1505 West Oakdale Avenue, Chicago, IL 60657

Web Site: www.slneighbors.org General email: info@slneighbors.org President email: president@slneighbors.org

BOUNDARIES: DIVERSEY TO BELMONT - RAVENSWOOD TO RACINE
Membership Dues (per person) \$10.00 September 1 through May 31
Meetings held at Athenaeum Theatre, 2936 N. Southport on the second Tuesday of every
Month (except January, June, July and August) at 7:00 p.m. (Doors open at 6:30 p.m.)

OCTOBER 2019

FEW WORDS FROM OUR PRESIDENT ...

RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP NOW RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP NOW Get the message?

Renew your membership:

- 1) on the website at www.slneighbors.org
- 2) by mail to 1505 W. Oakdale
- 3) at the monthly membership meeting.

But please do it so SLN does not have to incur postage and mailing costs and time tracking down your membership dues.

Handy membership form is on the back page of the newsletter

Hi South Lakeview Neighbors,

As fall sets in and the temperatures begin to cool, our city, state and national governments are in a state of flux. In Chicago and Illinois a new mayor and new governor have initiated new policies, though actual implementation is a work in progress. I won't comment on national issues, except to remind everyone that there is a Presidential election a year away. After acceptance of the Constitution, Benjamin Franklin was asked if the new nation was a monarchy or a republic. He answered, "A republic... if we can keep it." The only way to "keep it" is for everyone to VOTE. Voting, as well as not voting, matters! We hope to keep the membership of South Lakeview Neighbors well-informed by having public officials present at our monthly meetings.

At our September meeting, Catherine Plocher, Principal of Burley School, presented. Burley's population is 100% from the neighborhood, indicative of Burley's high quality and of residents

NOTE MEETING DATE CHANGE – 1 WEEK LATER

MEETING AT A GLANCE TUESDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2019

ATHENAEUM THEATRE 2936 N. SOUTHPORT

6:30 PM- Member socializing 7:00PM – Meeting begins

Agenda:

- 1) State Rep- Ann Williams
- 2) Cook County Commissioner-Bridget Degnen
- 3) Lakeview High School Principal presentation
- 4) 311 System Modernization Plan

seeing it as the "school of choice". Burley has a technology/literacy magnet program and has been named as an Apple Distinguished School. Educators from all over the world visit the school to see the outstanding learning experiences provided to the students. Burley also provides a rich extracurricular program with music, sports, and afterschool offerings, supported by the parents. PJ Karafiol, Principal of Lakeview High School, will present at our October 15 meeting, to share some of the outstanding programs at our neighborhood high school.

Alderman Scott Waguespack, of the 32nd Ward discussed the state of the ward. Some of the items covered were City Council's review of the zoning codes to achieve more equity city-wide. Aldermanic prerogative has been reduced, due to some using it for personal gain, though aldermen still have say over zoning issues. TIF regulations are being reexamined to achieve their stated goal of helping blighted areas of the city, not areas such as Lincoln Yards. The Alderman mentioned the fiasco on Diversey Ave., where a contractor hired by the Water Dept. has left the street a mess. Future contractors must have experience in the areas for which they are hired. He discussed his new chairmanship of the Finance Committee, where he is still sorting out what was left by his predecessor, currently under investigation. Processes will be more transparent. Workman's Compensation, inexplicably handled by the Finance Committee, has been given to an outside firm.

At this time, the City of Chicago still has to finalize union contracts with the firemen and police. The Chicago Teachers union has set an October 17 deadline to reach a contract settlement or go out on strike. Hopefully, a resolution will be reached by our October 15th meeting.

South Lakeview Neighbors 1505 West Oakdale Avenue

> www.slneighbors.org email = info@slneighbors.org

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A somewhat contentious discussion ensued, regarding a proposed development on the 1500 block of Diversey. Though the SLVN NDRC (Neighborhood Development Review Committee) recommended acceptance of the developer's request for a zoning change, discussion by the membership led to a vote rejecting the developer's request. This was then passed on to Ald. Waguespack. Democracy is beautiful!

Next month. Our membership meeting is on October 15, the 3rd Tuesday instead of the 2nd Tuesday, to accommodate the Jewish holiday. Mark your calendars. We'll hear from the Principal of Lakeview High School, a representative for our 311 system, Bridget Degnan, our Cook County Commissioner, and Ann Willliams, our representative to the Illinois State Legislature, on the status of new state legislation.

