

Mission, Vision, and Guiding Principles

A. Mission

To maintain a quality residential neighborhood through volunteer efforts of neighborhood's residents.

B. Vision

The Vollintine Evergreen Neighborhood is a community of people who have chosen to make Vollintine Evergreen their home. Neighborhood progress is visible and measured through the work put forth by neighbors and this is a motivating force for an ever-growing body of neighbors who are involved in deliberate neighborhood improvement. Neighbors meet and get to know each other on their front porches, along the V&E Greenline, in neighborhood churches, schools, and restaurants and through fun and inspiring activities organized by the community association and block clubs. Beyond just knowing each other, neighbors watch after each other's health, safety and general well being thus acting to protect the neighborhood they create. Neighborhood businesses are thriving and act as portals for people from the wider community to enjoy Vollintine Evergreen. Diversity in all respects is highly valued and there is a place in Vollintine Evergreen for people in all stages of their lives – from children building childhood memories, to young adults just starting down their life path, to older adults who are giving back all they have learned. The streets are clean and lined with trees and flowering shrubs, well-kept gardens, and beautifully maintained historic homes. The V&E Greenline is a popular destination for neighbors and visitors alike, as you frequently see people walking their dogs, kids and adults on bikes, as well as running and walking groups. Our children and adults are educated in schools recognized for excellence and creating life-long learners. Neighbors, business owners, church leaders, and school leaders continually work together to create and maintain the neighborhood they all envision.

C. Guiding Principles

The following are guiding principles for the organization. These act as clarifying statements during decision-making situations and as statements to the neighborhood and other partners about the way VECA operates and its core organizational beliefs.

- First and foremost VECA is an organization for and of neighbors, which exists for self-empowerment in order to create the neighborhood we envision.
- VECA values and encourages new ideas, innovation, and risk-taking - without penalty in the case of failures.
- VECA understands that neighbors engage with the organization for different reasons (because of a crisis, because they want to know their neighbors better, because someone asked them to volunteer); we welcome and value all of these motivations for engagement.
- VECA values partnering with other organizations and institutions to improve our community (both neighborhood and city-wide).
- VECA understands that positive and engaged relationships among neighbors have a direct impact on maintenance and improvements to our physical and social spaces.
- VECA knows that activities creating energy and excitement (in the planning stage and during the activity itself) are the ones that result in the change we want and that help us celebrate who we are.