

# LAKWOOD HERITAGE ADVISORY BOARD



## 2008 ANNUAL REPORT

The year 2008 represented the twelfth 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.

### LEGISLATIVE ASSISTANCE

#### ► **Historic Preservation Ordinance Approved.**

On May 19, 2008, Lakewood City Council unanimously approved a comprehensive historic preservation ordinance for Lakewood. Approved with the support of Mayor FitzGerald and his Administration, the ordinance will take effect January 1, 2009.

Officially known as Chapter 1134 of the Lakewood Zoning Code, the ordinance will give the Planning Commission the ability to locally designate historically significant properties and districts. Upon application from a property owner or via nomination by another party with permission of the owner, LHAB will review proposed historic designations of any area, place, structure, work of art or object in the City and make a recommendation to the Planning Commission regarding the historical significance.

The ordinance identifies criteria that LHAB and the Planning Commission must use when weighing a possible designation, such as the degree of historical integrity, locations of historic events, examples of cultural, social or economic heritage and even potential for yielding information regarding our pre-history, to name a few.

After designation, property owners who wish to make exterior changes to a building or the property will be referred to the Architectural Board of Review. The ABR will review the proposed changes using the Secretary of the Interior's *Standards for Rehabilitation*, which are a set of principles that encourage retention of the architectural character of a building.

In preparation for this new program, LHAB members worked diligently during the second half of 2008 with the City's Department of Planning and Development to prepare public education information, training materials, and administrative forms.

In early 2009, LHAB and the Department of Planning and Development will host a public forum to discuss the ordinance, as well as hold in-house review sessions for City employees and other City review boards.

Even prior to the ordinance's effective date, the Board has already received several formal inquiries and information requests concerning local designation.

### PUBLIC EDUCATION

#### ► **Seventh Annual Preservation Awards**

**program.** In a public ceremony on May 19, 2008, Mayor Edward FitzGerald, Lakewood City Council, and LHAB presented five 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.

### ***Commercial Revitalization***

14718-22 Detroit Avenue – Melt Bar & Grilled –  
Matthew Fish and Charles and Gordon  
Geiger

15701-13 Detroit Avenue – Multi-storefront  
building – Thomas Barrett

17300 Madison Avenue – Chartruese – Jesse  
Ewanko

### ***Sympathetic Addition***

18143 Clifton Road – Mr. and Mrs. Matthew  
Beverstock

14502 Detroit Avenue – Lakewood Presbyterian  
Church – Rev. James C. Butler

The presentation can be viewed on the LHAB  
websites.

Nominations from the public are always welcome.  
The Eighth Annual Preservation Awards  
ceremony will be held in May, 2009.

## **SPECIAL PROJECTS**

► **Certified Local Government Program Application.** Immediately after approval of the historic preservation ordinance, the Department of Planning and Development finalized the City's application to the State Historic Preservation Office to become a Certified Local Government (CLG). This classification will reinforce Lakewood's local historic designations by certifying that the ordinance and the activities of LHAB, the Planning Commission, and the Architectural Board of Review meet State and Federal standards for preservation. The classification also makes the City eligible to compete for grant money from the State for historic preservation activities. Final approval for the program is expected in early 2009.

► **Review of LHAB Long-Term Work Program.** In 1993, Lakewood City Council (Resolution 6801-93), in cooperation with the Mayor's Office, the Lakewood Historical Society, and the Lakewood Chamber of Commerce,

appointed a panel of Lakewood residents to assess the effectiveness of current historic preservation and promotion efforts, determine the costs and benefits of an official Lakewood historic preservation program, and recommend pertinent legislation.

Known as the Lakewood Landmarks Commission, the panel's November, 1994 report created nine recommendations for the community. One of the recommendations was the establishment of a permanent City board to provide leadership for historic preservation efforts in the community, which was accomplished with the creation of the City of Lakewood's Heritage Advisory Board in 1995 (Ordinance 50-95).

During 2008, the Board began their review of the status of the 1994 recommendations as part of an overall update of historic preservation efforts in the community. Preparation of the update will continue in 2009.

► **Creation of 2009 LHAB Program Goals.** During 2008, the Department of Planning and Development instituted a new program with City boards under their purview to develop annual program goals. For 2009, LHAB developed goals involving designation of historic properties, public outreach efforts, board training, and special projects. More detailed information is available through the Department of Planning and Development.

► **Requests concerning maintenance, repair issues, and other items.** Through direct inquiries to LHAB members and referral from City departments, LHAB members responded by telephone, with written materials, and/or site visits to five Lakewood property owners concerning historic photos of properties, exterior paint colors, local financing sources for projects, and financial incentives available for properties listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

## TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

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

## 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.

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 more than 1,050 copies distributed since its publication.

## ADMINISTRATIVE

At the beginning of 2008, the Mayor's Office Mayor made two appointments to the Board. Heather Rudge was appointed to another term, and a former Board member, Marcia Moll, was reappointed to the Board.

The Board expressed its appreciation to Sandy Koozer, a mayoral appointee and charter member of LHAB who had served for twelve years.

## 2008 Lakewood Heritage Advisory Board Members

James Dolce, Vice-Chairman and Secretary  
Michael Loje  
Marcia Moll  
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.*