As always, continue to patronize our businesses in South Lakeview. My wife and I recently had a great breakfast at S&G's and a really tasty dinner at Sal's. And please do something or say something nice to your neighbors.

Finally, sorry about the Cubs and the Sox. Maybe the Bears??

Bob Blitstein
President South Lakeview Neighbors

SLN is looking for ADVERTISERS

9 monthly newsletters.

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The newsletter is available to SLN's 1,100 Facebook participants.

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Individuals are welcome to take an ad space announcing their support of SLN.

See the end of the newsletter for details.

SLN - Seeking Director for Board

Director Caty Norman-Burke is moving out of the neighborhood, so SLN is looking to replace her for the 2019-2020 season. According to the SLN bylaws, the duty of the Director is to attend the board meetings to lend advice. A Director also helps plan the monthly membership meetings, makes suggestions for future meetings, can head a committee or just be a liaison to various neighborhood groups. The Board meetings are normally the 3rd Tuesday of the month at 6:30PM for the months of August-November and January-May. They last about 1-2 hours and are REALLY A LOT OF FUN. Just try to make as many meetings as you can. As Director, you will be privy to all the juicy information that is not presented at the monthly membership meetings.

Contact SLN at email = info@slneighbors.org.

OCTOBER 2019 MEETING - PREVIEW

State Representative – Ann Williams

With a Democrat now in the Governor's mansion and the legislative grid-lock opened up somewhat, but still no money, Ms. Williams has been busy in Springfield. She may talk on the some of the following topics:

Fair Tax Proposal Recreational Cannabis Balanced Budget Capital Funding for Infrastructure and Schools Clean and Renewable Energy Data Privacy and Transparency

Cook County Commissioner – Bridget Degnen

Now with almost a year under her belt, Ms. Degnen has requested to appear before the SLN membership for an update on the Cook County Board operations.

Ms. Degnan is currently the Vice Chair on the Rules Committee and the Environment and Sustainability Committee

Lakeview High School

Principal Paul "PJ" Karafiol will update us on the scholastics and activities at our neighborhood school Lakeview High School.

Did you know that Lakeview won the CPS City Baseball Championship the last two years? My nephew Nick hit a long fly ball almost to the warning track for the final out back in the 2008 Championship game as Lakeview lost to Whitney Young at the Cell.

My Mommy graduated from Lakeview in 1948.

311 System – Modernization

Great News. The City is revamping the 311 system. The City has partnered with the William Everett Group to speak to and listen to residents and businesses about the changes. They have requested to appear at the October meeting. Bring it on.

At the SEPTEMBER 2019 MEETING

Introduction

New SLN President Bob Blitstein welcomed the audience to the meeting and led the meeting in the Pledge of Allegiance. Bob asked how many in attendance were at their first SLN meeting and about 35% of the people raised their hands.

Jeff DeLong-Director of Marketing & Marketing for The Athenaeum Theatre welcomed the group to the historic theater noting that The Athenaeum is longest operating non-Loop theater in Chicago. See The Athenaeum Theatre website for the Fall Schedule at: www.athenaeumtheatre.org

Alderman Scott Waguespack - State of the Ward EDUCATION:

The Alderman started out his talk with an update on the Elementary schools in the Ward. He acknowledged the great job that Principal Plocher is doing at The Burley School. He noted that a few years ago that Prescott School on Ashland Ave. and Hamilton School on Paulina near Addison were on the CPS Closing List. Parents and staff rallied to keep those schools open and now they are close to full occupancy and drawing students from outside the neighborhood. The Jahn School has received

open space impact funding that is currently being utilized in its' playground area. The Alderman concedes with the City Budget issues, there is pressure to find funding to expand the schools to meet capacity. The Alderman is concentrating on looking at area schools' capital needs, continued communication with the principals, dealing with new leadership at the CPS and ongoing special education needs.

DEVELOPMENT:

There were the beginnings of development talk for a 110 Unit rental building in the parking lot at Ashland and Barry next to The Burley School. That initial proposal required an up-zoning. The Alderman informed the Developer they would not be granted an up-zoning and would have to build under the current zoning. Since then, the Developer has not come back to the table.

