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Web Site: www.slneighbors.org

BOUNDARIES: DIVERSEY TO BELMONT - RAVENSWOOD TO RACINE

Membership Dues (per person) \$10.00 - Seniors (those over 60) \$5.00 September 1 through May 31 Meetings held at St. Alphonsus Church Basement, 1429 West Wellington on the second Tuesday of every

Month (except January, June, July and August) at 7:30 p.m. (Coffee at 7:00 p.m.)

MARCH, 2011



Meeting a Glance ...March 15, 2010 (Date & location change)

Location: NOTE LOCATION CHANGE

St. Lukes – Memorial Hall

1500 W. Belmont

Agenda: 6:45 pm: Mini SLN Meeting

7:00 pm: LAMP presentation by Lakeview Chamber of Commerce

A FEW WORDS FROM OUR PRESIDENT ...

NOTE DATE and LOCATION CHANGE of the MARCH MEETING – March 15th @ St. Lukes, Memorial Hall, 1500 W. Belmont

Dear Neighbors,

Like most, I suspect, I'm a creature of habit and so I've programmed my handheld device for SLN's meetings on the 2nd Tuesday of each month during the school year. But sometimes other events intervene and we have to fancy-foot to keep the ball rolling. This is one of those times as our longtime host, St. Alphonsus Church, needs its basement on March 8th for its Shrove Tuesday (Mardi Gras) festivities. Being observant, I respect this higher calling and express my gratitude to St. Al's for having opened its doors so that all, regardless of creed or calling, can help usher in the City of God by improving the City of Man. So, we have pushed the March meeting to the next Tuesday, the 15th. And to keep us on our toes, we have moved the location to St. Luke's Church at Belmont and Greenview and will start before 7 pm so that we can learn about the Lakeview Chamber of Commerce's master-plan for the area.

The economic downturn has been particularly hard on neighborhood retailers, as anyone who walks up Lincoln or along Belmont can attest. Whole strips of condo-building street-level retail have never been occupied, and other storefronts have lain vacant for months on end. Yet several blocks west big-box stores thrive. Back when streetcars ran on Lincoln, more money was spent within two blocks of Belmont & Ashland than anywhere else in the City, save State Street. Furniture stores offering easy credit carried the tables, sofas and beds that made life a little nicer for returning vets. Department stores stocked the wares that filled their cupboards and closets. The floor-covering stores are a vestige of those days but they are otherwise long gone. In the meantime, what can we do to make the street-scape more inviting, more beautiful to induce the average Joe to part with a few bucks in his pocket? Hopefully, the Lakeview Chamber's representatives will address these concerns on March 15th.

Was it only me, or were other peopled surprised by the no-run-offs-needed outcome of the races for mayor and our alderman? I'm looking for a new career as a political prognosticator, but one would



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think that with so many candidates in the races, getting to 50%-plus-1 would have been tough. You may have missed it, but our candidates' forum last month was the peg for Ben Joravsky's Reader article, "Aldermania" which appeared the week before the election. Sadly, Ben didn't plug our organization, but the overwhelming turnout on the coldest night of the year showed that community involvement is alive and well in our 'hood. And the fact that Ald. Waguespack won re-election against opponents with ties to other political types and organizations bodes well for our independence from dominating influences in our midst.

"The Ides of March hath come" said Julius Caesar to the soothsayer 2054 years ago. "Aye, but not yet gone" the soothsayer replied. Perhaps the best thing that can be said about not needing a run-off is that our mayor-elect and alderman needn't fear the outcome that Caesar met from his rivals in the Forum on that fateful day.

And if I don't see you two days later, have a great St. Patrick's Day.

Sincerely,

David G. Duggan

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MARCH 2011 MEETING PREVIEW

NOTE DATE and LOCATION CHANGE:

LAMP – Lakeview Area Master Plan as presented by the Lakeview Chamber of Commerce.

St. Luke's Memorial Hall

March 15

1500 W. Belmont

7:00PM presentation starts

6:45PM mini SLN meeting before the presentation

SLN has been trying to schedule the Lakeview Chamber of Commerce for a couple of months but conflicts always popped-up. St. Alphonsus School needed the Church Basement for a religious activity on the 2nd Tuesday. The Chamber is presenting the final results of the LAMP's executive summary so SLN is inviting all members to attend the LAMP presentation. I am sure the snacks will be good.

