



South Lakeview Neighbors

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.)

SUMMER 2020 – COVID-19 ISSUE

FEW WORDS FROM OUR PRESIDENT ...

MEMBERS and NEW MEMBERS - RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP or JOIN NOW for 2020-2021

1) on the website at www.slneighbors.org
2) by mail to 1505 W. Oakdale
3) at the monthly membership meeting.
Handy membership form is on the back page of the newsletter

Hi South Lakeview Neighbors,

As we head into the summer, it has been a most unusual year. The COVID pandemic has changed our lives in so many ways. As I write, Chicago is entering Stage 3 of the recovery, where stores, salons, and restaurants are slowly starting to open up, while practicing social distancing and strict hygienic guidelines. I implore everyone to use neighborhood businesses as much as possible. All are struggling and need our support to avoid permanently closing. Many restaurants have take-out and delivery, and some will have outside seating. Some stores have curbside pick-up or in-store by appointment. Call ahead to find out what is open and what are their procedures. Please keep in mind that the economy is opening up due to the flattening of the curve, a steady or decreasing amount of new cases and deaths. This is the result of people following the guidelines of staying at home, hand washing and wearing masks and social distancing when out. To prevent an increase in cases, we **MUST** maintain these behaviors as we venture out. **STAY HEALTHY!**

While coping with the pandemic, we have seen the shocking video of George Floyd, dying beneath the knee of a Minneapolis police officer. This has

MEETING INFORMATION

**The next scheduled meeting is
Tuesday September 8
We will keep you posted.**

resulted in peaceful protests against racism and police brutality. However, outside extremist groups, apparently on the right and the left, as well as blatant opportunists, have led to the unfortunate vandalism, violence, arson and looting. This behavior is totally unacceptable. The protestors and the lawbreakers are not the same people. The vast majority of the people in the street have been peacefully protesting, and this is as American as can be. Such action reminds us of the origin of our country and is guaranteed by the 1st Amendment. These demonstrations highlight the unfortunate existence of racism and the social and economic divide in America. There have been too many incidents of racial discrimination. Though most police officers are performing well in a most difficult profession, there have been too many incidents of police abuse towards people of color. We cannot hide from it or deny it. We must face it, and, as Americans and adults, work together for change. It is not just what we say but what we do and how we act towards others who may be different from ourselves. We can solve this if we all come together. We must follow the "Golden Rule" and treat others as you would like to be treated. Be aware, be respectful, be empathetic, be compassionate. Model such behaviors for our youth. Teach them of our history and our failures. Let them know it is up to all of us to make this a better country and a better world.

These are truly trying times. I have lived through many traumatic times: the nuclear scare of the 50's,

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the Cuban missile crisis, the murders of the Kennedys, the murder of Dr. King and the riots that followed, Watergate and 9-11 to name a few. As a nation, we have always come together to work through the crisis and make this a better country. Join me in having faith in one another to unite and overcome the current crises.

Bob Blitstein
President South Lakeview Neighbors

South Lakeview Neighbors 1505 West Oakdale Avenue

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

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Newsletter Articles:	Bill Haderlein
Newsletter Editor:	Jeanne Haderlein
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SLN BOARD is STILL OPERATING via ZOOM

March 10 was our last normal monthly meeting. As you know, the April and May SLN meetings were cancelled under the shut-down regulations.

The Board has met via ZOOM three times since the shutdown. Some of us have struggled getting on the meetings, not hearing what was going on or seeing who is at the meeting. The more tech-savvy Board members have put in backgrounds or moved the virtual meeting outdoors. The overall consensus is that ZOOM needs to develop some type of filter-APP to enhance how we look on a ZOOM meeting.

HERE'S WHAT HAS BEEN HAPPENING

Congressman Mike Quigley ZOOM meeting on May 12, 2020.

SLN invited its members to attend a ZOOM meeting organized by SLN with the Congressman. Here are some highlights or summary comments:

1) The Congressman's office had been working to repatriate US citizens that were trapped in foreign countries when the world travel ban was taking effect.

2) COVID-19 Virus - mistakes were made. The seriousness was downplayed at the start, which caused problems later on. The Congressman felt the President put the economy first. In the end, the health crisis caused the economic crises.

3) \$3 trillion stimulus package – he was proud that the parties came together to pass the original package. The new proposed \$3 trillion package will help the US Postal Service which will run out of money by the end of September, college and higher education to move it forward and keep schools afloat, election issues and voting by mail, healthcare which has been financially devastated by loss of elective or non-emergency surgery income and support for small businesses shut down during the pandemic crisis. The Congressman commented that every \$4 spent now on all the Economy issues will save \$8 later on. If we wait, things will get worse much faster.

4) Proxy Voting - the US government is now able to vote remotely on bills to prevent the elected officials from traveling back and forth from D.C which could increase the exposure to infection.

5) Terrorism – he felt there is an uptick in the danger of terror attacks. Political instability could collapse teetering democracies and world-wide food shortages could occur.

