FEW WORDS FROM OUR PRESIDENT …

Late night musings from Barry Ave

As I am writing this column the temp outside is – 21 F, the gas furnace is working overtime and I am hoping that it doesn’t falter. I am warm but wearing multiple layers and disturbed from hearing my relatively newer house make some creak, snap and popping sounds. I hope we all get through this polar vortex safely and without damage or serious incidents.

For those that missed it we had a great Holiday Party at Will’s Northwoods Inn. The drinks and food flowed freely with Lakeview Pantry being the beneficiary of our raffle. I want to thank our local businesses for their donations, especially Art of Pizza for their five $100 gift certificates. We have two of these parties a year with free drinks and food making your $10 membership fee the best deal in town.

Tuesday Feb 12 we have a very consequential general membership meeting. There are two important neighborhood topics that Alderman Scott Waguespack has asked for neighborhood input via advisory votes.

First, a “Special Use Permit” is needed to transform the St. Al’s convent, formally Debra’s Place shelter for abused women, into temporary housing for undocumented migrant female children. The Trump administration/DHS working with Maryville Academy and St Al’s is seeking safe and secure housing for these kids while they await their judicial hearings and/or the identification and location of relatives. More information is elsewhere in the newsletter but some very specific information has not been forthcoming to date due to privacy issues and should be part of their presentation with Q & A.

The second issue is a complex zoning change for the Bel Ray Apartments at the corner of Racine and Belmont. The Bel Ray is a “multi-family affordable efficiency apartment building” for low income and homeless or disabled individuals. With the departure of Murphy’s Hotdog, their 20 space lightly used parking lot is now available for development. A building addition consisting of 45...
additional studio apts for a total of 106 apts WITHOUT parking has been proposed. The current zoning is an old legacy M1-2, which SLN would like to eliminate. The proposed needed zoning is a high density B2-5 which SLN has never endorsed. Also, the project requires “special Transit Oriented Destination [TOD]” consideration/approval to get around the 1 for 1 parking requirement.

The Neighborhood Development Review Committee [NDRC] has reviewed this proposal and has suggested that the project be reworked with fewer units and at least 6 staff parking spaces to avoid neighborhood intrusion. A couple of years ago the converted church just to the south initially requested -3 zoning with 8 units with just 2 parking spaces. The zoning was downsized to -2 with 6 units and 6 parking spaces. A year ago the developer of the property next door, Murphy's Hotdog also asked for -3 zoning. They were also reduced to -2 zoning to 6 units w/6 parking spaces. There are also a few more requested -3 zoning for 8 units w/8 parking spaces. underlying complicated issues but the main point is that the NDRC would like to see a proposal with continued consistency in zoning density, less units and with some parking. Let’s see what they present.

I need to state relative to the SLN charter and guidelines that both of these proposals – St Al's Convent for migrant children and the Bel Ray Apts do not directly benefit the neighborhood nor do they solve a specific neighborhood problem. Conversely, both have minimal or no apparent downside risks. The migrant girls will be closely supervised and confined to the facility. For the Bel Ray Apts I had 3 years of police stats collected. There is an average of about 100 calls a year for police responses [I was initially stunned by that revelation]. About 10% were for medical EMS reasons and the rest for internal disturbances resulting in very few arrests. I do not know of any issue that spilled outside over into the neighborhood.

My personal bottom line is that I think it is always good to help the innocent and truly helpless. I would not waste time, money or benefits on programs for the lazy, petty grafters, grifters or those falsely aggrieved. Come to the meeting and vote your conscience.

Also, SLN has invited the mayoral candidates to stop by and talk for a few minutes and field some questions. I PROMISE TO KEEP THEM BRIEF. Currently Paul Vallas and Lori Lightfoot are confirmed and a few more are considering. It is assured that there will be a runoff election of the top two vote getters who will have about 15 – 20% each.

