment, the CBGS reached its goal of \$300,000 with \$302,000 paid. This donation also included approximately \$66,000 of funds from a bequest from the estate of long-time board member Peggy Howell to CBGS. As a result, at their November 11th, 2019 meeting, the

Brentwood City Commission unanimously approved a resolution renaming the Tower Park Dog Park "Miss Peggy's Bark Park" in her memory.

On November 7th 2020, after many months of planning and collaboration, the City of Brentwood renamed Tower Park Dog Park to Miss Peggy's Bark Park. CBGS President Gil Hutchinson remarked, "Peggy Howell was active on

our Board for many years and always willing to help out with our promotional and fund-raising efforts. Anyone that knew Peggy knew of her love of dogs and her beloved pet "Truman". Truman was the star of our "Where's Truman" campaign a few years ago featuring Brentwood's many parks. She was a dedicated friend and public servant and will be greatly missed by all."

### **Windy Hill Park**

Brentwood added a new park in 2020! From the City's website:

*"In May 2020, Brentwood City Leaders purchased the 52 acres of land located at 9135 Old Smyrna Road for \$5.2 million, or \$100,000 per acre, from the Sensing Family. Funding for the purchase came from a combination of the city's General Fund balance, Adequate Facilities Taxes, and \$150,000 previously raised by the non-profit group Brentwood Green Space for future park land acquisition and development."*

### **Our Goals in 2021**

Private donations help provide amenities and maintenance support in our parks. At the dawn of 2021, we are focused on the future and have well defined goals in place. We are committed to making "Brentwood Green Space" a name that carries meaning with it. We want people to know we are a link to nature, whether through getting citizens to work together towards a common goal of helping the City with land acquisitions and improvements or by providing a focus for the preservation of green space throughout our community for generations to come.

Regards,

Gil Hutchinson  
President

### **About Citizens for Brentwood Green Space, Inc.**

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