6) Election Security – the Presidential election is looming. The U.S. voting machines and systems are old, outdated and can be easily hacked into. He said that only a few specific States need to be hacked into to change the election results. He does not believe voting by mail is a conduit for fraud. He felt that maybe voting at polling places could be spread out over several days. Mr.Quigley noted that 100 million voters did not vote in the 2016 Presidential Election

7) US Postal Service – revenues are way down as

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the economy is shut down. The Congressman noted that rural U.S. relies primarily on the US Postal System while the urban areas have the alternative of UPS, Fed Ex or Amazon.

8) Personal Protection Equipment PPE- the lack of a national stockpile of PPE and relying on overseas production cannot happen again.

9) Higher Education (colleges and universities) – students are not sure if they will return if classes are going to be virtual and not in person. Foreign students that make up a large percentage of the population of schools like Northwestern and the University of Chicago are probably not returning in the Fall.

2816 N. Southport – Demolition and construction of 3-Unit Condo Building and Special Use Permit

This a small single-family house north of the Tuffy Auto Repair and next to the Que Rico Restaurant. That side of the block up to Wolfram is zoned B1-2 for commercial/ business properties. This single-family house is stuck in the middle of commercial zoning.

The Developer of the property is proposing a 4-story, 3-Unit full residential condo building with no commercial office space at the ground level (the "Special Use Permit"). The 1st floor and basement would be duplex unit #1, 2nd floor will be unit #2 and the 3rd and 4th floors would be unit #3. The 1st unit would have a back patio. The 2nd unit would have a catwalk to their private garage deck and the 3rd unit would have a roof deck. Parking will be a 3-car lot-line to lot-line enclosed garage which will have a 2ft. alley setback. It is believed the garbage bins would be kept on the property and rolled out on garbage pick-up day.

NDRC review – the NDRC did not have any real reasons to deny support. Though the block is zoned business, that is an archaic designation and a ground level store front would just sit vacant as so many others in the neighborhood are now doing. The NDRC opposes catwalks to garage decks as an invasion of privacy in residential areas, but as this property is bordered by lot-line to lot-line businesses on both sides, residential privacy is not an issue

In lieu of having a neighborhood meeting, the NDRC and the SLN Board approved the proposal

and sent their conclusions to the Alderman's office. The Developer will have to mail the request for the Special Use Permit to the owners of the properties near the Proposal.

2020-2021 SLN OFFICERS and DIRECTORS WANTED

The Nominating Committee has not been able to meet due to the Covid -19 restrictions. Contact us at our email address (info@slneighbors) if you are interested in coming on the Board. We are keeping a LIST of people that have already shown interest. . NOTE – you must be a SLN member for at least one year to qualify for a board position

LAKEVIEW CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

SHOP OUT – DINE OUT Plan

This is a very condensed version of a plan created by Friends of Lakeview, a non-profit partner of the Lakeview Chamber of Commerce. The Lakeview Chamber of Commerce is working on a proposal to stimulate the restaurant and retailer businesses in the Lakeview area.

DINE OUT – as only outside dining with social distancing is now allowed as of Wednesday, June 3 and indoor dining will be limited when allowed, the Chamber is looking to increase opportunities for outdoor dining while the weather is good.

1) Closure of streets and setting up outdoor dining areas. The streets were chosen because they are located near a higher concentration of restaurants.

The proposed street closures are:

Wellington Ave. – west of Lincoln to the alley
Henderson St. – west of Southport to the alley
Cornelia Ave. – east of Southport to the alley
Grace St. – west of Southport to the alley
Paulina St. – south of Roscoe to Henderson

2) Seating times

Fridays from 5:30PM to 8:30PM

Saturdays from 9AM to 8:30PM

Sundays from 9AM to 8:30PM.

3) How it will work

Seating areas will be open by reservation only to prohibit crowds from gathering.

Reservations by phone or online.

Seating limited to 1 hour.

Patrons will order their own food from the restaurant by phone or online, as currently being done. Either, the patron will pick up their food at the

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restaurant and go to their assigned table or it could be delivered to your outside table.

The seating areas will be designed for the ambiance of al fresco dining

COVID-19 VIRUS: The Chamber reports in their proposal that preliminary studies of the virus indicate that the risk of transmission is lower outdoors. Among 318 outbreaks examined in a study released last month, only one transmission occurred outdoors.

SHOP OUT – the Chamber is looking to create additional outdoor spaces for retailers to sell their merchandise.

1) Sidewalk Sales: to be organized by individual merchants. The City would need to explore this option.

2) Pop-up Retail Markets: retail markets that take place in public and private spaces in West Lakeview.

A Letter from Lakeview Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Dillon Goodson

Dear Neighbors:

I hope that this note finds you and your families safe and well. Since March, the Lakeview Chamber of Commerce has been eagerly preparing for the moment when doors were permitted to reopen, allowing businesses to do what they do best: serve customers. We've gathered **input from more than 150 community members**—including South Lakeview Neighbors' very own Bob, Bill and Steve—through one-on-one conversations, meetings, and an impact survey that revealed the toll of the COVID-19 closures on businesses in West Lakeview. The feedback is staggering:

- Half of all Lakeview businesses have been closed since March.
- Businesses have experienced a drop of more than 80% of income/revenues.
- More than half of Lakeview businesses have laid off one or more employee. As many as 2,500-3,500 Lakeview jobs could have been lost already.