I am looking at my wall calendar for Feb 2019. It shows the iconic picture taken by Joe Rosenthal of the WWII US flag pole raising by 6 marines on Mount Surabachi on the Japanese island of Iwo Jima Feb 23, 1945. The battle lasted over a month with over 26,000 Americans killed wounded or captured with forward progress measured in mere yards. Three of the 6 marines were killed in the next few days. I can’t help but be awed and grateful. Thank a veteran when you have a chance.

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Please take note of our new and repeat advertisers and try to patronize them. Tell them you saw their ad in the South Lakeview Neighbors Newsletter.
As always, let me know what you’re thinking, president@SLneighbors.org

Take care, Sam

Member Socializing - 6:30 to 7:00 in the Athenaeum Lobby.
The Athenaeum opens its bar for members to purchase some beer, wine or pop before the start of the monthly meeting. Come a little earlier to the meeting for some member socializing. Your purchase helps support the operations of The Athenaeum Theatre.

FEBRUARY 2019 MEETING - PREVIEW

Debra’s Place (St. Alphonsus Convent) Special Use Permit for Temporary Housing of 30 Teenage Immigrant Girls from Central America
The former St. Alphonsus Convent at the corner of Oakdale and Greenview has been vacant since Debra’s Place did not renew its’ lease in 2018.

In connection with the U.S/Mexico border immigration crisis, the U.S. Government has proposed an initiative with Maryville Academy to find safe-temporary housing for minor illegal immigrants currently being housed in tents or barracks in Texas or the Southwest U.S. while they wait for their case to come up before the Immigration System. St. Alphonsus has been approached by Maryville Academy to see if the vacated Convent could be used for this initiative. Alderman Waguespack has requested that SLN provide a forum for Community input on the issue. From conversations with Maryville’s attorney and St. Alphonsus Pastor Mike O’Connell, the facts as they are best known at this time are as follows:

- 30 girls only, from ages 12 to 17 will be housed.
- They are illegal immigrants.
- They have been separated from their parents or relatives for whatever reason.
- The U.S. Government proposed this initiative with Maryville Academy.
- Maryville Academy wishes to provide a safer environment for these girls then they currently exist under.

- Maryville Academy is attempting to place these girls with relatives who are legally living within the U.S. until their immigration cases are called.
- The girls will be supervised 100% of the time.
- The girls cannot leave the Convent unless accompanied by a Maryville employee (except maybe to attend Sunday Spanish Mass at St. Alphonsus.
- There will be teachers on-site for the girl’s continued education.
- Estimated stay for each girl will be approximately 30 days.
- St. Alphonsus is looking to sign a 3-year lease with Maryville Academy for this initiative.
- A Special Use Permit is required to operate this kind of program.

This issue will be presented at the February 2019 SLN meeting. The immediate area around the Convent will be flyered. This will be a voting issue and the results will be forwarded to the Alderman.

BelRay Apartments (Belmont & Racine) – Expansion for Building 45 Additional Apartments in Vacant Parking
The BelRay Apartments is a Single-Room Occupancy (SRO) located at 3150 N. Racine. The building currently has 70 SRO units. The property is owned and operated by Mercy Housing Lakefront. All the current residents must have been homeless and have a disability to qualify for housing in the building.

Mercy Housing Lakefront also owns the adjacent parking lot to the north which is utilized by staff members and visitors. Mercy is proposing to build a new addition on that parking lot and rehab the current SRO building. The new building will include 45 SRO units. The existing SRO building 70 units will be reduced to 61 units. There will be a major reconfiguration of the first floor expanding the community and resident lounge spaces and adding a fitness room, group instruction space and additional resident service offices. The total SRO units would be 106. The new building will go lot-line to lot-line and be the same height as the existing building. There will no on-site parking for staff or visitors. Mercy has indicated the SRO residents do not own any cars and the 19-space parking lot is largely empty on a daily basis.

