



## NOMINATION FOR AN OCA MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE POSITION

Name of nominee: **SHEILA BARSEL – FOR POSITION OF SECRETARY** Secretary of the

Nominees confirmation of willingness to stand (signature):

Sbarsel

**Brief bio:**

I have lived in Observatory since 1975 - 44 years. When I moved in children played in the streets and neighbours talked over walls – they were not built up. In the early 2000s in response to an increase in crime I was involved in establishing a pioneering community security organisation, Obs Watch which ran bicycle patrols for years funded by the community. In 2006 this was formally replaced by the Observatory Neighbourhood Watch. After a major campaign by some of us to get the majority of observatory ratepayers to sign up, the Observatory Improvement District was launched in November 2009 to enhance the suburb with better security and cleansing.

I was involved from 1998 until 2003 in the original discussions and consultations around what has become TRUPA. I have always attended public meetings called by community organisations including OCA and taken a deep interest in civic affairs – this even when I did not have the time to be more involved than I would have wanted.

I have been active in the Large Development Group for 3 years. Last year I was elected as Deputy Chair of OCA. I have stepped in to fill gaps to ensure that activities of the OCA run smoothly. In the absence of the Secretary I took on certain Secretarial responsibilities such as controlling membership lists which has been completely restructured into a more effective but simpler system of recording members. In the absence of a person responsible for liquor license applications I became responsible for coordinating responses to these. I have also played an active role in campaigns such as Malta Park / Hartleyvale and Liesbeek Action Group.

In addition, I have been employed / active in a number of different organisations, government structures and NGOs and believe that the wide range of knowledge and skills that I now would bring to the OCA would ensure that it continues on the upward trend on which it has launched itself over the past year or two.

**Motivation for standing:**

I have a vision of Observatory as a space where neighbours will know one another and look out for each other – that we will all be safe in the neighbourhood. I have a vision that the Twin Rivers Urban Park being accessible to all who want a natural open area in their living space which they can enjoy together. This means having a vibrant community with the community centre as a base for community activities. It is a precious resource.

I am now retired having worked in a variety of sectors since 1962 – from a national student organisation as General Secretary (6 years); to private sector as merchandiser and then production planner (22 years); public sector as manager in Human Resource Development (provincial health – 15 years); as a researcher (trade union 5 years);Parliament as an advisor (4 years).

In addition I have been an activist in various arenas since 1962 - starting as a student, in the health sector and involvement in a number of NGOs such as Brave (supporting people through their Recovery from Serious Physical Trauma); various social justice and solidarity organisations. I believe that I have accumulated a wide range of skills, experience in activism and governance which would be invaluable to the Secretary of the OCA.

So I bring a wide range of knowledge and skills (including administrative) and have accumulated organisational experience in activism and governance which would be invaluable to the OCA which would hold OCA in good stead .The OCA to ensure that it continues on the upward trend on which I previously mentioned. allows me to bring these skills and understanding to good use as Secretary of the OCA.

Observatory is my hood (I have been here for 44 years!) and I am keen to give my energies to ensuring that OCA succeeds as a civic in its work and in its campaigns.

Leslie Lovdy

JOY ROBINSON

Signature of Nominator 1:

Leslie Lovdy

Signature of Nominator 2:

Joy Robinson

Date:

19 Nov 2019