

Business Association of West Parkside Recognition Awards

Nominations:

- I.** **Nancy Kolb Award** – Celebrating a local business that has an excellent business model and is an exemplary community steward.

SEPTA – **Francis Jones:** SEPTA has worked closely with West Parkside for over 20 years. They were recently successful in bringing the bus into the shopping center and completing the bus turn around on 50th Street. SEPTA, in the person of Francis Jones, went above and beyond the call of duty to accomplish the above.

FunTimes – **Eric Nzeribe:** Eric Nzeribe has single handedly developed the magazine, “FunTimes”, as a voice for the African and Caribbean immigrant community in West Philadelphia. “FunTimes” has helped publicize activities important to West Parkside and this year produced a booklet for Jackie Robinson Day for the Business Association.

Discovery Charter School - **Jacqueline Kelley:** Discovery Charter School started in West Parkside and has grown to the point that they have now purchased their own property. As a concrete demonstration of their belief in West Parkside their new school will still be in West Parkside. Discovery is a true asset to this community.

Planet Fitness – **Tony Rufo:** Planet Fitness has hired a substantial number of residents in this community. They have also become involved in the area contributing to the local Food Bank and other activities in West Parkside.

- II.** **West Parkside Ambassador Award** - Celebrating an individual, who exemplifies the spirit of West Parkside and who, through their efforts and actions, is a tireless advocate for our community residents and businesses.

Cliff Smith- as the organizer of the Parkside Saints, cliff has put his heart, soul, time and money into the Youth of Parkside. The past three years. Mr. Smith has personally subsidized the cost of player equipment so the young residents could compute. Cliff is also an employee of the Earn Center and assists individuals looking for work.

Paul Brauer – Paul has been a wonderful addition to the west Parkside business Community. As Jeff Brown’s right hand man he is the one in the trenches getting things done. He is a man of action and is totally committed to the future of West Parkside.

Jerome Shabazz - Overbrook Environmental: Jerome is on the fore front of urban farming, marketing, and encouraging partnerships with others. The Overbrook Environmental Center is breathing new life into the Lancaster Ave. area.

Gene Dikes – National Garden Association: Gene has spear-headed the development of Concourse Lake. In the process she has become an effect spokes person for the entire area and is bring attention to West Park and West Parkside at the local and national level.

Lucinda Hudson – Parkside Association of Philadelphia: Lucinda has represented West Parkside in her present role as President of the Parkside Association and as a resident of the area for over 30 years. Lucinda has been instrumental in the development of the West Park Town Center, the rehabilitation of the house stock, the development of the Centennial District – to name just a few recent developments.

III. Civic Leadership Award - Celebrating an elected or government official who has provided critical leadership for the West Parkside community and who represents the interests and greater benefit of the Business Association of West Parkside.

Mayor Michael Nutter: Mayor Nutter has been instrumental in the development of West Parkside for over twenty years. As the Councilman for the 4th District he promoted the area and helped begin the renaissance for the area – both in terms of housing and business development. As Mayor he has continued to support the community, businesses and the major institutions in West Parkside and West Park.

Councilman Curtis Jones, Jr.: Councilman Jones served as the President of PCDC (Philadelphia Commercial Development Corporation) for approximately 20 years. In that role he helped areas around the City, including West Parkside, develop their business corridors and address the needs of small businesses and entrepreneurs. As the Councilman for the 4th District

Alan Greenberg - Deputy Mayor for Economic Development & Director of Commerce: Alan Greenberg is a visionary believing in the concept of the Centennial District and making the rest of us see what could be created. As Deputy Mayor he has continued to focus resources in West Parkside and responding to the needs of this area.

Rick Redding – Director of Community Planning at the Philadelphia Community Planning Commission: Rick Redding has served the City and West Parkside in particular for over 20 years. He has been the face of City Planning and taught us all the importance of long term and short term plans. The West Parkside we are all proud of today is in large part a result of all the planning and zoning changes made over the years.