

# LAKWOOD HERITAGE ADVISORY BOARD



## 2006 ANNUAL REPORT

The year 2006 represented the tenth full year of operation of the Lakewood Heritage Advisory Board (LHAB). The Board successfully continued its efforts in the areas of public education, legislative assistance, and technical assistance to the Lakewood community.

### PUBLIC EDUCATION

► **Fifth Annual Preservation Awards program.** In a public ceremony on May 15, 2006, Mayor Thomas George, Lakewood City Council, and LHAB presented eleven Preservation Awards to Lakewood property owners in recognition of their significant contribution to improving the quality of life in our community through the preservation of Lakewood's historic architecture.

#### ***Preservation Honor Award***

15422 Detroit Avenue – Maxxum Group

#### ***Sustained Maintenance***

14806 Detroit Avenue – First Federal of  
Lakewood – Gary Fix, CEO  
1505 Northland Avenue – Brian Hartwig  
1563 Northland Avenue – Jay and Anne Gardner

#### ***Commercial Revitalization***

18630 Detroit Avenue – Ron Lucien, George  
Draeger, Ben Wright, Dean Scerbin, and  
Bob Acciarri  
17526 Madison Avenue – Waddell Architects –  
John Waddell

#### ***Porch Rehabilitation***

18247-49 Sloane Avenue – The Rally Group,  
LLC, Doug Fawcett, President

#### ***Rehabilitation***

18101 Clifton Road – Daniel and Carole Lavelle  
17840 Lake Road – Robert and Maureen McCabe

#### ***Sympathetic Addition***

1606 Arthur Avenue – John and Maureen  
Jamieson  
13908 Edgewater Drive – Christopher and Gaynel  
Mellino

The presentation can be viewed on the LHAB websites.

Nominations from the public are always welcome. The Sixth Annual Preservation Awards ceremony will be held in May, 2007.

### LEGISLATIVE ASSISTANCE

► **Demolition Review Ordinance for Residential Zoning Districts.** On February 6, 2006, Lakewood City Council approved Ordinance 124-05 to expand demolition review procedures to include structures in residential zoning districts.

Prior to passage of the ordinance, there was no administrative review procedure concerning the demolition of a building in any of the seven residential zoning districts in Lakewood. For example, a property owner could receive a permit from the Building Department to demolish a home and immediately begin the work.

The new ordinance creates criteria and procedures governing requests to demolish the “principal” building on a lot in any residential zoning district.

The regulations are a companion to the zoning changes passed in 1999 for criteria and procedures governing the demolition of buildings located in a commercial or industrial zoning district.

LHAB provided research and analysis to City departments and the Planning Commission, and participated in the public meetings at Planning Commission and City Council.

► **Bed and Breakfast Location Requirements.** As part of the same Ordinance 124-05, Lakewood City Council also expanded the ability for bed and breakfast operations to locate in multifamily zoning districts in the northeast section of Lakewood.

During the legislative discussions, LHAB provided assistance concerning the ordinance language, along with information on bed and breakfasts as an asset to a community.

► **Historic Preservation Ordinance.** LHAB has been working closely with the Department of Planning and Development and the Law Department as staff begins to draft a comprehensive historic preservation ordinance for Lakewood.

## TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

► **Main Street Lakewood.** Several current and former LHAB members continue to serve as volunteers on several committees of the Main Street program.

► **Birdtown National Register Nomination.** The City's Department of Planning and Development, in cooperation with the Cleveland Restoration Society, prepared the nomination materials to list the Birdtown neighborhood on the National Register of Historic Places. During 2006, the Ohio Historic Preservation Office continued their review of the nomination and the City provided additional information as requested.

► **Clifton Boulevard Improvements.** LHAB members participated in the Lakewood Planning Commission's public meeting to review the design plans. This project has created a plan for potential aesthetic enhancements and pedestrian-friendly improvements to the Clifton Boulevard right-of-way in Lakewood and Cleveland. The Lakewood Planning Commission approved the project in December, 2006.

► **Lakewood School District.** As part of the second phase of school construction, LHAB members continued to serve on both the Design Committee and Heritage Committee established by the school district.

► **Lakewood Historical Society.** Through its Save Our History grant program, the History Channel provides grants to historical organizations to fund experiential educational projects that teach students about their local history and actively engage them in preservation.

The Lakewood Historical Society and the Lakewood School District prepared an application to enable second and third grade students to conduct research and oral histories to create a movie concerning Birdtown and Templar automobiles. At the request of the Historical Society, LHAB reviewed a draft of the grant application.

Although the grant was not funded, the Historical Society and School District intend to pursue a modest version of the project.

## INTERNET SITE and PUBLICATIONS

► **Internet sites with the City of Lakewood and the Lakewood Public Library.** The LHAB site features a bibliography of materials in the categories of general restoration and maintenance, architectural styles, and architectural history. The purpose of the guide is to serve as an easy reference source for Lakewood residents, providing information about old houses and how

to maintain, repair, and improve them inside and out, while being respectful of the architecture and design of the house. The listings include magazines and books held in the collection of the Lakewood Public Library, as well as a link to National Park Service publications. The Board is currently reviewing the material, with the intent to expand the offerings, and revise it to include current works of interest to the community.

Another highlight of the site is the complete text of the LHAB's popular *Front Porches of Lakewood* publication.

The Lakewood Public Library informed the Board that due to a software change, they are no longer able to track the number of visits to the home page.

LHAB website address at the City of Lakewood: [http://www.ci.lakewood.oh.us/boards\\_rev\\_heritage.html](http://www.ci.lakewood.oh.us/boards_rev_heritage.html)

LHAB website address at the Lakewood Public Library: <http://www.lkwdpl.org/homepres>

► **Speakers Bureau and Publication Distribution.** LHAB members are available to offer programs at no charge to community groups on a variety of topics, including *Front Porches of Lakewood*, *Preserving Sacred Spaces: Lakewood's Houses of Worship*, and *Architects of Lakewood*.

The successful *Front Porches of Lakewood* publication continues to be popular, with 1,000 copies distributed since its publication.

## SPECIAL PROJECTS

► **Neighborhood Markers.** At the request of the Administration, LHAB provided input concerning the design, location, fabrication, and installation of signs identifying various Lakewood neighborhoods. Birdtown was selected as the first neighborhood, and LHAB reviewed design proposals for the signs. The signs were installed in late 2006.

► **Requests concerning maintenance and repair issues.** Through direct inquiries to LHAB members and referral from City departments, LHAB members responded by telephone, with written materials, and/or site visits to two Lakewood property owners to develop solutions for slate roof repair, box gutter repair, appropriate exterior paint colors, and a storefront renovation.

## ADMINISTRATIVE

At the beginning of 2006, the Lakewood Historical Society appointed two new members, Michael Loje and Jeffrey Weber. LHAB wishes to extend its appreciation to Rhonda Loje and Paula Reed for their service.

In addition, the Lakewood Chamber of Commerce reappointed Gerald Weber to another term on the Board.

## 2006 Lakewood Heritage Advisory Board Members

James Dolce, Vice-Chairman and Secretary  
Sandy Koozer  
Michael Loje  
Heather Rudge  
Richard Sicha, Chairman  
Gerald Weber  
Jeffrey Weber

The seven members of the Board are appointed by the Mayor's Office (2), Lakewood City Council (2), Lakewood Historical Society (2), and the Lakewood Chamber of Commerce (1).

*This annual report is prepared in accordance with Ordinance 50-95, Section 6.*