

# Press Release

## For Immediate Release



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### **Friends of West University Place Parks Fund, Inc. Appoints New Board Members**

West University Place – September 13, 2018. Friends of West University Place Parks Fund, Inc. is delighted to announce the appointment of Sarah Knysh and Dan Fertig to the Friends' Board of Directors. Sarah and Dani were appointed to the Board at the September 10th City Council meeting and attended their first Friends Board meeting on September 12.

Sarah and her husband, Mark, moved to West U 7 years ago because they had heard of its wonderful appeal to young families. Sarah says that since having their 3 children her family has spent countless hours at the West U parks and participating in community events and activities. "I am looking forward to giving back my time to help others enjoy all that this community has to offer while also focusing on the future and sustainability of the West University park system." Sarah has a background in event planning and management along with developing marketing and social media strategies.

Dan Fertig is originally from Connecticut and attended Southern Methodist University in Dallas, Texas. Similarly, his wife, Courtney, is not a native Texan and grew up outside of Chicago prior attending SMU. After graduating, both Dan and Courtney knew they wanted to make Texas home and moved a little further south to Houston. Dan is part of the turnaround and restructuring group at Conway MacKenzie and Courtney is a director of an early childhood educational program. They married last year and began to think about which part of Houston they would settle in and purchase a home. West University quickly came into focus with the terrific schools and neighborhood feel. Both Dan and Courtney see similarities in West University that they valued from their childhood hometowns. Since moving to West University in July, Dan and Courtney have felt at home with the hospitality shown by neighbors and have enjoyed the wonderful amenities, such as the beautiful parks and communal facilities. They both look forward to continue meeting and becoming more involved with the organizations and families in the neighborhood. Courtney is involved with Friends also and is working on the auction committee for Park Lovers' Ball.

"It is wonderful to have such energetic and talented people like Sarah and Dan willing to share their time and talents with Friends" commented Donna LaMond, Friends Executive Director. "It always amazes me how passionately these volunteers approach Friends projects and events. We have such a dedicated board of directors and group of volunteers."

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The Friends of West University Place Parks Fund, Inc. is a volunteer based 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to raising funds for the renovation, expansion, development and improvement of parks and green spaces in the neighborhood parks of the City of West University Place. The board is appointed by City Council and raises money through foundation grants, citizens' bequests, memorials, special events and various other programs and events including partnerships with local businesses.

[www.westuparks.org](http://www.westuparks.org)