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The property is currently zoned M1-2 (Manufacturing) left over from when the area had manufacturing businesses on the major streets. Mercy would like to rezone the parking lot through a Planned Development (PD) with the new underlying zoning of B2-5 in order to support the new construction and rehab of the existing building.

The immediate area will be flyered regarding the issue. This will be a voting issue and the results will be forwarded to the Alderman.

Mayoral Candidate Drop-In
SLN has invited the Chicago Mayoral candidates to appear at the February Membership Meeting. Any candidate that accepts the invitation will be allowed a 10-minute presentation with a short session for questions. As of the print date of the newsletter, candidates Lori Lightfoot and Paul Vallas have accepted the invitation contingent on their daily schedule changes. Gery Chico, Gary McCarthy and Amara Enyia have been in contact with SLN regarding the invitation.

Aldermanic Election Note: Since the early 2000’s, SLN has sponsored an Aldermanic Forum for the Aldermanic election candidates. However, incumbent Alderman Scott Waguespack is running unopposed. Congratulations in advance.

Lincoln/Belmont/Ashland(LBA) – Results of Survey of SLN Members on New Traffic Changes

The results from the SLN Survey on the Lincoln/Belmont/Ashland Survey have been tabulated. 204 responses were recorded through SurveyMonkey. This was combined with the results from the November 2018 Membership Meeting and hard copy surveys sent to non-email SLN members for total responses of 232. An article recapping the results and some of the issues was published in the January 9, 2019 edition of the Inside-Booster Neighborhood Newspaper. Here are the results:

1) Are you in favor of keeping the new No Left Turn from Lincoln Ave.?
IN FAVOR – 29.6% AGAINT – 70.4%

2) Are you in favor of narrowing the intersection to reduce the distance for pedestrians? At Lincoln Ave.
IN FAVOR – 36.2% AGAINST – 63.8%

3) Are you in favor of narrowing the intersection to reduce the distance for pedestrians? At Ashland Ave.
IN FAVOR – 44.4% AGAINST – 55.6%

Regarding the dotted bike lanes on Lincoln Ave. through the intersection –
What would you prefer for Lincoln Ave. at the LBA intersection?
- Both dotted yellow center line AND dotted white lines for bikes – 54.2%
- Dotted yellow center line, but NO white lines for bikes – 19.0%
- Dotted white lines for bikes, but NO yellow center line – 10.2%
- Neither yellow or white lines through the intersection – 16.6%

4) Are you in favor of banning the hairpin turn from Ashland Ave. to Lincoln Ave.?
IN FAVOR – 68.2% AGAINST – 31.8%

5) Are you in favor of the delayed left turn arrow from Ashland Ave.?
IN FAVOR – 93.6% AGAINST – 6.4%

6) Are you in favor of the use of temporary bollards prior to the building of actual concrete curbs
IN FAVOR – 33.8% AGAINST – 66.2%

7) Are you in favor of removing a few parking spots on Lincoln Ave. near the LBA intersection to allow for cars to align for right turns?
IN FAVOR – 79.1% AGAINST – 20.9%

At this time, the SLN Board is in the process of meeting with the Alderman’s office and CDOT regarding the results of the Survey.

Thanks to Bill Haderlein who composed the Survey, Ed Silverstein who generated the Survey Monkey and Steve Stern for disseminating the Survey to the SLN members.

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AT THE DECEMBER 2018 HOLIDAY PARTY
December 11 at Will’s Northwoods Inn. The balmy December weather brought out the crowd and helped keep the Big White Tent toasty warm. Warm-up drinks were followed by Will’s Northwoods great spread and all in attendance were well fed. The Gift Certificate and Liquor Raffle prizes were spread out pretty evenly; however, after being shut-out in recent years, Bill and Jeanne Haderlein (newsletter editors) made several trips to the prize table. We did claim the final prize of a bottle of Jaegermeister.