Parking alert - the Alderman informed the SLN members that Central Federal Savings is aggressively booting cars of customers of the Infinity Store that are illegally parking in the Bank's lot south of the Bank. The Infinity parking is at Ashland and Barry.

CONSTRUCTION:

The Diversey Parkway sewer and repaving project is way behind schedule. The Alderman is not sure how the contractor got the contract in the first place as they had little experience with installing new sewer lines. The Alderman commented that the Water Department has serious management issues and that the Inspector General ("IG") may be looking into the delays on this project.

BUDGET/FINANCE:

The Alderman has replaced disgraced Alderman Edward Burke as the Chairman of the Finance Committee. The Alderman admitted that the investigation of Alderman Burke and confiscation of Burke's computers has made it hard to figure out what is going on in the Finance Department. The Alderman is focusing on reforms to the operations of the Department and the development of new types of revenue. The Alderman intends to push information to the City Council earlier than in the past, so they will have time to read and make an intelligent vote on various proposals. Workers Compensation, which is a \$100 million program also formerly headed by Alderman Burke, is now being run by an outside firm. The Alderman is incorporating new rules on cooperating with the IG.

The Alderman announced that the 2019 City Budget deficit is coming in at \$838 million. A big part of the deficit is the ongoing overtime paid to the police and fire departments. At \$70 million so far this year, it is expected to reach \$110 million by the end of the year. This overtime is the highest in the U.S. The new Cook County Assessor Fritz Kaegi is working on putting an end to reduced assessments on luxury properties and having appropriated real estate taxes paid on the Downtown Chicago properties. The Alderman described process where Real Estate Tax attorneys like Alderman Burke and Mike Madigan would get assessment reduction requests rubber stamped by the Assessor's office and that is going to end. But it will take several years to affect this as the reassessment anniversary date must come up for the under assessed properties.

Possible revenue sources such as a Head Tax on employees, a Real Estate Transfer Tax are being considered. The Alderman felt that future revenue from cannabis sales and a casino deal may be minimal and they both have social issues attached to them.

QUESTION and ANSWERS:

Here are some tidbits that came out of the Q & A. Ride Sharing/Uber – maybe the City should look at a license application fee. Drivers are coming from out of State to do Uber in Chicago. The City wants to prevent drivers from saturating the downtown area. A Congestion Tax?

TIF's - Working on new legislation on how TIF's are created

INCREASED TAXES DRIVING PEOPLE TO MOVE OUT OF THE CITY- If the corrupt and mismanaged system is fixed, it should result in lower taxes.

SCOOTERS – scooters laying around on sidewalks is unacceptable. This program is not providing "essential service." Needs to be ended or totally revamped. There are more cars on the street to service the scooter program.

POLICE OVERTIME – Detectives often sit in court all day waiting for a case that does not come to trial. Still the City has one of the worse clearance rates on murders of major U.S. cities.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS on SCHOOLS – Former Mayor Emmanuel's plan was put on hold so that the new Mayor Lori Lightfoot could redo it. The Alderman feels that amounts for capital improvements on the Northside is low compared to other city areas.

ALDERMANIC PEROGATIVE -

The Mayor took away 30 items from the Aldermanic control such as TIF, demolition application, affordable housing, garbage cans and tree removal. The Alderman agreed with about 25 of the 30 items.

INSPECTOR GENERAL POWERS – If an Alderman violates an Ethic Code, the IG has new subpoena powers.

GARBAGE GRID SYSTEM – it is designed to keep workers from deviating from their schedule to do special projects for family, friends or developers. A bigger issue is the current Recycling Contract which is not working. The City is looking into a new Contract.

1514-18 W. Diversey Parkway – new building proposal

This property has two older frame buildings on the back of each lot like a coach house. The buildings are connected by a balcony. There is no building on the front of the lot and that area is a front yard. The Developer is SNS Realty Group. The lot is 50' wide by 125' long. Under the current RT.3.5 zoning, a 5-unit, 3 story building could be built. The Developer initially proposed a 6-unit building. That plan was rejected by SLN's NDRC. The plan supported by the NDRC is for two 3-unit buildings with a separating gangway in between, constructed with solid brick, a lot-line to lot-line garage with 1 to 1 parking, standard front, back and side space and all garbage cans will be kept inside the garage.

