



**Westcott Neighborhood Association
Annual Meeting Minutes**

**March 9, 2025
Raj Saffron House**

Co-president Sam Gruber called the meeting to order and welcomed members and non-members. He introduced Assemblywoman Pamela Hunter as the featured guest, and Pam spoke about her work in Albany, including her successes from the past year and the challenges and agenda ahead for 2025. She then took questions from the audience.

After thanking Assemblywoman Hunter, Sam welcomed city officials attending: Deputy Mayor Sharon Owens and 3rd District common Councilor Corey Williams. Mo Brown and Jimmy Oliver also attended. Sam opened the business portion of the meeting. Kevin Montgomery presented the WNA financial report, and Sam then summarized recent events and activities and listed scheduled events in 2025, including the upcoming Earth Day Clean-up (April 26), Westcott Remembers (May 31), summer poetry readings, and Halloween Dog Parade (Oct 25).

Board members were then elected. Sam reported that Suzanne Park has stepped down from the Board, and that all other board members would continue serving. Former Board member Marilyn Zaleon was elected to serve again. Sam encouraged all attendees to join WNA and pay their 2025 dues, and to consider serving on the board or on a committee.

Sam introduced Suzanne Macpherson from the City of Syracuse, who spoke about ongoing efforts to better organize the Westcott Street business owners to promote collaborative efforts on Westcott Street and in the neighborhood, and to continue to collectively address pressing matters such as neighborhood crime. Suzy agreed to speak at greater length at the next WNA meeting (April 14).

On behalf of WNA, Sam thanked Raj Saffron House for the restaurant's hospitality.

The meeting adjourned and all were invited to socialize and enjoy the food prepared by Raj Saffron House.