

2019 Board Nominees Biographies

BRENDA WOOD -- Brenda has lived on the east side since 2001 and has been a resident of Wisconsin for the majority of her life except for short stints in Los Angeles and Washington D.C. She grew up in Greendale near another important Milwaukee park, Whitnall Park.

She is passionate about public service and the importance of keeping taxpayer funded amenities accessible to all and maintaining these cultural assets. She has two children, Christopher and Eva, who both attended public schools. Christopher graduated from Rufus King High School and Eva will graduate from Shorewood in 2019. When her children were young, Lake Park was the heartbeat of their community. Endless hours were spent at the playground, soccer field, and baseball diamond. Over the years, some tennis (if you can call it that) was played, several Musical Mondays attended, some hot chocolate sipped at the ice rink, many hikes through the ravines, countless walks, several community meetings attended, pints sipped, and was a participant in nearly every 4th of July parade for the last 20 years. Now that her children are grown, she doesn't use the park in the same way but it still offers her that same opportunity to connect with our community and nature. Lake Park offers something for everyone-- young and old.

She and her husband, Joel Haubrich (a proud lifelong east sider) have supported Lake Park as recent members and longer term contributors as attendees of Cirque de Lake Park. Her son was one of the founding members of the Junior volunteer auxiliary.

Brenda has worked for the City of Milwaukee for 15 years. She began her service to the City as an aide to Mayor John Norquist and spent several 4ths traveling with him as he "sang" at the community gatherings in the park. He had a strong influence on her because he placed so much value on preserving our built and natural environment. The parks are an embodiment of both as they are a hybrid of built (designed) and natural. For the last 10 years, she has worked as a lobbyist for the City of Milwaukee primarily to state government. She knows all too well the financial issues facing the County and City. She hopes to use her experience working in and with government to continue the forward progress on the rehabilitation of the historic footbridge.

She looks forward to serving on the board and hopes her nomination is approved.

DON KRAMER -- I am a full-time student at UWM - working towards a PhD in Biostatistics from the Zilber School of Public Health. I live in Riverwest and as an avid runner, I use Lake Park on a regular basis. I originally moved to Milwaukee to work as an actuary, where I learned how to organize and analyze information. I then taught mathematics for 10 years in local public schools. In this job I gained organization and communication skills.

I am originally from the Pocono Mountains of Pennsylvania. I attended college in Boston, and it was in the parks of that city where I was first introduced to the work of Frederick Law Olmsted.

I am and have been active in several community organizations. I am often involved by working with finances or membership. I enjoy working with numbers, and I hope that I can use my experience and skills to benefit Lake Park and all of the groups that use it.