

Board of Directors

- Greg Blanford
- Bert Bosse
- Jim Cartiglia
- Kathy Crisp
- Jim Fordice
- Peg Fredi
- Peggy Howell
- Gil Hutchinson
- David Kumatz
- George Malo
- Devin McClendon
- Alex Noble
- Stephen Prince
- James Selleh
- Paul Webb
- Jimmy Wilson

Advisors

Ken Connelly
Special Advisor to the Board

Wheelhouse Market Advisors
Marketing

Photography

Angie Miller
Photography

The Year 2013

By [Gil Hutchinson](#) on Tuesday, January 28, 2014

The Year 2013

2013 will be remembered as a year of transition and opportunity for The Citizens for Brentwood Green Space (CBGS). We are pleased to provide this report on the activities of the corporation and accomplishments in 2013 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 2013

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. The board welcomed four new members this year:

- Greg Blanford, a project development/sales specialist for Technical Innovation
- Peg Fredi, an internationally award winning artist and free-lance photographer for Brentwood/Franklin Homepage, an on-line newspaper
- Peggy Howell, a community leader and former teacher with Metro Nashville and flight attendant for 28 years with US Airways
- Paul Webb, Administrator at Westminster Presbyterian Church in Nashville and former Brentwood City Commissioner

Their enthusiasm and experience have positioned our organization for future success. Board members continue to be involved in giving back to their community through participation in a wide variety of community organizations. The following board members also served on these City boards:

- Bert Bosse, The Brentwood Library Foundation Board

- Gil Hutchinson, Historic Commission
- Dave Kumatz, Tree Board
- Alex Noble, Board of Zoning Appeals

Hutchinson was also named a “Brentwoodian of the Year” by the Brentwood Home Page in December for helping lead the organization’s efforts to help the City purchase 80 acres at Marcella Vivrette Smith Park.

2. Community Education

CBGS is a frequent speaker around the community with local organizations, such as Rotary, the Chamber of Commerce and at public hearings and City Commission meetings. Our web and social media sites are 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.

Accomplishments in 2013 include:

- Added a Facebook Page “Brentwood Green Space” and Twitter account @BrentwoodGreenS in March
- Completed a survey of candidates running for the Brentwood City Commission in March. The survey received wide coverage, including the Brentwood Home Page and Tennessean, and helped the community gain a better understanding of where each candidate stood on preserving green space.
- Participated as an Arbor Day sponsor in April
- Completed the “Where’s Truman” contest in October. The 11 week contest, designed to create awareness and support for CBGS' efforts to help the City of Brentwood acquire an additional 80 acres of land next to the new Marcella Vivrette Smith Park, featured “Truman”, a local basset hound owned by resident and board member Peggy Howell. Prizes were donated from the following local businesses: Corky’s Brentwood, ePlus Inc., Mère Bulles Restaurant, Noble Springs Dairy and Puffy Muffin.

3. Giving

CBGS was a History Bowl sponsor in February. The Historic Commission established the event to promote the preservation of Brentwood’s historic sites and heritage and create a greater awareness and love of history in young people in the community.

4. Fund Raising

CBGS formally announced in late 2011 our goal to raise \$300,000 over the next five years 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. Several new recognition opportunities were created for prospective donors in June in addition to the City’s existing sponsorship program at the new Marcella Vivrette Smith Park. Approximately \$180,000 in pledges and cash in total has been raised or committed to in our first two years of fund raising. These funds will help Brentwood purchase the remaining property at Ravenswood Farm, including improvements at the new Smith Park, and support our continuing efforts to preserve green space in Brentwood.

5. Support

Kenneth L. Connelly, former Chief Financial Officer with the Boy Scouts of America, continued on as a special advisor and has been instrumental in guiding our fund raising projects and community outreach. Pat Webb, a practicing CPA in Brentwood, joined the organization in July as Director of Finance. She provides ongoing accounting support and assists with the organization's filings and tax preparations.

6. New Parkland

Over 100 acres were added to the City's park system in 2013. This was a watershed year for those that share our passion for green space preservation due to:

- The creation of the new 24 acre Margaret Hayes Powell Park off of Granny White Pike in April
- The commitment in October by the City to the purchase an additional 80 acres for Smith Park

7. Our Goals in 2014

At the dawn of 2014, 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 at Smith Park or by providing a focus for the preservation of green space throughout our community for generations to come.

Warmest Regards,

Gil Hutchinson
President

About Citizens for Brentwood Green Space, Inc.

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Media

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