Finally, the Split the Pot Raffle generated a $225 donation to The Lakeview Pantry. Though shut-out in the earlier Raffles, constant raffle front-runner Fionn McManigal, 2nd VP, prevailed as the winner of the Split the Pot.

Coincidently, Bill H. was the ticket seller and Fionn Mc. tore the tickets and put them into the raffle tub. Just a coincidence.

In attendance at the Holiday Party and looking sharp sitting at the end of the bar were nonagenarian (90+ years old) Rudy Karall and local historian Victor Giustino (age unknown) who produced a picture of himself, with pretty long hair, with George Bush #1 back in the early 1990’s.

Thanks to the staff of Will’s for the great service and to the liquor donations from the SLN Board. The following businesses donated gift cards to the raffle: The Art of Pizza – very generous donation The Golden Apple Grill & Breakfast House Breakfast House DIAG Bar & Grill

ALCOHOL CONSUMPTION RESULTS:
Way more beer was consumed at the Holiday Party compared to the Summer Party. 22 pints of Half Acre Gone Away led the pack. 13 pints of Floyd’s Zombie Dust came in 2nd. I had a Zombie Dust when it came out 5 or more years ago. Still trying to get the taste out my mouth. The stats show that I alone had 2 delicious, tasty and refreshing Coors Lights, but I am sure it was more. Beer outpaced wine 72 drinks to 26. The hard liquor consumption was spread out but Tito’s Vodka came on top with 8 drinks. Submitted by Bill Haderlein-Alcohol Consumption Analysis.com

staring at the bottle on my kitchen table, I noticed that Jaeger is 70 proof. I did not know that! When I told my older brother that factoid, he responded “well, that explains a lot.” Jaegermeister is described as a digestif that promotes digestive health and stupid behavior.

Transit Oriented Development (TOD) Expansion Ordinance
The Transit Oriented Development Ordinance allows for higher, more density and less parking spots buildings to be constructed within ¼ of mile of CTA Rapid Transit or Metra stations.

The City Council is in the process of expanding the Ordinance to include “eight high ridership, high frequency CTA bus corridors. One of those bus corridors is Ashland Ave. from Irving Park to 95th Street, right through the SLN boundaries. This will allow for TOD buildings to be constructed only in B(Business), C(Commercial) and M(Manufacturing) zoning districts within ¼ of a mile from the applicable bus corridor. This would include many parcels along Ashland Ave. between Belmont and Diversey. Contact Alderman Waguespack for additional information and to voice your opinion, yea or nay.

Alderman Waguespack - Office located 2657 N. Clybourn, 773-248-1330, www.ward32.org or email = info@ward32.org

SO YOU WANT MORE RESTAURANTS in the SLN NEIGHBORHOOD?
Michelin-starred restaurant Entente on the 3000 block of Lincoln Ave. is moving to 700 N. Sedgwick. The owner reported that the “restaurant struggled a bit on that stretch of Lincoln.” The owner is keeping the space for special events.

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FROM OUR ELECTED OFFICIALS & CAPS

Community Relations Strategy (previously called CAPS)
Beat 1933 - east of Lincoln Ave and west of Racine, Belmont to Diversey
Next meeting is Tuesday, March 12th at 6:30 pm at Illinois Masonic Hospital, 836 W. Wellington, 7th floor auditorium at 6:30pm.

Beat 1932 - east of Ashland and west of Lincoln, from Belmont to Fullerton
Next meeting is Monday, March 11th at 7:00 pm at the New Life Church, 1110 W. Lill at 7:00pm.
Beat 1931 - west of Ashland, between Belmont and Fullerton, to the Chicago River.
Next meeting is Wednesday, March 20th at 7:00 pm at the 2452 W. Belmont Police Auditorium.

Dates/times may change and you can call the office at 312-744-0064 with questions.