SLN flyered the north side of 1400-1500 Diversey and the south side of 1400-1500 Wolfram which backs up to the alley facing the Project. It was evident from the SLN meeting check-in table, that a large contingent from the flyered area was present. The floor was opened for questions and comments. The current tenants of the rental building opposed the Project because they would lose their current residence. The Developer assured them that all current leases would be honored. The owners at the three 1512 Diversey townhomes opposed the Project because their entrances are on the side of the building facing west, instead of facing Diversey, and all they would see out of their front windows would be the side walls of the Project. They also commented that if the Project had a fence, it would be almost impossible to move out of their townhomes through a narrow gangway. Currently, the townhome owners face the 1514-18 front yard. Sam Samatas, chair of the NDRC, commented that

in real estate deals, you don't own the sunshine, shade or view. The Wolfram neighbors objected to the Project because they have found that the Diversey projects previously built were occupied by bad neighbors that had parties, garbage issues and people constantly moving in and out. A nearby Diversey resident commented that the current building is in a dilapidated state and an eyesore to the neighborhood and people should stop nit-picking and approve the Project.

Sam Samatas summarized the Project noting that the two 3-units, with a gangway, front, back and side space, full brick construction, and garbage being enclosed in the garage warranted the zoning upgrade is an improvement over a contiguous-solid 5-unit building of the same height. The NDRC supported the Project.

A paper ballot vote was taken.

Do you favor the Project at 1514-18 Diversey as presented?

YES - 24

NO - 32

An email describing the meeting and vote was sent to the Alderman's office for his final decision.

Burley School Principal – Ms. Catherine Plocher The Burley Elementary Principal Catherine Plocher updated the membership on the upcoming school year and issues regarding the school's future capacity.

Ms. Plocher has been at Burley for 10 years and this is her 8th year as principal. She stated that Burley is an Award-Winning 100% Neighborhood School. Burley is also a CPS Magnet Cluster School in the focus area of Literature, Writing and Technology. Burley also has a Fine Arts Program of music and art. The School has a wide variety of after-school clubs. Every student has a school-issued IPad and the 7th and 8th graders have Chrome Book laptops.

According to Ms. Plocher, the School is currently at full capacity with about 550 students in grades K-8. Starting this School year, the pre-K program had to eliminated in order to accommodate the increased enrollment. She is working with CPS for expansion opportunities and ideas. She does not want to add trailers as it would reduce the recently renovated recess area.

Go the School's website @ www.burley.cps.edu for a schedule of the School tours. Drop by any time to see the chickens that are being raised in the front of the School.

In the September 2019 issue of Chicago Magazine, Augustus H. Burley Elementary School was ranked number 35 for Chicago's Top Elementary Schools.

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

FROM OUR ELECTED OFFICIALS & CAPS

Alderman Waguespack 32nd Ward News Office located 2657 N. Clybourn, 773-248-1330 www.ward32.org, email = info@ward32.org

Free flu shots at the Alderman's office. Friday, October 18 from 11AM to 3PM.

E-Scooter Pilot ends October 15 – Survey
This pilot program of scooters tearing around
Chicago, running through stop signs and being left
on sidewalks blocking pedestrians ability to walk
around ends October 15. The City wants your
feedback. Go to the Alderman's newsletter on his
website and click on the Survey. I think you know
how I am going to vote.

Community Relations Strategy (previously called CAPS)

Beat 1933 - east of Lincoln Ave and west of Racine, Belmont to Diversey

Next meeting is Tuesday, Nov. 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, Nov. 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, Nov. 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

Protect Your Home with these Tips from CPD

Burgiary Prevention Checklist for Homes			
The second section (1991) 18 (1991) 18 (1991) 19 (1991)	Yes	No	
Are your doors and windows locked every time you leave?			
Are all entry areas unobstructed by shrubbery etc. to permit maximum			
visibility?			
Does your sliding door have a secondary lock?			
Is your sliding door prevented from lifting off its track?			
Do you have an alarm system?			
Do you always set your alarm?			
Are the windows on your second floor secured?			
Do you have a list, picture or video of all of your valuables including serial			
numbers?			
Is your house number clearly visible from the street?		0	
Are windows at least 40° from any door locks?		0	
Are all entrances and gangways well lit and free of concealment?			
Are your ladders or bins that might be used to gain entry stored out of sight?			
Are your garage doors and windows locked and secured?			
Are valuables blocked from being visually seen from the street?		0	
Can you see who is at the door without opening it?			
Do you have motion sensor lights installed?		0	
Are the gates to your yard locked?			
Do you have high definition surveillance cameras?			
Do you lock up outdoor valuables such as grills, lawnmowers, etc.?			
Do you have inside lights on timers?			
Is your safe secured to the floor?			
Do you know how to access your security video including the password?		0	

