

Pam Jorgensen, Candidate for President

I have been an FGS gardener since 2018. I served on the FGS Board as Treasurer in 2019 and 2020, and as President in 2021 and 2022. If I am reelected, the commitments I made in the past – to follow the governing documents, to ensure that board governance is open and transparent, to be responsive to all communications, and to work with community partners and government agencies – will continue.

During my two terms as president the FGS Board has improved the appearance and management of the gardens by, among other things, building a Pollinator Garden with grant money, creating a Member's Handbook, revising the FGS Guidelines and Regulations, and implementing a sensible waitlist management system. We have also made significant progress in making the Accessible Garden accessible to people in wheelchairs. During these past two years the FGS Board has also improved our corporate governance. These improvements have included obtaining pro bono legal counsel, creating a Board Handbook, adopting several policies recommended for all non-profits, and amending our Constitution and By-Laws to allow for the use of digital technology. All of these improvements will benefit FGS far into the future.

When I am not busy with my FGS role in the gardens, I tend my garden, O9, which is combined with my husband's garden, O10. I am retired and live a six minute walk from the gardens. Many years ago I earned engineering degrees from MIT and an MBA from Harvard.



Sydney Kanjuparamban, Candidate for SVP of Administration

My name is Sydney Kanjuparamban and I am running for SVP of Administration. I have been an FGS gardener for three growing seasons, but a longtime admirer of the Park. I grow flowers, tomatoes, and hot peppers (and occasionally a squash or two if they don't get eaten by critters first) in Row D. I have loved getting to know my very helpful and welcoming plot neighbors over the past 2.5 years and hope to continue to learn from them in future growing seasons.

If elected to the role, I will ensure that Board meetings run smoothly and are well documented. As an attorney, I have organizational and efficiency skills I hope to bring to the administration. I look forward to meeting many more gardeners and helping create initiatives that will ensure the Park exists and thrives for years to come.

Victoria Puyat, Candidate for VP of Communication & Development

Victoria Puyat has volunteered in local organizations such as The Pine Street Inn and Dress for Success for many years. Since becoming a gardener at the Fenway Victory Gardens in 2018, Victoria has focused her volunteer efforts on helping the FGS Board in various capacities, one-off projects, or wherever help is needed.

Professionally, Victoria has broad leadership experience in higher education operations, alumni relations and development, and volunteer management. Off-duty, she obsesses about home/closet organization and studies jewelry design at RISD. During gardening season, she enjoys putting around her full-shade garden. Victoria earned a BA in Communications and an MS in Project Management.

If elected as VP of Communications & Development, she intends to build on the successes of her predecessor, strengthen FGS goodwill in the local community, encourage positive communication among FGS members through the organization's existing platforms, further raise awareness of the organization's branding and overall message, engage with larger audiences, and sustain and increase support from donors, volunteers, and potential grant funders.



Heather Dunbar, Candidate for Treasurer

I received my garden just this past July after spending a number of years on the waiting list eagerly anticipating joining the FGS community. While I didn't get a chance to really dig into my garden (pun intended), I look forward to spring plantings and meeting more community members in the coming season. As a nominee, I have some experience through my current position at the Harvard Kennedy School, serving as a grants and finance manager for a department within the Center for International Development. I'm thrilled to be a part of this community and if my professional skills can help foster FGS stability and growth, I'm happy to help.

Stephen Exner, Candidate for VP of the Park

My name is Stephen Exner, and I am running to serve on the board as VP of the Park. My involvement with FGS goes back to 2015, when I was introduced to the garden by my (now) wife Victoria, who made it clear that the future of our relationship depended in no small part on my enthusiasm for community participation days. In the years since, I've developed a deep and personal connection with the garden. I can be found there on most days, often with one or both of my children, Emma (10) and Attix (3).

The Fenway Victory Garden, and the diverse and fascinating community of individuals that sustains and is sustained by it, has become central to my life and to the lives of my family. I'd be grateful for the opportunity to serve and support its mission in any way that I can.