Twitter = ChicagoCAPS19
Email = caps019district@chicagopolice.org
Contact information:
Community Policing Office
Sgt Mary Hein
Email: mary.hein@chicagopolice.org

SLN is looking for members to attend CAPS meetings and report to the membership either through the newsletter or at the membership meetings. Contact Bill Haderlein, editor at email=chicagolanddeck@rcn.com if you think you will be a regular CAPS meeting attendee.

January CAPS Meeting – attended by Sam Samatas
Couple of interesting points:
- there were 12 burglaries with 10 of them being "unlawful entry". These were through unlocked windows and doors in garden or 1st floor apartments without alarms housing younger renters. Most occurred during daylight hours when tenants were not home.

- same patterned occurred with unsecured residential garages: the 1300 block of west Wellington, 1300 block of west Fletcher and the 1700 block of west Fletcher.

What you can do:
- be aware and alert your friends and neighbors/instruct your tenants

OTHER SLN INFORMATION

Membership Renewal Now
Members: please renew your membership using the enclosed MEMBERSHIP FORM or go to SLN's website at www.slneighbors.org and renew and renew on-line. You must be a PAID MEMBER in ORDER to VOTE on the NEIGHBORHOOD ISSUES

SLN on Facebook - Get on It!
If you are on Facebook, consider joining our Facebook group. The URL to access the group is https://www.facebook.com/groups/southlakeviewneighbors/

Block Captain Program - members needed for the 2017-18 season. Volunteer now.
Still looking for block captains to flyer their blocks for the monthly membership meetings. Seven membership meetings per year (Sept, Oct, Nov, Feb. Mar, April & May).
We currently have 14 block captains covering about 50% of the SLN territory.
Contact Bill Haderlein at the SLN email address = info@slneighbors.org if you are interested in becoming a block captain

Switch to the Email Version of Newsletter
Please help reduce costs of hard copy newsletter production and assembly time. In addition, if you are on the email list, you can receive e-mail blasts from our Tech Dept. regarding area meetings, community alerts from the police and other timely information. Go to www.slneighbors.org to sign up for the email version.

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Attention Advertisers – Ad Space for 2018-2019
Contact SLN at email =info@slneighbors.org or call Ann Sychowski at 773-477-8840 for advertising opportunities. Over 750 monthly copies to SLN members, email recipients, Facebookers and businesses right in the neighborhood. 24/7 exposure on the SLN website.
9 issues plus 24/7 exposure on the SLN Website:
Smallest $50, next smallest $75, 1/6 page $110, 1/3 page $210, ½ page $310.

Support Our 2018-2019 Advertisers!!!
Welcome new advertiser - BREAKFAST HOUSE
The Art of Pizza-two full page ads
Bras Galore
Will's Northwoods Inn
Chicagoland Deck Cleaning & Sealing
Central Savings
Thomas Ward Insurance Group
Car Care Specialists
Scott Waguespack 32nd Ward
Golden Apple Grill & Breakfast House
Honeybaked Ham
John Haderlein & Son Real Estate - Real Estate Sales and Management
Joseph Florence - Commodity Futures Broker
Joseph Semerling Law Offices
Lakeview Computer Specialists LLC - Ed Silverstein owner
Office Depot
Pearle Vision
S&G Restaurant
Simon Electrical Contractors, Inc.
Waxman Candles
Breakfast House - Breakfast & Lunch

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SCOTT WAGUESPACK
32ND WARD ALDERMAN * WARD32.ORG

Thanks to the South Lakeview Neighbors for your strong commitment to the neighborhood throughout the year.

Visit ward32.org to find out more about available services. While you're there, sign up for the 32nd Ward email newsletter to receive up-to-date information about news and events in the Ward and City.

We look forward to working with you!

32ND WARD SERVICE OFFICE
2657 North Clybourn • Chicago, IL 60614
Tel: 773 248 1330 • info@ward32.org
Monday–Friday: 9am–6pm

ward32.org  @ward32chicago  aldermanscott.waguespack
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