LAMP is an economic development master plan that seeks to reinvision and enliven the commercial corridors of Lincoln Belmont Ashland. The Chamber's consulting team will describe the aspects of LAMP I detail, sharing months of hard work with the Lakeview community. A question and answer period will follow the presentation.

AT THE FEBRUARY MEETING – Bill Haderlein reporting

Scott Waguespack – 8,704(66%), David Pavlik – 2,290(17%), Bryan Lynch – 1,465(11%), Brian Gorman – 770(6%).

As usual, I was furiously taking notes so as to report in the SLN newsletter the candidates' position on the issues and then realized that the newsletter would come out after the election. So I was able to sit back and enjoy the back and forth. This forum was probably the last or one the last for the candidates as we approached the election date. They were all familiar with each other. The candidates' election campaigns arrived as early as 6:30PM to set-up and to get a prime location table. They really avoided all contact with each other. The candidates did not arrive early for membership

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2539 N. Southport Ave ♦ Chicago, IL 60614 (773) 871-4000 ♦ MyStateRep@aol.com www.fritchey.com schmuzzing. It didn't matter as all SLN members arrive 30 seconds before meeting time anyways. It was COLD and some regulars were not in attendance due to the weather and as President D. Duggan noted, a new episode of Glee was on Fox and I forgot to tape it. Darn it.

41 people signed in. I would guess that many did not sign in and with all the candidate cronies in attendance, there were probably 60-70 or so people in the crowd including a reporter from The Reader. Two individuals joined. Please note that SLN distributed almost 2,000 flyers in mailboxes announcing the forum. Who forgot the cookies?

Four candidates, well spoken, well dressed and may I say, a fairly good-looking group. The 1 minute, question and answer format with the alternating order replies led by President Duggan kept the candidates on their toes. I cannot remember a prior forum that the members and the candidates' staff behaved so well. The last Alderman election had 3 candidates until one dropped out and an unknown named Scott Waguespack defeated incumbent Ted Matlak. At that forum, I remember then Alderman Matlak stating that being the incumbent is a disadvantage because the challenger can attack your record and the challenger has no record to attack. Well, in this forum, the three challengers attacked and Mr. Waguespack defended. Prior to the forum, several people wondered how anyone could vote against Mr. Waguespack. However, in days preceding the election, several people I know surprised me with negative comments about the Alderman's last four years. It is a big and weirdly shaped Ward, that is pretty diverse. Of the candidates, Mr. Pavlik seemed to be the idea man, Mr. Lynch was serious on all issues with Mr. Gorman appearing to be the most congenial and loose. All agreed, that we pay more than our share of taxes and we demand services for our money. But Chicago is out of money from what I hear. If I had just moved into the neighborhood and had to base my vote on the Forum content instead of on who has the coolest looking brochure (like I normally do), I could have voted for any one of the fine candidates, but I generally like everyone, especially the last person I talk to.

The whole program was very professional and informative. All candidates were impressed with the presentation and the questions were to the

point and in some cases, introspective. There was no droning on by any of the candidates.

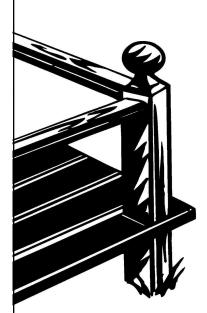
After the Forum, while beering-up at the Lincoln Tap, a fellow member asked me if any votes were to be had tonight or had all in attendance made up their minds before things started. We agreed that maybe 1-5% were undecided. Nevertheless, this exercise is our right as voters and needs to be continued. It is an EVENT that SLN is proud of regardless of the lack of cookies.

Other Election Notes: Rahm got 55% of the 40% who voted which equals 22% of the registered voters. A very disappointing turnout. Rahm received 67% of the 32nd Ward. The 24th Ward had 18 candidates. Unopposed Aldermen included such luminaries as Ed Burke-14th Ward, Ray Suarez-31st Ward, Richard Mell –33rd Ward, Patrick O' Connor-41st Ward and Tom Tunney (yes)-44th Ward. Maybe our little corner of old number 32 will be annexed by Alderman Tunney.

Thank you to all the candidates. You all have jobs and did your politicking in cold weather on your own time. You went door to door in a cable TV, internet society. You attended various social and charity events on your own time to drum up votes. Without candidates like these and neighborhood groups like SLN and voters who vote no matter what, we might be attending a huge overthrowing the dictator rally happening at Lincoln Belmont and Ashland.