But the statistic that keeps us up at night is this: nearly 3 out of 4 businesses indicated they can only survive through the end of July with such a sudden loss of income and dwindling reserves. **For many of our businesses, time is running out.**

It is more important than ever that we support our local businesses. According to the American Independent Business Alliance, each dollar you spend at a local business returns almost 50 times more to the local economy than an online mega-retailer. Local businesses also have their own personality, bringing diversity to our commercial corridors and giving them a distinct character.

To help our community navigate this new normal and find ways to support Lakeview businesses, we've launched a web page we're calling **Love Local, Love Lakeview**. You can find it at www.lakeviewchamber.com/lovelakeview. The page is filled with resources that are updated regularly to reflect which businesses have reopened and what kinds of specials they are offering to customers.

The threat of the virus is still very real, and we understand that many neighbors might be feeling nervous about shopping and dining in-person. There are still plenty of ways you can support local businesses while taking important precautions—from ordering takeout and delivery, to shopping local retailers' online stores from the comfort of your home. Using funds from Special Service Area (SSA) 27, we're also providing enhanced sanitation of our streets and public spaces to ensure that our community is a cleaner place to shop and dine. And soon we'll announce exciting plans creating opportunities for patrons to enjoy safer shopping and dining experiences outdoors.

If there is one thing we've learned through the COVID-19 crisis, it's that Lakeview is home to businesses that are innovative, savvy, and accustomed to adapting to changes. As Chicago begins reopening, it's important for customers to exercise the same willingness to adapt, too. As the message painted proudly on the side of Heritage Bicycles & Coffee says, **we are all in this together**. Therefore, it's up to all of us to make sure that the businesses we love today are still here tomorrow.

Sincerely,
Dillon Goodson - Executive Director
Lakeview Chamber of Commerce

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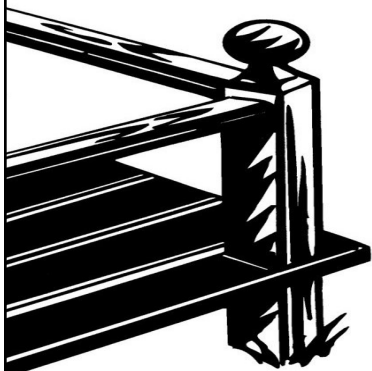
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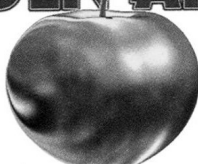
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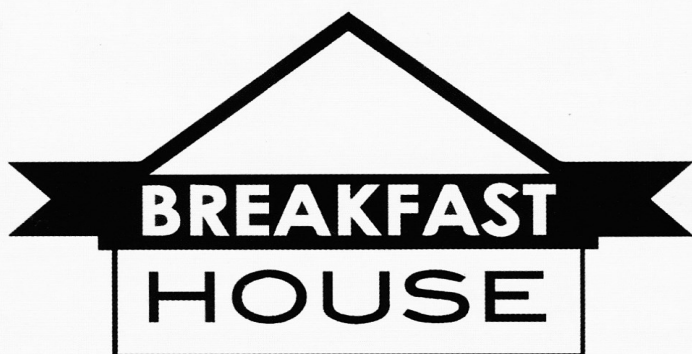
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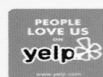
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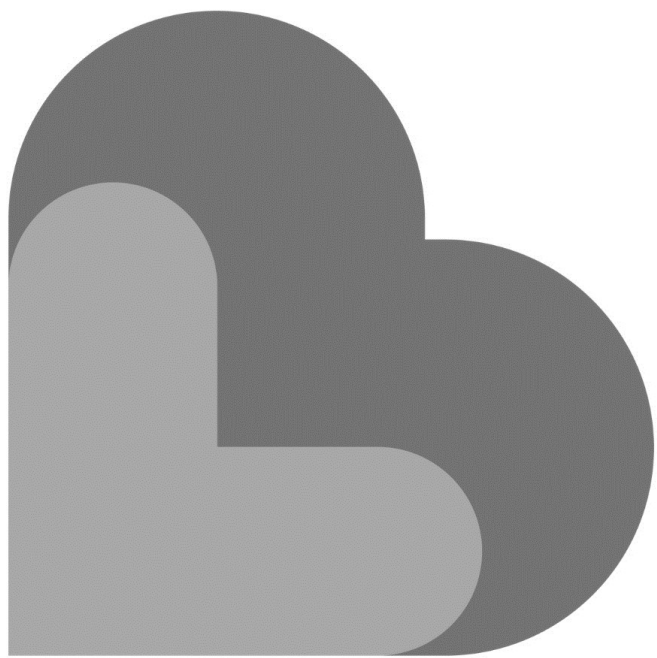


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