If you have answered "no" to any of these questions you are at an increased risk of being the victors of a burglary. No one is 300% safe from burglaries, (1/15)

NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS/INFORMATION

Burley Local School Council (LSC) Meeting as reported by Amy Walsh

Burley's Local School Council is looking for a Community Representative to ioin the Council. CPS Local School Councils serve as the policy-making body of the school. LSCs have remained an important vehicle for participatory democracy, allowing not only educators but parents the opportunity to make important decisions about how their children will be educated. To be a community rep, this person must live within the Burley boundaries and cannot be a current parent or staff member. Meetings are about 1.5 hours typically the second Wednesday evening of each month. If you know of anyone interested in this position, please have them reach out to Burley's Chair. Stephen Soltanzadeh ssoltanzadeh@gmail.com.

Lakeview Chamber of Commerce (SSA 27)

1409 W. Addison

www.lakeviewchamber.com 773-472-7171

<u>Taste over 30 crafts beer at the Lincoln Avenue</u> Beer Stroll!

Get your tickets to taste over 30 craft beers while strolling popular shops along Lincoln Ave at the Lincoln Avenue Beer Stroll, taking place on Sunday, October 20 from 3-6PM! Tickets are \$35 in advance, \$45 day-of and include a souvenir tasting cup, event guide, beer tastings and complimentary bites. Come dressed in a Halloween costume for your chance to win our Costume Contest and receive a free six-pack and t-shirt from Bitter Pops on Route A and Beermiscuous on Route B! Get your tickets at https://www.lakeviewchamber.com/lincolnavenuebe erstroll

The Art of Pizza meets the Fulton Market District

Time Out-Chicago, a favorite restaurant lobby magazine, is opening its own culinary and cultural destination called Time Out Market Chicago located at 916 W. Fulton Market. Time Out Market is bringing 18 of the city's best chefs to the West Loop for the ultimate dining experience. That includes Lakeview's own or should I say SLN's own The Art of Pizza. What makes Art's Pizza stand out according to Time Out? Its the "the gooey

mozzarella, fennel-flecked Italian sausage and market-fresh veggies are all top notch. But the real star of the show is the fan-favorite red sauce, which bursts with vine-ripened tomatoes, oregano, basil and the faintest hint of red pepper." All I know, is that my wife Jeanne wants Art's pepperoni pizza every Friday and sometimes on Sunday.

South Lakeview Playlot (Blue Park) Halloween Party at 1300 W. Wolfram

Join us for music, activities and a costume contest on Sunday, October 20th from 10am until 12pm. Rain date is October 27th. Suggested donation (to support the efforts of the Blue Park) is \$5 per child, \$10 per family.

OTHER SLN INFORMATION

Attention Advertisers – Ad Space for 2019-2020

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.

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SLN Block Captains – wanted for the 2019-2020 season

The volunteer duties are as follows: A Block Captain will receive a PDF flyer for an upcoming membership meeting. The Block Captain will print off 25-50 flyers and distribute them in mailboxes on your block alerting people to the upcoming meeting. Seems archaic? But that is how most of the new people coming to the meetings find SLN out. There are seven meetings per year (Sept, Oct, Nov, Feb, Mar, April & May). Of course, if you are out of town or busy or the weather is really bad and cannot get it done. That is AOK. Just do the best you can and your assistance will be appreciated. It's FUN, believe or not. Contact Bill Haderlein at the SLN email = info @slneighbors.com. to volunteer.

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/

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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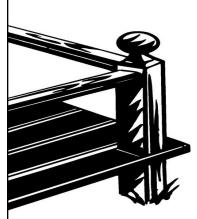
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SCOTT WAGUESPACK

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.

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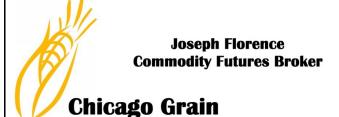
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