1325-41 W. BELMONT – MEDICAL OFFICE BUILDING – Update

The lack of parking ratio to the square footage of the proposed 3-story building has caused the developers to reexamine the proposal they have before the City of Chicago. It appears that they will try to rezone the portion of the property that is currently zoned M-manufacturing to B-Business in order to qualify for the PD-Planned Development status that may allow for a parking variance. If that fails they may ask for a temporary zoning adjustment to Dash-5. In either case, the building will be built to the 3 story specifications as reported in the February SLN newsletter. The developer has zeroed in on this site and are trying to make it



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happen. Go to the Alderman's Website at www.ward32.org for additional information.

skimming devices are designed to steal account numbers and password codes. Be on alert of any suspicious activity or devices at your ATM and contact Police.

Sign up for email alerts with Lt. John Willner email=john.willner @chicago.org.

FROM OUR ELECTED OFFICIALS & CAPS

Alderman Waguespack 32nd Ward News www.ward32.org

Senior Freeze and Exemptions – Real Estate Tax.

A new State law requires that seniors must reapply annually for their senior exemptions. All homeowners will be mailed the exemption. If you have not received your exemption or recently turned 65 visit the Cook County Assessor's website for more information.

Street Cafes - Businesses that had street cafes last year have to apply every year with the Alderman. Unless there are complaints about their operations, the Alderman will approve the café for the current year. If you have any complaints or concerns about current cafes, contact the Alderman's office at 777-248-1330 or email the Alderman's Office at info@ward32.org.

Graffiti – call Alderman's office or use the form on website to report graffiti

CAPS MEETINGS

CAPS Meetings are now being held quarterly. 2011 meeting dates are:

- Beat 1931: 1st Thursdays on 3/3, 6/2, 9/1 and 12/1 at 7:00 pm, Hamlin Park, 3035 N. Hoyne.
- Beat 1932: 2nd Thursdays on 3/10, 6/9, 9/8 and 12/8 @ 7:00 pm, Illinois Masonic Hospital-Clarke Auditorium, 836 W. Wellington.

CAPS Officers - Belmont District is Sgt. Jason Clark : 312-744-5983 ; email = CAPS019District@chicagopolice.org.

Community Alerts – ATM skimming devices. On February 20, a victim attempted to withdraw money from an ATM machine on the 2900 block of Lincoln Ave. During this transaction, 2 skimming devices fell from the ATM machine. These

NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS / INFORMATION

SOUTH LAKEVIEW PLAYLOT-Advisory Council Advisory Council Meetings

All interested citizens are welcome to join the Council for the 2011 season. Meetings are to be held 2/28 and 3/21, all Mondays at 7PM at the Golden Apple Pancake House. For discussion will be the Annual Earth Day clean-up in April and Tuesdays in the Park for the summer. These events are run by volunteers and funded by SLN, local businesses and individuals. They are not funded by the Park District.

Corporate Sponsors

The Advisory Council is looking for Corporate sponsors for its 2011 Summer and Halloween events. Contact Jennifer Roche at jenniferroche@yahoo.com or Carolyn Withey at witheycarolyn@yahoo.com for additional information.

BURLEY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL – Friends of Burley

Grades 4-8 competed in the Future Problem Solving Bowl Regionals on February 12. The four student teams research topics that have future social, scientific, political, economic or technological implications. The students then present a 5-minute skit to "sell" their solution to their peers. All eight Burley teams advanced to the State playoffs in Normal, IL on April 15.

See www.friendsofburley.org for info.

LAKEVIEW CITIZENS COUNCIL - LVCC www.lakeviewcitizens.org.

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Individuals, Community Groups, Schools, Churches or Business can submit announcements or informative information for the newsletter to Bill Haderlein at email = chicagolanddeck@rcn.com.

SLN - WEBSITE = www.slneighbors.org

Visit the site. Links to Community Resources. 1) 32nd Ward links to Alderman Waguespack's website. 2) City Service Requests. 3) CPD Crime Stats – view maps showing up to date crime information. 4) Deleterious Impact Ordinance – trouble with a business or bar. Learn how this Ordinance works. 5) Everyblock for SLN – gathers information (permits, business openings, licenses, and crime data) for every block in Chicago.

EMAIL SLN NEWSLETTER - work in progress

If you wish to subscribe to the newsletter by EMAIL, go to the SLN website at www.slneighbors.org. Click on the link on the right side of the page under "Subscribe to our newsletter." And follow the prompts. SLN's biggest expense is the production of the monthly newsletter. Switching to the email version will reduce our future costs.

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